

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LEGISLATIVE RECORD**

OF THE

*One Hundred and Third  
Legislature*

OF THE

**STATE OF MAINE**

**Volume III**

**June 16 to July 8, 1967**

**Index**

**1st Special Session**

**October 2 and October 3, 1967**

**2nd Special Session**

**January 9 to January 26, 1968**

**KENNEBEC JOURNAL  
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

An Act relating to Duties of State Transportation Commission (H. P. 1204) (L. D. 1713)

Were reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed, passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

#### Orders of the Day

The Chair laid before the House the first item of Unfinished Business:

An Act to Authorize the Issuance of Bonds in the Amount of Sixteen Million Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars on Behalf of the State of Maine to Build State Highways (H. P. 1174) (L. D. 1673)

Tabled—June 14, by Mr. Ross of Bath.

Pending — Motion of Mr. Waltz of Waldoboro to indefinitely postpone.

Mr. Waltz of Waldoboro withdrew his pending motion.

On further motion of the same gentleman, retabled pending passage to be enacted and specially assigned for Wednesday, June 21.

The Chair laid before the House the second item of Unfinished Business:

HOUSE REPORT — Ought to Pass in New Draft — Committee on Taxation on Bill “An Act Applying Sales Tax to Charges for Fabricating Tangible Personal Property” (H. P. 203) (L. D. 292) —New Draft (H. P. 1207) (L. D. 1719)

Tabled — June 15, by Mr. Birt of East Millinocket.

Pending — Acceptance.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Millinocket, Mr. Birt.

Mr. BIRT: Mr. Speaker, I move this be tabled until Wednesday.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from East Millinocket, Mr. Birt, now moves this matter be tabled until Wednesday, June 21 pending acceptance of the Report. Is this the pleasure of the House?

(Cries of “No”)

All those in favor of the tabling motion will say yes, those opposed will say no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the tabling motion did prevail.

The Chair laid before the House the third item of Unfinished Business:

HOUSE MAJORITY REPORT (11) — Ought to pass — Committee on Senatorial Reapportionment on Bill “An Act to Establish Single Member Districts for Representatives to the House Based Upon the Existing Apportionment of the House Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine” (H. P. 1209) (L. D. 1721) — MINORITY REPORT (4) — Ought Not to Pass.

Tabled — June 15, by Mr. Richardson of Stonington.

Pending — Acceptance of either Report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kingman Township, Mr. Starbird.

Mr. STARBIRD: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact our Chairman is not here, I would request someone to table this until later today if he is coming today or possibly tomorrow.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Levesque of Madawaska, tabled pending acceptance of either report and specially assigned for Wednesday, June 21.

The Chair laid before the House the fourth of Unfinished Business:

Resolve Proposing Amendments to the Constitution Relating to Bond Issues to be Voted Upon by the People (H. P. 1206) (L. D. 1717)

Tabled — June 15, by Mr. Richardson of Cumberland.

Pending — Passage to be engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Enfield, Mr. Dudley.

Mr. DUDLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to pose a question. Is this the case where the people no longer have to vote on bond issues, is this the type of bill it is or what does it pertain to?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Enfield, Mr. Dudley poses a question through the Chair to any member who may answer if they desire and the Chair recognizes

the gentleman from Kittery, Mr. Dennett.

Mr. DENNETT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: There is quite a bit of confusion relative to this bill. When this came out it was as the title implies, it referred to voting on bond issues by the people. However, it came out in a new draft and actually the title has little or nothing to do with the bill. It was my understanding that an amendment was to be prepared to clarify this bill, and for this reason it was originally tabled and I would suggest very strongly in view of these circumstances that some kind soul table this bill until tomorrow.

Mr. Benson of Southwest Harbor then offered House Amendment "B" and moved its adoption.

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

HOUSE AMENDMENT "B" to H. P. 1206, L. D. 1717, Resolve, Proposing Amendments to the Constitution Relating to Bond Issues to be Voted Upon by the People.

Amend said Resolve in the Title by striking out the words "Bond Issues to be Voted Upon by the People" and inserting in place thereof the words "Temporary Loans in Anticipation of State Tax Revenues and Limitations Thereon"

Further amend said Resolve by striking out all of the 3rd paragraph from the end and inserting in place thereof the following:

"Shall the Constitution be amended as proposed by a resolution of the Legislature Relating to Temporary Loans in Anticipation of State Tax Revenues and Limitations Thereon?"

House Amendment "B" was adopted.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Littlefield of Hampden, tabled pending passage to be engrossed as amended and specially assigned for tomorrow.

The Chair laid before the House the fifth item of Unfinished Business:

HOUSE MAJORITY REPORT (8)—Ought Not to Pass—Committee on State Government on Bill "An Act relating to Increasing

Revenue of the Liquor Commission" (H. P. 1031) (L. D. 1497)—MINORITY REPORT (2)—Ought to Pass.

Tabled—June 15, by Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston.

Pending—Motion of Mr. Watts of Machias to accept Majority Report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Scribner.

Mr. SCRIBNER: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I would like to thank the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert, for tabling this last week when I was ill with the flu, and unable to present the case for this bill.

As you know, the Committee has reported this bill "Ought not to pass." I would like to describe it for the benefit of those of you who haven't had the chance to study it and explain just what the implications are for this bill and I believe that it is a reasonable measure and I would like to run through it briefly.

This bill as in its present form without an emergency enactor on it would produce additional revenues to the State during the next biennium of about \$3,382,698. With an emergency clause on this, were one to be offered, it would produce close to \$4 million. As one of the major issues that is reported in the Press, the needs for revenues for the State, and that will be the main subject this week, I would like to briefly describe what this would do to the revenue structure of the Liquor Commission.

One of the first items it would do is to raise the excise tax on beer and other malt liquors from 25c a gallon to 30c a gallon. This is an increase of 5c. At the hearing, representatives of the Brewers Association said this was prohibitive and would cause an increase in the price of beer in taverns. Although they did point out that this tax is in the amount of \$1.55 more a barrel. Now 600 glasses of beer in a barrel, this would increase the price of one penny for every four glasses. If this is prohibitive, I fail to see it. I think it is a reasonable amount of increase and would not cause