

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Ninety-Eighth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

VOLUME II

1957

DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE

HOUSE

Tuesday, May 21, 1957

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

Prayer by Father Burns of Augusta.

The journal of the previous session was read and approved.

Conference Committee Report

Report of the Committee of Conference on the disagreeing action of the two branches of the Legislature on Bill "An Act relating to the Visible Indication of Elapsed Time on Parking Meters" (H. P. 361) (L. D. 491) reporting that they are unable to agree.

(Signed)

DWIGHT BROWN
ORVILLE B. HAUGHN
B. A. TURNER
— Committee on part of House

BENJAMIN BUTLER
ROBERT MARTIN
ALAN WOODCOCK, JR.
— Committee on part of Senate

Report was read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Papers from the Senate
Senate Reports of Committees
Ought Not to Pass

Report of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs reporting "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Admittance of and Charges for Patients at State Sanatoriums" (S. P. 395) (L. D. 1091)

Report of same Committee reporting same on Resolve Providing Funds for Operation of Educational Television (S. P. 169) (L. D. 448)

Came from the Senate read and accepted.

In the House, the Reports were read and accepted in concurrence.

Ought to Pass

Report of the Committee on Retirements and Pensions, acting by authority of Joint Order (S. P. 318) reporting a Resolve (S. P. 589) (L. D. 1588) under title of "Resolve to

Repeal Certain Special Resolve Pensions" and that it "Ought to pass".

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted and the Resolve passed to be engrossed.

In the House, the Report was read and accepted in concurrence, the Resolve read once and tomorrow assigned.

Ought to Pass in New Draft

Report of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on Bill "An Act to Allocate Monies for the Administrative Expenses of the State Liquor Commission for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1958 and June 30, 1959" (S. P. 167) (L. D. 446) reporting same in a new draft (S. P. 586) (L. D. 1587) under same title and that it "Ought to pass"

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted and the New Draft passed to be engrossed.

In the House, the Report was read and accepted in concurrence, the New Draft read twice and tomorrow assigned.

Ought to Pass in New Draft Amended in Senate

Report of the Committee on Judiciary on Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Pledging Credit of State for Guaranteed Loans for Industrial Purposes (S. P. 460) (L. D. 1301) reporting same in a new draft (S. P. 580) (L. D. 1581) under same title and that it "Ought to pass."

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted and the New Draft passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A".

In the House, the Report was read and accepted in concurrence and the New Draft read once.

Senate Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk as follows:

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to S. P. 580, L. D. 1581, Resolve, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Pledging Credit of State for Guaranteed Loans for Industrial Purposes.

Amend said Resolve by striking out the first 4 lines of the next to last paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following:

'And the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall vote by ballot on said question, and shall indicate by a cross or check mark placed against the words "Yes" or "No" their opinion of the same. The ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and de-

Senate Amendment "A" was adopted in concurrence.

Mr. Bruce of Buxton offered House Amendment "A" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk as follows:

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to S. P. 580, L. D. 1581, Resolve, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Pledging Credit of State for Guaranteed Loans for Industrial Purposes.

Amend said Resolve by striking out the 3rd line before the question in the Referendum and inserting in place thereof the following: 'and Representatives at a special statewide election to be held on the 2nd Monday of September, 1957, to'

The SPEAKER: The Chair now recognizes the gentlewoman from Presque Isle, Mrs. Christie.

Mrs. CHRISTIE: Mr. Speaker, this item number 5 seems to me to be a very important item and one which should have very careful consideration, and I wonder whether we should pass over it without discussion, without further clarification of perhaps the implications of this bill. It, of course, would go as a referendum to the people, but I feel that we in this legislature should discuss this very carefully and thoughtfully before we vote to put it out to the people.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Buxton, Mr. Bruce.

Mr. BRUCE: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I would be very glad to briefly, very briefly explain what this bill is. The original bill which was withdrawn some time ago was to authorize the state to participate with the new Department of Economic Development to be able to furnish facilities for these manufacturing interests which might be interested in coming into the state. It was very quickly discovered that the Constitution of the state would need a little amendment in order for us to

participate in this construction program. This is the amendment actually that would be passed by the people, amendment to the Constitution. It authorizes the state to guarantee the credit for these such industries as may come into the state, the bill says up to the extent of twenty million dollars. It actually limits, or would limit the construction of any one building up to five hundred thousand dollars. It actually costs the state nothing and a great many of the states in the Union are offering this service.

A very brief way of putting it would be if an industry was interested in coming to Maine that public development groups in the communities would build the building for them and lease it back to them on an equitable basis. They would pay taxes and the state would guarantee up to ninety per cent of the cost for the building. The very worst thing that could happen under this bill is there might be some circumstances whereby the state would perhaps eventually own the building, but that would be—it is not the experience of other states. The Commission of nine men would look over these companies very carefully and only do it on a very sound economic basis. I am quite certain that there is really not enough to the bill to cause a great deal of debate. In practice, it will probably not cost the state a single penny and it can mean a great many jobs and a great deal of new income which is so sadly needed here in the State of Maine.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is the motion of the gentleman from Buxton, Mr. Bruce, that the House adopt House Amendment "A." Is this the pleasure of the House?

House Amendment "A" was adopted and the Resolve assigned for second reading tomorrow.

Divided Report

Majority Report of the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game reporting "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Constructing a Fishway at Aroostook Falls" (S. P. 360) (L. D. 932)

Report was signed by the following members: