

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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State of Maine

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Pages 1771-2574

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House Legislative Sentiments
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Came from the Senate, **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

READ.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Livermore, Representative Berry.

Representative **BERRY**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I just want to take a moment of your time to recognize a long-time state employee, the State Budget Officer. I know if he is not in the room or in the gallery, I am fairly certain his is still somewhere in the building at the sound system. I want to recognize Jack Nicholas for his 29 years of service to the state. He has worked hard to improve the budget process, the financial accountability. I think he has tried very hard to get the state on the right track. Many times he has been thwarted by the economy or by legislative members themselves, I guess.

I just want to take a moment as Chair of the Appropriations Committee to express my appreciation for his demeanor and work ethic and his dedication to his duty and to the people of the State of Maine. Thank you Mr. Speaker for the opportunity to do that.

ADOPTED in concurrence.

ENACTORS

Acts

An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2003

(H.P. 1746) (L.D. 2220)

(S. "B" S-630, S. "D" S-632 and S. "F" S-634 to C. "A" H-1126)

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

On motion of Representative **MENDROS** of Lewiston, was **SET ASIDE**.

On further motion of the same Representative, the House **RECONSIDERED** its action whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

On further motion of the same Representative, the House **RECONSIDERED** its action whereby **Committee Amendment "A" (H-1126)** was **ADOPTED**.

The same Representative **PRESENTED House Amendment "I" (H-1135)** to **Committee Amendment "A" (H-1126)** which was **READ** by the Clerk.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lewiston, Representative Mendros.

Representative **MENDROS**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I did intend to speak on this. I might be brief. This is an opportunity to put more money into education. It is an opportunity to come through with the promise and the commitment to Maine's children. The good Representative from Old Town, Representative Dunlap, said earlier when we had an opportunity to do this that it was irresponsible to put the money in without finding a revenue source. The good Representative from Livermore, Representative Berry, said that we can't deficit spend. We need another revenue source. The good Representative from Brunswick, Representative Richardson, said we can't make these cuts without offsetting money to deal with where the money is going to come from. The good Representative from Harpswell, Representative Etnier, said, where is your plan? In the real world you need a plan. To all of them I say, here it is.

This budget, quite simply puts the money into education. It takes money from state employees that make over \$70,000 a year, which is more than what the Executive makes, it cuts their

salaries by 10 percent. It is only the wealthiest of the wealthiest. It also says let's lead by example. We give 10 percent of our salary to help fund this and we pay 25 percent of our health insurance, which we all know soon we will have universal health care and that will be a mute point. We lead by example, give up a little and we go after the wealthiest of the wealthiest.

How did I win in the City of Lewiston as a Republican? I have always been pro-education. I voted for every opportunity to put more money into the education budget. I have put amendments in to get up to the full 55 percent funding and people all the time tell me that you sound like a Democrat. You are pro-education. I say that I actually vote for that money. I don't just say it. I ask you all to vote like Democrats. Vote against the rich and do it for the children.

Representative **BERRY** of Livermore moved that **House Amendment "I" (H-1135)** to **Committee Amendment "A" (H-1126)** be **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED**.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Livermore, Representative Berry.

Representative **BERRY**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I think I made the reference to the turkey earlier and the same reference stands. Since I have been here I have seen some outstanding dedication and hard work. I know when I started eight years ago I came in expecting a certain rate of pay and found on my first day that I had been cut by 5 percent from what I had been told. I was planning for my loss of wages as it was and found that I was going to receive an additional 5 percent cut. I think this is silly. I would say the good Representative from Lewiston, Representative Mendros, has quoted many of the members that have spoken previously tonight. I would like to quote the Representative from Lewiston, Representative Mendros myself as I ask for Indefinite Postponement. The Representative said, "There is no law against being stupid."

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Millinocket, Representative Clark.

Representative **CLARK**: Mr. Speaker, May I pose a question through the Chair?

The **SPEAKER**: The Representative may pose his question.

Representative **CLARK**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. If we want to lead by example, are the same people that help govern our school boards back home going to take the same cut, like superintendents and also presidents of the University of Maine System?

The **SPEAKER**: The Representative from Millinocket, Representative Clark has posed a question through the Chair to anyone who may care to respond. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lewiston, Representative Mendros.

Representative **MENDROS**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. They should, but we don't have control of that. If I could have put that in the budget, I certainly would have. I may have enjoyed my delivery, but it doesn't mean that I don't believe in this bill, don't believe in what it does and don't believe that all of these priorities, in my opinion, are lower priorities than funding education. That is what this is all about. We can trade barbs back and forth. That is fine with me, but the fact is this is money that should be going to education and this is a higher priority. That is what it boils down to. Mr. Speaker, when the vote is taken I request the yeas and nays.

Representative **MENDROS** of Lewiston **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **INDEFINITELY POSTPONE House Amendment "I" (H-1135)** to **Committee Amendment "A" (H-1126)**.

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 South Portland, Representative Muse.

