

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
JOURNAL OF THE SENATE**

In Senate Chamber
Tuesday
April 18, 2023

Senate called to order by President Troy D. Jackson of Aroostook County.

Prayer by Jim Przytulski of Central Church in Augusta.

MR. PRZYTULSKI: Thank you all very much. So, it says in the Bible that we are supposed to submit to our governing authorities and that there is no authority except that which has been instituted by God and so it's with that God in mind and with our governing authorities in mind that I pray.

Heavenly Father, I love You, Lord, and I know that You love all of us, Lord, and I thank You for that love and I thank You for the provision that You provide for all of us, Father. And I just come to You this morning and I ask, I ask for Your help, I ask for Your blessing over the members of this Chamber, and that You would bless them, that You would bless their families, Lord, that You would bless the people that they love and the people that they care about and that they worry about and that they stay up late night thinking about, Father. I ask for Your blessings over them. I ask for Your blessings, and I ask for unity for this Chamber, Father, and a spirit of cooperation for this Chamber, Lord, that You would unite us together with the sole purpose in mind of helping the people of this state in honoring you, Father. Lord, I just - I love You so very much and I know that everyone in this room is different, Father, and You know that I love them all. And so, Father, it's with Jesus' name that I pray, but I want to just be respectful of everyone, and so, Father, in Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Eloise A. Vitelli of Sagadahoc County.

Reading of the Journal of Thursday, April 13, 2023.

Off Record Remarks

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Bill "An Act to Strengthen Maine's Agriculture, Food and Forest Economy by Funding the Maine Agriculture, Food and Forest Products Investment Fund and Amending Related Provisions of Law"

H.P. 1068 L.D. 1670

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **INGWERSEN** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the General Assistance Program Regarding Eligibility, Housing Assistance and State Reimbursement and to Establish a Working Group" (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 1073 L.D. 1675

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Strengthen the Sustainability and Value of Maine's Designated Health Information Exchange by Acquiring Enhanced Federal Funding"

H.P. 1074 L.D. 1676

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Establish an Affordable Housing Permitting Process"

H.P. 1070 L.D. 1672

Bill "An Act to Encourage Affordable Housing and Mixed-use Development by Establishing a Thriving Corridors Program"
H.P. 1071 L.D. 1673

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Recommendations for Changing Place Names in the State"

H.P. 1065 L.D. 1667

Bill "An Act to Provide Staffing for Ongoing Study Commissions During Legislative Sessions"

H.P. 1066 L.D. 1668

Bill "An Act to Require That Copies of Deeds and Survey Plans Be Provided to Municipal Assessors"

H.P. 1067 L.D. 1669

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Reduce the Income Tax to 4.5 Percent on the Lowest Tax Bracket and Remove Low-income Families from Taxation"

H.P. 1069 L.D. 1671

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Require and Encourage Safe and Interconnected Transportation Construction Projects"

H.P. 1072 L.D. 1674

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **CHIPMAN** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Off Record Remarks

Joint Resolutions

The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 1058

**JOINT RESOLUTION
MAKING APPLICATION TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES CALLING A CONVENTION UNDER ARTICLE V OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION TO PROPOSE AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION TO IMPOSE FISCAL RESTRAINTS ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, LIMIT THE POWER AND JURISDICTION OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND LIMIT THE TERMS OF OFFICE FOR ITS OFFICIALS AND FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS**

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution empowered state legislators to be guardians of liberty against future abuses of power by the Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has created a crushing national debt through improper and imprudent spending; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has invaded the legitimate roles of the states through the manipulative process of federal mandates, most of which are unfunded to a great extent; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has ceased to operate under a proper interpretation of the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, it is the solemn duty of the states to protect the liberty of the American people, particularly for the generations to come, by proposing amendments to the United States Constitution for the purpose of restraining these and related abuses of power; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Legislature of Maine respectfully applies to the Congress of the United States to call a convention for the specific and exclusive purpose of proposing amendments to the United States Constitution that impose fiscal restraints on the Federal Government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the Federal Government and limit the terms of office for Federal Government officials and members of Congress; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this application by this body constitutes a continuing application in accordance with the United States Constitution, Article V until at least two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states have made similar application pursuant to Article V but, if Congress proposes an amendment to the United States Constitution imposing fiscal restraints on the Federal Government, limiting the power and jurisdiction of the Federal Government or limiting the terms of office for Federal Government officials and members of Congress, this application for a constitutional convention is no longer of any force or effect for that subject matter; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this application is void, rescinded and of no effect in the event that such a convention is not limited to such specific and exclusive purposes; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this body proposes that the legislatures of each of the several states comprising the United States apply to the Congress requesting the enactment of appropriate amendments to the United States Constitution or requiring the Congress to call a convention for proposing such amendments to the United States Constitution; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Secretary of the Senate and presiding officers of both houses of the legislatures of each of the several states in the nation, the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate and each member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

Comes from the House, **READ** and **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **FURTHER CONSIDERATION**.

