

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Record**  
**House of Representatives**  
**One Hundred and Twenty-Third Legislature**  
**State of Maine**

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Fitts, Fletcher, Flood, Gifford, Giles, Gould, Grose, Hamper, Hanley S, Haskell, Hayes, Hill, Hinck, Hotham, Jacobsen, Joy, Kaenrath, Knight, Koffman, Lewin, MacDonald, Marean, Marley, McDonough, McLeod, Miller, Millett, Mills, Miramant, Muse, Nass, Pendleton, Peoples, Percy, Pieh, Pilon, Pingree, Piotti, Plummer, Prescott, Priest, Rand, Rector, Richardson D, Richardson W, Rines, Robinson, Rosen, Samson, Savage, Saviello, Schatz, Silsby, Simpson, Sirois, Smith N, Strang Burgess, Sutherland, Sykes, Tardy, Theriault, Thibodeau, Thomas, Tibbetts, Treat, Trinward, Tuttle, Valentino, Vaughan, Wagner, Walker, Weaver, Webster, Weddell, Woodbury, Mr. Speaker.

**NAY** - Boland, Burns, Canavan, Casavant, Craven, Dunn, Eaton, Harlow, Jackson, Norton, Patrick, Pratt, Walcott, Watson, Wheeler.

**ABSENT** - Berube, Blanchette, Brautigam, Conover, Cressey, Duprey, Emery, Farrington, Fischer, Fisher, Gerzofsky, Greeley, Hogan, Lansley, Lundeen, Makas, Mazurek, McFadden, McKane, Moore, Perry, Pineau, Pinkham, Richardson E.

Yes, 111; No, 15; Absent, 24; Vacant, 1; Excused, 0.

111 having voted in the affirmative and 15 voted in the negative, 1 vacancy with 24 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-476)** 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-476)** and sent for concurrence. **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

The Chair laid before the House the following item which was **TABLED** earlier in today's session:

An Act To Establish the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Act of 2007

(H.P. 1290) (L.D. 1851)  
(H. "A" H-380 to C. "A" H-321)

Which was **TABLED** by Representative **TARDY** of Newport pending **PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED**.

On motion of Representative **WALKER** of Lincolnville, the rules were **SUSPENDED** for the purpose of **RECONSIDERATION**.

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 rules were **SUSPENDED** for the purpose of **FURTHER RECONSIDERATION**.

On further motion of the same Representative, the House **RECONSIDERED** its action whereby **Committee Amendment "A" (H-321) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-380)** was **ADOPTED**.

The same Representative **PRESENTED House Amendment "B" (H-532) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-321)** which was **READ** by the Clerk.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lincolnville, Representative Walker.

Representative **WALKER**: Mr. Speaker, if you like the RGGI concept, I think that you are going to like my amendment even more. My amendment looks at carbon-free sources of energy production. My amendment produces a Maine Nuclear Power Council, which is not only going to look at carbon-free

alternatives for power production, but it would also lessen our dependence on foreign oil.

Mr. Speaker, this is not an amendment for next week; this is not an amendment for next month or next year; this is an amendment which is going to have to deal with an issue that is probably going to come to roost, ten, fifteen years down the road. The rest of the world uses nuclear power for their energy production. France has 56 different, working nuclear plants, which generate 76 percent of their nuclear power. Our good friends to the north and east, the Province of New Brunswick, are speeding along a feasibility study to look at building a second nuclear power plant. We do not know what is going to happen with natural gas supplies, we do not know what is going to happen with the price of natural gas, we do not know what is going to happen with foreign oil sources, and we do not know what is going to happen with the price of foreign oil. We can look at tidal, we can look at wind power, we can look at solar power, but these technologies really will not be with us in any significant form for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I would hate for the person that is to follow me in this seat, be standing here 15 years from now, when we have rolling blackouts in the northeast, when we have rolling brownouts and a lot of people are suffering, somebody is going to say, "Gee, I wish somebody had thought about this and done something about this 10 or 15 years ago."

Again, this is a power source that the rest of the world is using. I think we need to look around, and we need to at least put together this council so we can look at how we can locate study, look at the environmental effects, and look at the construction of a nuclear power facility.

Mr. Speaker, I simply leave you with something that Thomas Jefferson said. He said that "a politician looks forward only to the next election. A statesman looks forward to the next generation." Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I would ask you to join me in becoming statesmen, stateswomen, today, and vote green on this amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Representative **KOFFMAN** of Bar Harbor moved that **House Amendment "B" (H-532) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-321)** be **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED**.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bar Harbor, Representative Koffman.

Representative **KOFFMAN**: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. While we could enjoy an energetic and robust discussion about the role of nuclear power in our future, I find this amendment to be inconsistent with the purposes of the bill.

The bill is establishing a regional greenhouse cap and trade program. It was well crafted by the work of a number of participants including members of two committees in a joint referral to Utilities and Energy and Natural Resources. Had we included, for some reason, nuclear power in the bill, the public hearing would have taken a space significantly larger than the Natural Resources Committee room, probably the Civic Center, and all of it.

I do think that the good Representative raises important points. There will be many discussions in the years ahead about this issue, this problem, and the many tools we will need to contain this problem, so that future generations do not suffer from the consequences of our inaction. But this bill stands on its merits, it has strong support, I appreciate all of the work that has gone into it, and I appreciate that the Representative would like to improve on it, but I do not find that in this case it would add value to our effort. Thank you.