Representative **MUSE**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. On this my final night here, I am thrilled to have an opportunity to quote a former South Portland legislator and say, Mr. Speaker, like the speakers before me, I have nothing to say. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Indefinite Postponement of House Amendment "I" (H-1135) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-1126). All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 698

YEA - Andrews, Ash, Baker, Belanger, Berry DP, Berry RL, Blanchette, Bliss, Bouffard, Brannigan, Brooks, Bruno, Bryant, Bull, Bumps, Bunker, Canavan, Carr, Chase, Clark, Collins, Colwell, Cowger, Crabtree, Daigle, Davis, Desmond, Dorr, Dudley, Dugay, Duncan, Dunlap, Duplessie, Estes, Etnier, Fisher, Fuller, Gagne, Gerzofsky, Glynn, Goodwin, Gooley, Green, Hall, Hatch, Hawes, Honey, Hutton, Jacobs, Jodrey, Jones, Kane, Koffman, LaVerdiere, Laverriere-Boucher, Ledwin, Lemoine, Lessard, Lundeen, Madore, Mailhot, Marley, Marrache, Matthews, Mayo, McGlocklin, McGowan, McKee, McLaughlin, Michaud, Murphy E, Muse C, Norbert, Norton, O'Brien JA, O'Brien LL, O'Neil, Paradis, Patrick, Peavey, Pineau, Povich, Richard, Richardson, Rines, Rosen, Savage, Simpson, Skoglund, Smith, Stanley, Sullivan, Tarazewich, Tessier, Thomas, Tobin D, Tracy, Trahan, Tuttle, Twomey, Usher, Volenik, Watson, Weston, Wheeler GJ, Young, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Annis, Bowles, Buck, Clough, Cressey, Duprey, Foster, Haskell, Heidrich, Kasprzak, Labrecque, MacDougall, McDonough, McKenney, Mendros, Michael, Murphy T, Muse K, Nass, Nutting, Perkins, Schneider, Sherman, Shields, Snowe-Mello, Stedman, Tobin J, Waterhouse, Winsor.

ABSENT - Chick, Cummings, Landry, Lovett, McNeil, Mitchell, Morrison, Perry, Pinkham, Quint, Treadwell, Wheeler EM.

Yes, 107; No, 29; Absent, 12; Excused, 0.

107 having voted in the affirmative and 29 voted in the negative, with 12 being absent, and accordingly **House Amendment "I" (H-1135) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-1126) was INDEFINITELY POSTPONED.**

Subsequently, **Committee Amendment "A" (H-1126) as Amended by Senate Amendment "B" (S-630), Senate Amendment "D" (S-632) and Senate Amendment "F" (S-634) thereto was ADOPTED.**

The Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-1126) as Amended by Senate Amendment "B" (S-630), Senate Amendment "D" (S-632) and Senate Amendment "F" (S-634) thereto in concurrence.**

Representative KASPRZAK of Newport **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 Enactment. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 699

YEA - Ash, Baker, Berry RL, Blanchette, Bliss, Bouffard, Brannigan, Brooks, Bryant, Bull, Bunker, Canavan, Clark, Colwell, Cowger, Desmond, Dorr, Dudley, Dugay, Dunlap, Duplessie, Estes, Etnier, Fisher, Fuller, Gagne, Gerzofsky, Goodwin, Green, Hall, Hatch, Hawes, Hutton, Jacobs, Jones, Kane, Koffman, LaVerdiere, Laverriere-Boucher, Lemoine,

Lessard, Lundeen, Mailhot, Marley, Marrache, Matthews, McGlocklin, McGowan, McKee, McLaughlin, Michaud, Norbert, Norton, O'Brien LL, O'Neil, Paradis, Patrick, Pineau, Povich, Richard, Richardson, Rines, Savage, Simpson, Skoglund, Smith, Stanley, Sullivan, Tarazewich, Tessier, Thomas, Tuttle, Twomey, Usher, Volenik, Watson, Wheeler GJ, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Annis, Belanger, Berry DP, Bowles, Bruno, Buck, Bumps, Carr, Chase, Clough, Collins, Crabtree, Cressey, Daigle, Davis, Duncan, Duprey, Foster, Glynn, Gooley, Haskell, Heidrich, Honey, Jodrey, Kasprzak, Labrecque, Ledwin, MacDougall, Madore, Mayo, McDonough, McKenney, Mendros, Michael, Murphy E, Murphy T, Muse C, Muse K, Nass, Nutting, O'Brien JA, Peavey, Perkins, Pinkham, Rosen, Schneider, Sherman, Shields, Snowe-Mello, Stedman, Tobin D, Tobin J, Tracy, Trahan, Waterhouse, Weston, Wheeler EM, Winsor, Young.

ABSENT - Chick, Cummings, Landry, Lovett, McNeil, Mitchell, Morrison, Perry, Quint, Treadwell.

Yes, 78; No, 60; Absent, 10; Excused, 0.

78 having voted in the affirmative and 60 voted in the negative, with 10 being absent, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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

After Midnight