The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 1059

**JOINT RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING APRIL 2023
AS ORGAN DONATION MONTH**

WHEREAS, there are more than 104,200 Americans, and more than 6,300 in New England, currently waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant; and

WHEREAS, there are over 1,000,000 life-enhancing tissue transplants each year that are made possible by the generous donation of corneas, bone or skin or other tissue; and

WHEREAS, residents of this State can help to save lives and benefit up to 50 recipients by signing up to become organ and tissue donors and enrolling in the Maine Organ Donor Registry when applying for or renewing driver's licenses or other state identifications or by registering online at RegisterMe.org; and

WHEREAS, ninety-eight percent of all people in Maine who register to become a donor do so at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, which is an important part of reaching and surpassing the national goal of signing up 50% of the driving population to become donors; and

WHEREAS, Organ Donation Month pays tribute to organ and tissue donors and their families whose decision to donate enables others to receive lifesaving organs and tissues for transplant; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize April 2023 as Organ Donation Month, and we encourage residents to register as organ and tissue donors; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a suitable copy of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to New England Donor Services of Waltham, Massachusetts.

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

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Hancock, Senator Grohoski.

Senator **GROHOSKI:** Thank you, Mr. President. Today, colleagues of the Senate, I want to take a moment to recognize and honor organ donors and their loved ones, as well as those who have received life-saving transplants. By becoming an organ donor, you have the opportunity to give someone else the gift of life and to make a positive impact on the world. An endorsement on your driver's license through the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles lets people know that you would like to donate your organs to help someone else live. It can also help your family and friends make one less hard decision if the unthinkable occurs. So, I just want to conclude quickly by saying thank you to all of the organ donors who have given the gift of life and to everyone who supports this important cause, and I hope you'll join me in adding such an endorsement to your driver's license this year, if you haven't already. Thank you.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

The Following Communication: S.C. 331

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR**

March 30, 2023

Honorable Members of the Legislative Council, 131st Legislature;

Honorable Janet T. Mills
Governor of the State of Maine

I am pleased to submit the Single Audit of the State of Maine for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. The audit was conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the requirements of the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our audit complies with 5 MRSA §243 and is also a prerequisite for the receipt of Federal financial assistance. During fiscal year 2022, \$5.7 billion in Federal financial assistance was expended by the State of Maine.

This document contains the following reports and schedules:

- Independent Auditor's Report
- Basic Financial Statements, Management's Discussion and Analysis, Notes to the Financial Statements, and Required Supplementary Information
- Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters based on an Audit of Financial Statements performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*
- Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Program and on Internal Control over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance
- Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
- Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
- Financial Statement Findings
- Indexes to Federal Program Findings

- Federal Findings and Questioned Costs
- Corrective Action Plan
- Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings

On behalf of the Office of the State Auditor, I thank employees throughout Maine Government who assisted us during the audit.

Please contact me if you have questions or comments about the 2022 Single Audit of the State of Maine.

Respectfully submitted,

S/Matthew Dunlap, CIA
State Auditor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 326

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

April 12, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of Jennifer A. Archer of Falmouth, for appointment as a Superior Court Justice.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	1	Carney, A. of Cumberland
	Representatives	8	Moonen, M. of Portland, Henderson, R. of Rumford, Kuhn, A. of Falmouth, Lee, A. of Auburn, Moriarty, S. of Cumberland, Poirier, J. of Skowhegan, Reckitt, L. of South Portland, Sheehan, E. of Biddeford
NAYS		0	

ABSENT 4 Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Sen. Brakey, E. of Androscoggin, Rep. Andrews, J. of Paris, Rep. Haggan, D. of Hampden

Rep. Dana of Passamaquoddy Tribe was absent.

Nine members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Jennifer A. Archer of Falmouth, for appointment as a Superior Court Justice be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Matt Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** be overridden?"

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **BRENNER**, the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **DAUGHTRY**, the Senator from York, Senator **LAWRENCE**, the Senator from Kennebec, Senator **POULIOT**, the Senator from York, Senator **RAFFERTY**, and the Senator from Lincoln, Senator **RENY**, and further excused the same Senators from today's Roll Call votes.

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#82)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BRENNER, DAUGHTRY, LAWRENCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Jennifer A. Archer** of Falmouth for appointment as a Superior Court Justice was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 327

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

April 12, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of Gregory A. Campbell of Hampden, for appointment as an Active Retired Judge of the District Court .