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

Representative **BLISS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would encourage the sponsor of this amendment to present a bill to the Utilities and Energy Committee next year. I think that there are a variety of issues to talk about; I think that we would be delighted to talk about them. I do not believe, however, that the regional greenhouse gas bill is the appropriate location; nor do I think that this is the appropriate time, so I would urge my colleagues to vote in favor of Representative Koffman's motion to Indefinitely Postpone.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Farmingdale, Representative Treat.

Representative **TREAT**: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I spent several years chairing and also serving on the Maine Low-level Radioactive Waste Advisory Council. I worked on legislation that was involved with cleaning up the Maine Yankee site and ensuring that there was safe storage of high-level waste at that site, and I would also urge Indefinite Postponement of this amendment.

These are very big issues to which there is a great deal of opposition and interest, and the better place to be attaching these issues are to deal with it in a separate piece of legislation. This is a huge issue in this state, and it has not been brought forward in this legislation at all, which is excellent legislation, it is compromised legislation that has the involvement of many, many people, and this issue should not be raised at this late day. I encourage support of the pending motion.

Representative **WALKER** of Lincolnville **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **INDEFINITELY POSTPONE House Amendment "B" (H-532) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-321)**.

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 Lincolnville, Representative Walker.

Representative **WALKER**: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. This simply establishes a council, it does not do anything more than that. It talks about carbon-free energy production, which is what RGGI is all about. That is exactly what RGGI is trying to do: we are trying to decrease our carbon output. This is another way of doing it. I think that it is perfectly appropriate. It does nothing more than establish a council. Again, I ask you to vote red against the motion for Indefinite Postponement.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Waterboro, Representative Jacobsen.

Representative **JACOBSEN**: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I believe this is a time to take action on this. This is a matter we have to look at, and we should be responsible for. I might remind you that China is building in the next 20 years, 100 nuclear power plants. We are going to be running around with windmills if we do not do something. It is like comparing a bicycle to a motorcycle.

Building a nuclear power plant in the State of Maine would give Maine another thing to export besides lobsters. We need the power, we need the jobs. I would like to see it in southern Maine, but Washington County, Aroostook County, they need jobs. Building a nuclear power plant in northern Maine would bring jobs there for 10 to 15 years, good paying jobs. It would give them the power that we need to keep companies like McCain's, and our agriculture going and growing. It would bring jobs and technology, good paying jobs to keep college in students in the state of Maine. It is time for us to take our head out of the sand and do something. Twenty years ago, who was carrying a cell phone around? Not many. Technology has

change, nuclear power plants have changed, and our needs have changed. It is time for us to move forward. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Indefinite Postponement of House Amendment "B" (H-532) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-321). All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

**ROLL CALL NO. 132**

**YEA** - Adams, Babbidge, Barstow, Beaudette, Beaudoin, Berry, Blanchard, Bliss, Boland, Bryant, Burns, Cain, Campbell, Canavan, Carter, Casavant, Connor, Craven, Crockett, Driscoll, Duchesne, Dunn, Eaton, Eberle, Faircloth, Finch, Flood, Grose, Hanley S, Harlow, Haskell, Hayes, Hill, Hinck, Kaenrath, Koffman, MacDonald, Marley, Miller, Mills, Miramant, Norton, Patrick, Pendleton, Peoples, Percy, Pieh, Pilon, Pingree, Piotti, Pratt, Priest, Rand, Rines, Schatz, Silsby, Simpson, Sirois, Smith N, Strang Burgess, Sutherland, Theriault, Treat, Trinward, Tuttle, Valentino, Wagner, Walcott, Watson, Webster, Weddell, Wheeler, Woodbury, Mr. Speaker.

**NAY** - Annis, Austin, Ayotte, Beaulieu, Browne W, Cebra, Chase, Clark, Cleary, Cotta, Cray, Crosthwaite, Edgcomb, Finley, Fitts, Fletcher, Gifford, Giles, Gould, Hamper, Hotham, Jackson, Jacobsen, Joy, Knight, Lewin, McDonough, McFadden, McLeod, Millett, Muse, Nass, Plummer, Prescott, Rector, Richardson D, Richardson W, Robinson, Rosen, Samson, Savage, Saviello, Sykes, Tardy, Thibodeau, Thomas, Tibbetts, Vaughan, Walker, Weaver.

**ABSENT** - Berube, Blanchette, Brautigam, Conover, Cressey, Curtis, Dill, Duprey, Emery, Farrington, Fischer, Fisher, Gerzofsky, Greeley, Hogan, Lansley, Lundeen, Makas, Marean, Mazurek, McKane, Moore, Perry, Pineau, Pinkham, Richardson E.

Yes, 74; No, 50; Absent, 26; Vacant, 1; Excused, 0.

74 having voted in the affirmative and 50 voted in the negative, 1 vacancy with 26 being absent, and accordingly **House Amendment "B" (H-532) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-321) was INDEFINITELY POSTPONED.**

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-321) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-380) thereto was ADOPTED.**

The Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-321) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-380) thereto.**

Subsequently, the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate. **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH.**

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

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEE  
Ought to Pass**

Report of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act To Require That Notaries Public Keep Records of Notarial Acts"

(S.P. 538) (L.D. 1515)

**Reporting Ought to Pass.**

Came from the Senate with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill and accompanying papers **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED.**

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED.**

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 in NON-CONCURRENCE** and sent for concurrence.