

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

**LEGISLATIVE RECORD**

OF THE

**One Hundred And Fifteenth Legislature**

OF THE

**State Of Maine**

**VOLUME III**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

Senate

December 5, 1990 to May 20, 1991

Senator **PEARSON** of Penobscot was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate off the Record.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Off Record Remarks  
\_\_\_\_\_

Senator **KANY** of Kennebec was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate off the Record.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Off Record Remarks  
\_\_\_\_\_

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, the Senate considered the following:

**PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE**

**Joint Resolution**

The Following Joint Resolution: H.P. 1016

**JOINT RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING YOM HASHOAH, THE "DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE" OF THOSE WHO SUFFERED AS VICTIMS OF NAZISM**

WHEREAS, 46 years ago, 6,000,000 Jews were murdered in the Nazi Holocaust as part of a systematic program of genocide and millions of other people suffered as victims of Nazism; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Maine should always remember the atrocities committed by the Nazis so that such horrors are never repeated; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Maine should continually rededicate themselves to the principle of equal justice for all people, remain eternally vigilant against all tyranny and recognize that bigotry provides a breeding ground for tyranny to flourish; and

WHEREAS, April 11, 1991, has been designated internationally as a Day of Remembrance of Victims of the Nazi Holocaust, known as Yom Hashoah; and

WHEREAS, the national community pursuant to an Act of Congress will be commemorating the week of April 7th to April 14th as the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Nazi Holocaust; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the people of the State of Maine to join in this international commemoration; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Fifteenth Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, pause in solemn memory of the victims of the Nazi Holocaust, and urge one and all to recommit themselves to the lessons of the Nazi Holocaust through this international week of commemoration and express our common desires to continually strive to overcome prejudice and inhumanity through education, vigilance and resistance; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council in Washington, D.C., on behalf of the people of the State of Maine.

Comes from the House **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Which was **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Senator **GAUVREAU** of Androscoggin was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate on the Record.

Senator **GAUVREAU**: Thank you Mr. President. Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I know the hour is late and I will try to be brief, but I do feel it is important that I do make these brief remarks to you at our close of session this evening.

I came to the Senate Chamber about ten past five today. The Committee on Judiciary heard many Bills, including the very controversial Bill on Hunting Manslaughter. When I arrived in the Chamber, I was late, the Senate had already begun its deliberations for the day, and I was surprised, perhaps, as others were, that one of the Bills, L.D. 430 had been discussed. But I understand the process, and I understand that it was on the Calendar, and I read the Calendar before I came down this afternoon.

I rise this evening because I am concerned with some of the comments that have been made, and perhaps some of the questions which were voiced regarding the intent or the good will of other Legislators. We all operate under a system of rules and procedures, and we all understand those rules. It is very important to state, and state often, and to remind us that we are dealing with issues which are very difficult, very controversial, in fact, highly emotional. But it is also very important that we maintain our strong tradition of discussing these issues in an atmosphere of mutual respect and appreciation for the contributions which all of us have made in our careers in public service.

Likewise, we are in indebted to all of those who take the time to contact us, either in person at our residences, or businesses, or here in Augusta, or who take the time to write to us or to telephone us. I have had dozens, I would say hundreds of contacts over the past few years dealing with the Civil Rights Bill, and as I said in my speech a few weeks ago, I am indebted to all of those who took the time to

share with me their concerns. I think I have grown in that process, and I have learned a great deal. Unfortunately, some people have voiced a concern that I took an action without considering all those who came before our Committee. That simply is not the case.

But I rise tonight because I want to underscore how important it is that when we discuss issues on this floor, we do so at all times with the utmost respect for each other. Because if we allow ourselves to succumb to emotionalism, or to question the good faith of our colleagues, then I think we send a message out to the public that we really encourage, inadvertently no doubt, but we encourage a discussion in the public which gets very emotional and very charged, and really is inimical to a rational explanation and discussion of sensitive issues of public policy.

It is very appropriate, Mr. President, that this evening we rise to honor our colleague from the county of Cumberland, Senator Barbara Gill, who I think really epitomizes what public service is all about in our state. A person who has unselfishly given of herself for many, many years. She has brought her integrity, her intellect, and her compassion to this Chamber, and to the other Chamber. We all benefit from her years of service. I think that Senator Gill should be commended. I think she represents a standard of public service which we should all aspire. As we now wind down the tempestuous days of this first year of our session, let us keep Senator Gill's service in mind, and her standard of public service to which she has aspired.

We know that we will have different issues that will divide us philosophically. There are tensions between the Executive Branch of Government and the Legislative Branch of Government, and there are, in fact, issues which divide us as individual Legislators. But let us go forward in an atmosphere of mutual respect for each other, because if we fail in this charge, I have grave concerns regarding the forces which might be unleashed in the public at large. We have obligations as public servants, we have responsibilities to engage in a civilized discourse on difficult issues of public policy. If we fail in that charge, I am afraid that we will inadvertently promote a discussion in the public which I think none of us want to see.

With that, again, I would like to commend my colleague from Cumberland, Senator Gill, for her years of service, and again, I certainly hope that all of us can bear her standard in mind as we conclude our legislative session. Thank you Mr. President.

---

The **ADJOURNMENT ORDER** having been returned from the House and **READ** and **PASSED**, in concurrence, on motion by Senator **GILL** of Cumberland, **ADJOURNED** until Tuesday, April 16, 1991, at 5:00 in the afternoon.