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	1	Carney, A. of Cumberland
	Representatives	9	Moonen, M. of Portland, Haggan, D. of Hampden, Henderson, R. of Rumford, Kuhn, A. of Falmouth, Lee, A. of Auburn, Moriarty, S. of Cumberland, Poirier, J. of Skowhegan, Reckitt, L. of South Portland, Sheehan, E. of Biddeford
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Sen. Brakey, E. of Androscoggin, Rep. Andrews, J. of Paris

Rep. Dana of Passamaquoddy Tribe was absent.

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Gregory A. Campbell of Hampden, for appointment as an Active Retired Judge of the District Court be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Matt Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#83)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BRENNER, DAUGHTRY, LAWRENCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Gregory A. Campbell** of Hampden for appointment as an Active Retired Judge of the District Court was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 328

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

April 12, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of Keith A. Powers of Cape Elizabeth, for reappointment as an Active Retired Judge of the District Court.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	1	Carney, A. of Cumberland
	Representatives	8	Moonen, M. of Portland, Henderson, R. of Rumford, Kuhn, A. of Falmouth, Lee, A. of Auburn, Moriarty, S. of Cumberland, Poirier, J. of Skowhegan, Reckitt, L. of South Portland, Sheehan, E. of Biddeford
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		4	Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Sen. Brakey, E. of Androscoggin, Rep. Andrews, J. of Paris, Rep. Haggan, D. of Hampden

Rep. Dana of Passamaquoddy Tribe was absent.

Nine members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Keith A. Powers of Cape Elizabeth, for reappointment as an Active Retired Judge of the District Court be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Matt Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#84)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BRENNER, DAUGHTRY, LAWRENCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Keith A. Powers** of Cape Elizabeth for reappointment as an Active Retired Judge of the District Court was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Off Record Remarks

The Following Communication: S.C. 329

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

April 12, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of William R. Stokes of Augusta, for appointment as an Active Retired Justice of the Superior Court.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS Senators 1 Carney, A. of Cumberland
 Representatives 7 Henderson, R. of Rumford, Kuhn, A. of Falmouth, Lee, A. of Auburn, Moriarty, S. of Cumberland, Poirier, J. of Skowhegan, Reckitt, L. of South Portland, Sheehan, E. of Biddeford

NAYS 0

ABSENT 5 Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Sen. Brakey, E. of Androscoggin, Rep. Moonen, M. of Portland, Rep. Andrews, J. of Paris, Rep. Haggan, D. of Hampden

servicing our state and wish you all the best in your next endeavor as well and I hope we can continue to work together in some capacity as well. So, best of luck, and thank you, Mr. President.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#85)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BRENNER, DAUGHTRY, LAWRENCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY

Rep. Dana of Passamaquoddy Tribe was absent.

Eight members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of William R. Stokes of Augusta, for appointment as an Active Retired Justice of the Superior Court be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Matt Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Carney.

Senator **CARNEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. I rise briefly to speak about the next nominee coming before this Chamber. He is here today in the Chamber and I'm sure we'll all have an opportunity to acknowledge him, but I just wanted to point out that all of our Judges and Justices have worked extraordinarily hard throughout the pandemic and Justice Stokes is no exception to that. He has an extraordinary track record of service to the State of Maine as a Justice on the Superior Court, and we are all grateful that he is able to and willing to continue to serve the State of Maine in the status of Active Retired Justice. And he's an extraordinary candidate and I urge you all to vote no to allow his appointment to proceed. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Aroostook, Senator Stewart.

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you very much, Mr. President, and ladies and gentlemen of the Senate. I rise to echo some of the remarks from my colleague from Cumberland. I first came in contact with Justice Stokes on the Opioid Taskforce back in 2017. I thought he was an incredibly thoughtful and considerate member of that Body, brought a lot to the table, and I got to see him in action a little bit there, which was really - it was great to watch and, frankly, as I've spent more time, went through law school, continuing to read your opinions and see the work that you were doing on behalf of the people of Maine. We certainly are grateful for all of the time and the career that you've put into

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **William R. Stokes** of Augusta for appointment as an Active Retired Justice of the Superior Court was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would like to recognize in the rear of the Chamber the Honorable William Stokes. Would he please rise and accept the congratulations of the Maine Senate.

The Following Communication: S.C. 338

**STATE OF MAINE
 ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
 COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING**

April 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
 President of the Senate of Maine
 131st Maine State Legislature
 State House
 Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of John H. Kimball of Norway, for reappointment to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	1	Tipping, M. of Penobscot
	Representatives	6	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Skold, C. of Portland
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		6	Sen. Daughtry, M. of Cumberland, Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Geiger, V. of Rockland, Rep. Russell, R. of Verona Island, Rep. Soboleski, M. of Phillips

Seven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of John H. Kimball of Norway, for reappointment to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#86)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BRENNER, DAUGHTRY, LAWRENCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENEY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **John H. Kimball** of Norway for reappointment to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 339

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING**

April 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Richard Metivier of Lewiston, for reappointment to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	1	Tipping, M. of Penobscot
	Representatives	7	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Russell, R. of Verona Island, Skold, C. of Portland

NAYS 0

ABSENT 5 Sen. Daughtry, M. of Cumberland, Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Geiger, V. of Rockland, Rep. Soboleski, M. of Phillips

Eight members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Richard Metivier of Lewiston, for reappointment to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#87)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BRENNER, DAUGHTRY, LAWRENCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Richard Metivier** of Lewiston for reappointment to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 323

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

April 12, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of David R. Hastings, Esquire of Fryeburg, for reappointment to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS Senators 2 Hickman, C. of Kennebec, Timberlake, J. of Androscoggin

Representatives 8 Supica, L. of Bangor, Andrews, J. of Paris, Boyer, D. of Poland, Collings, B. of Portland, Hymes, B. of Waldo, Rielly, M. of Westbrook, Riseman, W. of Harrison, Rudnicki, S. of Fairfield

NAYS 0

ABSENT 3 Sen. Brenner, S. of Cumberland, Rep. Malon, M. of Biddeford, Rep. Montell, K. of Gardiner

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of David R. Hastings, Esquire of Fryeburg, for reappointment to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Craig V. Hickman
Senate Chair

S/Laura Supica
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#88)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BRENNER, DAUGHTRY, LAWRENCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **David R. Hastings**, Esquire of Fryeburg for reappointment to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 336

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

April 12, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross,

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Rep. Mathieson of Kittery, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 198 An Act to Provide MaineCare Coverage for Doula Services

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Michele Meyer
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: S.C. 337

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

April 12, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross,

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Rep. Milliken of Blue Hill, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 1377 An Act to Provide Rental Assistance for Recovery Housing

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Michele Meyer
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: S.C. 330

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

April 3, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross,

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Sen. Libby of Cumberland, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 1288 An Act to Create a 2-year Motor Vehicle Registration

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Ben Chipman
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Lynne A. Williams
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: S.C. 334

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

April 13, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 606 An Act Regarding Development of a Program to Assist Farmers Affected by Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination
- L.D. 682 An Act Regarding Labeling of Packaged Foods for Genetically Modified Organisms
- L.D. 1110 An Act Regarding Calibration Requirements for Certain Testing and Measurement Equipment

L.D. 1201 Resolve, Requiring the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands to Convey Interest in a Parcel of Land at the Newfield Wildlife Management Area to a Private Landowner

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Henry Ingwersen
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Bill Pluecker
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: S.C. 335

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

April 12, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 1068 An Act to Ban the Hunting of Animals in Enclosed Areas
- L.D. 1121 An Act to Change Responsibility for Animal Control Officer Training to the Department of Public Safety
- L.D. 1216 An Act to Create the Animal Cruelty Task Force

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Henry Ingwersen
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Bill Pluecker
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: S.C. 325

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

April 12, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 358 An Act to Ensure That Restrooms Are Available for Use During Business Hours at Certain Drive-through Restaurants
- L.D. 464 An Act to Eliminate Waiting Lists for Community-based Services for People with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Intellectual Disability, Brain Injury or Other Related Conditions (EMERGENCY)
- L.D. 469 An Act to Provide Funding for a Diabetes Education Program
- L.D. 973 An Act to Create the Recovery Friendly Workplace Program
- L.D. 1094 An Act Regarding the Allocation of Funds Awarded to Maine Due to the Opioid Settlement

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci Senate Chair
S/Rep. Michele Meyer House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 340

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT,
ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS**

April 12, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 440 An Act to Protect Customers from Financial Scams by Requiring Retailers to Provide Information on Potential Signs of Financial Scams
- L.D. 583 An Act to Provide for Municipalities to Allow Grocery Stores up to 10,000 Square Feet to Open on Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas
- L.D. 648 An Act to Address Staffing Shortages in Critical Public Safety Jobs Through Economic Incentives
- L.D. 807 An Act to Create the Small Communities Tourism Fund
- L.D. 890 An Act to Create the Child Care Provider Student Loan Repayment Fund

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Chip Curry Senate Chair
S/Rep. Tiffany Danielle Roberts House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 324

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON MARINE RESOURCES**

April 11, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 711 An Act to Regulate Oyster Seed
- L.D. 811 An Act to Create a Restricted Senior Lobster and Crab Fishing License

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Cameron deGrasse Reny S/Rep. Allison Hepler
 Senate Chair House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: S.C. 332

STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

April 12, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
 Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
 131st Legislature
 State House
 Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 664 Resolve, Directing the State Auditor to Audit All State Agencies
- L.D. 671 An Act to Factor Conservative Projections of Sea Level Rise into State Planning on Climate Change

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Tim Nangle S/Rep. Holly B. Stover
 Senate Chair House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: S.C. 333

STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

April 13, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
 Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
 131st Legislature
 State House
 Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 85 Resolve, Directing the Maine Turnpike Authority to Study Adding Exits off the Maine Turnpike to Aid Economic Development
- L.D. 145 An Act to Increase the Penalties for Operation of a Motor Vehicle While Using a Handheld Electronic Device or Mobile Telephone
- L.D. 272 An Act Regarding the Issuance of Driver's Licenses to Persons with Obstructive Sleep Apnea
- L.D. 381 An Act to Increase School Bus Safety by Requiring Monitors
- L.D. 480 An Act to Clarify Laws Regarding the Placement of Signs on Public Ways
- L.D. 488 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Supplemental Guide Signs on Highways for Colleges and Universities
- L.D. 560 An Act Regarding County Sheriff Vehicle Registration Plates
- L.D. 623 An Act to Modify Maine Motor Vehicle Inspection Standards to Permit Nonstructural Corrosion That Does Not Directly Affect the Passenger Compartment
- L.D. 704 An Act to Replace Annual Vanity Plate Administrative Fees with a One-time Fee
- L.D. 729 Resolve, Regarding Traffic Lights in Turner (EMERGENCY)
- L.D. 736 An Act to Remove the Requirement That Certain Motor Vehicles Be Equipped with a Front License Plate

L.D. 743 An Act to Provide Free or Reduced-cost Vehicle Registration to All Disabled Veterans

Sent down for concurrence.

L.D. 746 An Act to Modernize the State's Vehicle Inspection System by Requiring Inspections Biennially and Allowing for an Electronic Inspection Program

Bill "An Act to Create the Guilford-Sangerville Utilities District" (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 679 L.D. 1692

L.D. 933 An Act Requiring Proof of a Motorcycle License Endorsement or Learner's Permit in Order to Register a Motorcycle

Presented by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot. Cosponsored by Representative WHITE of Guilford and Senators: HARRINGTON of York, POULIOT of Kennebec.

L.D. 1017 Resolve, to Increase Commercial Driver's License Examiner Capacity

Bill "An Act to Amend the Kennebunk Sewer District Charter" S.P. 680 L.D. 1693

L.D. 1045 An Act to Allow the Use of Enhanced Driver's Licenses

Presented by Senator RAFFERTY of York. Cosponsored by Representative GERE of Kennebunkport and Representative: SAYRE of Kennebunk.

L.D. 1090 An Act to Require Driver Education Programs to Include Education Regarding the Risks of Impaired Driving Due to the Use of Alcohol, Cannabis or Other Substances

On motion by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock, REFERRED to the Committee on ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY and ordered printed.

L.D. 1140 Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Allow All-terrain Vehicle Traffic on a Section of Trail in the City of Caribou

Sent down for concurrence.

L.D. 1142 An Act to Eliminate Motor Vehicle Registration Fees for Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Emergency Medical Services Providers

Resolve, to Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission to Design a Plan for Sustained Investment in Preventing Disease and Improving the Health of Maine Communities (EMERGENCY) S.P. 685 L.D. 1722

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Ben Chipman Senate Chair

S/Rep. Lynne A. Williams House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Presented by Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin. Cosponsored by Representative GATTINE of Westbrook and Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, BENNETT of Oxford, Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, CYRWAY of Albion, DUCHARME of Madison, SACHS of Freeport, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, TERRY of Gorham.

On motion by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot, REFERRED to the Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Improve Geographic Information System Data Acquisition and Maintenance"

S.P. 674 L.D. 1687

Presented by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock. Cosponsored by Representative PAULHUS of Bath and Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, BENNETT of Oxford, BLACK of Franklin, NANGLE of Cumberland, Representatives: COPELAND of Saco, DHALAC of South Portland, FAY of Raymond, STOVER of Boothbay.

Committee on AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY suggested and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator INGWERSEN of York, REFERRED to the Committee on STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Bill "An Act to Create Transitional Housing Communities for Homeless Populations in the State" S.P. 684 L.D. 1721

Presented by Senator DUSON of Cumberland. Cosponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland and Senators: PIERCE of Cumberland, TIPPING of Penobscot, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives: FAY of Raymond, GATTINE of Westbrook, GERE of Kennebunkport, MATLACK of St. George, RANA of Bangor.

On motion by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland, REFERRED to the Joint Select Committee on HOUSING and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Resolve, to Allow Ronald Caron and Jennifer Berube to Sue the State

S.P. 675 L.D. 1688

Presented by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Exempt Prescription Pet Medications from Sales Tax"

S.P. 676 L.D. 1689

Presented by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative PERRY of Bangor and Senator: LIBBY of Cumberland, Representatives: CARMICHAEL of Greenbush, HASENFUS of Readfield, LAVIGNE of Berwick, MATLACK of St. George, RANA of Bangor.

Bill "An Act to Phase Out the Insurance Premium Tax on Annuities"

S.P. 683 L.D. 1720

Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Representatives: ARATA of New Gloucester, MILLETT of Waterford, TERRY of Gorham.

On motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Provide Parity in State Energy Rate Relief Payments and Tax Exemptions for Maine Cannabis Businesses"

S.P. 678 L.D. 1691

Presented by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland and Senators: CHIPMAN of Cumberland, GROHOSKI of Hancock, HICKMAN of Kennebec, Representative: ROEDER of Bangor.

Committee on **TAXATION** suggested and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Improve the Rest Stop Facilities Located on Interstate 95 in Medway"

S.P. 681 L.D. 1694

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative JAVNER of Chester and Senator: FARRIN of Somerset, Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, BABIN of Fort Fairfield, MASON of Lisbon.

On motion by Senator **CHIPMAN** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Eliminate Unconstitutional Restrictions on Access to Cannabis by Removing Certain Restrictions on Medical Use and Personal Use and to Recognize Cannabis and Hemp as Food Protected as a Right Under the Constitution of Maine"

S.P. 673 L.D. 1686

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative BOYER of Poland and Representative: SUPICA of Bangor.

Bill "An Act Regarding Ongoing Absentee Voting and Tracking of Absentee Ballots"

S.P. 677 L.D. 1690

Presented by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland and Senators: HICKMAN of Kennebec, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives: RIELLY of Westbrook, SUPICA of Bangor.

Bill "An Act to Provide for the Direct Shipment of Spirits to Consumers"

S.P. 682 L.D. 1695

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Senators: HICKMAN of Kennebec, PIERCE of Cumberland, POULIOT of Kennebec, Representatives: DILL of Old Town, O'CONNELL of Brewer, RUDNICKI of Fairfield.

On motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

All matters thus acted upon were ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

ORDERS

Joint Resolution

On motion by Senator **MOORE** of Washington, the following Joint Resolution:

S.P. 686

**JOINT RESOLUTION
DESIGNATING MAY 7-13, 2023
AS TARDIVE DYSKINESIA AWARENESS WEEK**

WHEREAS, many people with serious, chronic mental health conditions, such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder or severe depression, or gastrointestinal disorders, including gastroparesis, nausea and vomiting, require treatment with medications that work as dopamine receptor blocking agents, or DRBAs, including antipsychotic medications; and
WHEREAS, while ongoing treatment with these medications can be very helpful, and even lifesaving, for many people, it can also lead to tardive dyskinesia; and
WHEREAS, tardive dyskinesia is a movement disorder that is characterized by random, involuntary and uncontrolled movements of different muscles in the face, trunk and extremities; and
WHEREAS, tardive dyskinesia can develop months, years or decades after a person starts taking DRBAs and even after they have discontinued use of those medications. Not everyone who takes a DRBA develops tardive dyskinesia, but if it develops it is often permanent; and
WHEREAS, it is estimated that over 600,000 Americans suffer from tardive dyskinesia, and, according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, one in every 4 patients receiving long-term treatment with an antipsychotic medication will experience tardive dyskinesia; and
WHEREAS, tardive dyskinesia is often unrecognized and patients suffering from the disorder are commonly misdiagnosed, and regular screening for tardive dyskinesia in patients taking DRBAs is therefore recommended by the American Psychiatric Association; and
WHEREAS, while years of difficult and challenging research have resulted in recent scientific breakthroughs regarding tardive dyskinesia, it is important to continue to raise awareness of tardive dyskinesia in the public and the medical community; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to designate May 7-13, 2023 as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week and respectfully encourage each individual in the State to become aware of and better informed about tardive dyskinesia.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

On motion by Senator **MOORE** of Washington, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **ADOPTION**.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Ought to Pass

The Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act to Designate Maine Irish Heritage Day"
H.P. 405 L.D. 628

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act to Prevent Political Patronage with Regard to State Legislators"

H.P. 326 L.D. 521

Reported that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senators:

NANGLE of Cumberland
BALDACCI of Penobscot

Representatives:

STOVER of Boothbay
ABDI of Lewiston
COPELAND of Saco
DHALAC of South Portland
PAULHUS of Bath
RISEMAN of Harrison

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-32)**.

Signed:

Senator:

BRAKEY of Androscoggin

Representatives:

ADAMS of Lebanon
GREENWOOD of Wales
POMERLEAU of Standish
UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

On motion by Senator **BRAKEY** of Androscoggin, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Brakey.

Senator **BRAKEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. I'll keep my comments brief, but I would encourage the Body to reject the Ought Not to Pass Report. This legislation is pretty simple. It seeks to address the revolving door that can sometimes creep its way into this institution by limiting legislators to have a four-year cooling-off period from taking jobs with taxpayer-funded institutions, nonprofits, and also government agencies unless they have a particular expertise and professional background that's directly relevant to that position. Simply seeking to close that revolving door so that we have the right incentives as we are here working in Augusta. Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought Not to Pass Report. A roll call has been ordered. Is the Senate ready for the question?

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#89)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, NANGLE, PIERCE, ROTUNDO, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BRAKEY, FARRIN, HARRINGTON, KEIM, LYFORD, MOORE, STEWART

EXCUSED: Senators: BRENNER, DAUGHTRY, LAWRENCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY

22 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 7 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

Senate

Ought to Pass

Senator CHIPMAN for the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act to Increase the Statutory Fee for Defensive Driving Courses"

S.P. 22 L.D. 30

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Ought to Pass As Amended

Senator INGWERSEN for the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Bill "An Act to Provide Funding for Drought Relief and Other Programs Benefiting Maine Farmers"

S.P. 136 L.D. 315

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-27)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-27) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Senator INGWERSEN for the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Bill "An Act to Support the Maintenance of Historic Fort George in Castine"

S.P. 350 L.D. 791

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-26)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-26) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Senator INGWERSEN for the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Bill "An Act Regarding the Authority of Municipalities to Regulate Timber Harvesting"

S.P. 417 L.D. 1048

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-25)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-25) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Prohibit the Use of Electronic Benefits Transfer System Cards for Cash Withdrawals"
S.P. 56 L.D. 117

Reported that the same **Ought Not to Pass.**

Signed:

Senators:

BALDACCI of Penobscot
INGWERSEN of York

Representatives:

MEYER of Eliot
CRAVEN of Lewiston
GRAHAM of North Yarmouth
MADIGAN of Waterville
SHAGOURY of Hallowell
ZAGER of Portland

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-24).**

Signed:

Senator:

MOORE of Washington

Representatives:

FREDERICKS of Sanford
GRIFFIN of Levant
JAVNER of Chester
LEMELIN of Chelsea

Reports **READ.**

Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Baldacci.

Senator **BALDACCI:** Thank you, Mr. President. I would just - just to give the Senate some background and information about why we voted Ought Not to Pass. Maine people use Electronic Benefit Transfers, or EBT, cards through several programs. These include the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program and other programs intended to support Maine families as they work toward their education goals and self-support. The

bill, as written, is in violation of federal law and requirements. Federal law requires states to ensure recipients have access to cash assistance. Failing to meet that requirement would likely result in the Administration of Children and Families rejecting Maine's required TANF state plan, jeopardizing Maine's eligibility for \$76 million a year in TANF block grant funds. Finally, the bill will contradict one of the primary purposes of TANF, which is to aid families so that children may be cared for in their own home. The proposed change would greatly impact the family's ability to pay rent and utilities, as most landlords and utility companies do not accept EBT card payments. While most of these cash payments issued on EBT cards can be utilized as a point-of-sale transaction at a retailer, direct cash withdrawals are critical to ensure families can access supports quickly and in a flexible manner and allow for efficient and cost-effective options. Many vendors such as electric, water, sewer, oil, and landlords do not accept EBT card payments. I would ask the Senate to join me in voting Ought Not to Pass.

On motion by Senator **BRAKEY** of Androscoggin, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Brakey.

Senator **BRAKEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. I rise in opposition to the Ought Not to Pass Report. Some background on this legislation and why I believe some version of it is necessary. In 2015, in the 127th Legislature, there was a bipartisan recognition that there was need for welfare reform in the State of Maine. After a series of reports that showed EBT card transactions in all variety of places where you wouldn't - you would certainly hope that welfare dollars were not being spent. These are programs that are intended - particularly the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, these are dollars that are intended for helping needy families in a temporary time of need get back on their feet. Emphasis on families. And yet we saw transactions at liquor stores, we saw problems with lottery tickets and alcohol and cigarettes being purchased. And so, there was a bipartisan legislation. I worked with then-Senator Libby of Androscoggin County - it seems there's a rule, there's always got to be a Senator Libby in this Body, but different Senator Libby, Senator Libby of Androscoggin County - to pass legislation where we prohibited the purchase of alcohol, cigarettes, lottery tickets, and other - other items that were deemed to be outside the purpose of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program from being eligible for the use of those dollars. Now, the loophole, though, is that that EBT card, those TANF dollars, can be withdrawn as cash. And so, while it's prohibited that those dollars can be used for these purchases, if you go to an ATM, withdraw cash, and then go pay for alcohol, cigarettes, lottery tickets, or any of the prohibited items, there's no way of being assured that the dollars are being used properly. So, this bill came forward, and I will note that there were hundreds of items of testimony submitted by members of the public in support of this legislation who submitted testimony online. There were some challenges raised in the public hearing, as Senator Baldacci mentions, around federal requirements for the availability of cash in the TANF program. I will say while I - because the matter before us is the Majority Ought Not to Pass Report, I can't speak to the committee amendment on this bill at this present time. However,

if this - if we did reject the Majority Ought Not to Pass Report, I'd be happy to speak to the details of the committee Ought to Pass Report, which I think represents a very moderate proposal for how we ensure the integrity of the federal requirements and ensure the integrity of tax dollars. Thank you very much.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought Not to Pass Report. A roll call has been ordered. Is the Senate ready for the question?

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#90)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, NANGLE, PIERCE, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: BRENNER, DAUGHTRY, LAWRENCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY

17 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 12 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **PREVAILED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Reduce Out-of-pocket Prescription Drug Expenses for Coinsurance"

S.P. 317 L.D. 759

Reported that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senators:

BAILEY of York
BRAKEY of Androscoggin
RENY of Lincoln

Representatives:

PERRY of Calais
ARFORD of Brunswick
CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham
CYRWAY of Albion
MASTRACCIO of Sanford
MATHIESON of Kittery

MORRIS of Turner
NUTTING of Oakland
SWALLOW of Houlton

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-23)**.

Signed:

Representative:

PRINGLE of Windham

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act to Decrease the Minimum Age to Operate a School Bus" S.P. 389 L.D. 918

Reported that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senators:

CHIPMAN of Cumberland
FARRIN of Somerset

Representatives:

WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor
ALBERT of Madawaska
ANKELES of Brunswick
CRAFTS of Newcastle
MASON of Lisbon
O'CONNELL of Brewer
PARRY of Arundel
THERIAULT of Fort Kent
WHITE of Waterville

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass**.

Signed:

Representative:

WHITE of Guilford

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **CHIPMAN** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

SECOND READERS

The Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading** reported the following:

House As Amended

Bill "An Act to Establish Processing Time Limits for Permit by Rule Applications Under the Site Location of Development Laws"
H.P. 13 L.D. 9
(C "A" H-30)

Bill "An Act to Simplify the Sale of Food Requirement for Certain Licenses for the Sale of Liquor to Be Consumed on the Licensed Premises" (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 87 L.D. 141
(C "A" H-29)

READ A SECOND TIME and PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED, in concurrence.

Senate

Bill "An Act to Protect the Public Health by Allowing the Appointment of Associate Health Officers"
S.P. 227 L.D. 510

READ A SECOND TIME and PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senate As Amended

Bill "An Act to Update Reimbursement Rates for Transportation of Deceased Persons by Funeral Homes"
S.P. 222 L.D. 505
(C "A" S-22)

READ A SECOND TIME and PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED.

Sent down for concurrence.

ENACTORS

The Committee on **Engrossed Bills** reported as truly and strictly engrossed the following:

Emergency Resolve

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 5, Section 63: Home Based Supports and Services for Older and Disabled Adults and Chapter 11: Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Services, Major Substantive Rules of the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Aging and Disability Services
H.P. 328 L.D. 523

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 29 Members of the Senate, with no Senators having voted in the negative, and 29 being more than two-thirds of the entire elected Membership of the Senate, was **FINALLY PASSED** and, having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

Acts

An Act to Establish Adult Protective Services Training Requirements for Professionals Mandated to Report Suspected Abuse, Neglect or Exploitation to Enhance Protection of Incapacitated and Dependent Adults
S.P. 27 L.D. 35

An Act to Clarify Maine Law Regarding Background Checks for the Office of Child and Family Services
H.P. 139 L.D. 218

PASSED TO BE ENACTED and, having been signed by the President, were presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

All matters thus acted upon were ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Off Record Remarks

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **ADJOURNED** until Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 10:00 in the morning.