

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
SENATE ADVANCED JOURNAL AND CALENDAR**

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

SUPPLEMENT NO. 8

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Joint Orders

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

(1-1) Clay A. Gleason, of Kittery, who is retiring from public service following 31 years of service to public schools in the State, 20 of which were served as a teacher, school administrator and educational leader in the Bonny Eagle school district. We extend our appreciation and best wishes;

HLS 697

(1-2) April 2026 as the 32nd Anniversary of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda and as Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month. Genocide is a human tragedy inspired by the most repugnant elements of hatred, intolerance and inhumanity. The genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda has been internationally recognized as the massacre of nearly 1,000,000 Tutsi and moderate Hutu in Rwanda. As a result of that genocide, millions of men, women and children were murdered or experienced forced migration. Since 1994, the world has commemorated the genocide against the Tutsi in April to honor the memory of the men, women and children who died and to express solidarity with the survivors. The genocide against the Tutsi has left a solemn reminder that we must work together to protect the vulnerable, uphold human rights and prevent genocide. By recognizing, remembering and educating ourselves in all cases of past and ongoing genocide, we help protect historic memory, ensure that similar atrocities do not occur and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution and tyranny. Recognizing April as Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month preserves the memory of its victims, honors survivors, assists the struggle against future genocides and fosters a peaceful coexistence between diverse communities;

HLS 718

(1-3) Judith Akers, of Poland, on the occasion of her 50th year of service as an employee of the Town of Poland. We extend our appreciation and best wishes;

HLS 719

(1-4) Casey Rand, of Wells, who was named the York County Community College Student of the Year. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

HLS 720

(1-5) Ruth Griffith, of Parkman, who has earned the distinction of being named Valedictorian of the 2026 graduating class of the University of Maine. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

HLS 721

(1-6) Isabelle Irani, of Spring, Texas, who has earned the distinction of being named a Salutatorian of the 2026 graduating class of the University of Maine. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

HLS 722

(1-7) Andrii Obertas, of Lutsck, Ukraine, who has earned the distinction of being named a Salutatorian of the 2026 graduating class of the University of Maine. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

HLS 723

(1-8) Kendall Wood-Coffin, of Machiasport, who was named the Washington County Community College Student of the Year. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

HLS 724

(1-9) Thomas Whelan, of Freeport, who was named the 2025 Freeport Citizen of the Year for his contributions to the community. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

HLS 725

(1-10) Brian McGill, of Orono, a University of Maine ecology professor, who has been named a 2026 American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellow, one of the highest honors in the scientific community. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

HLS 726

(1-11) Anna Guzzi, of Dixmont, a senior at Nokomis Regional High School, who is a recipient of a 2026 Principal's Award for outstanding academic achievement and citizenship, sponsored by the Maine Principals' Association. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

HLS 730

(1-12) Chad Robertson, of Pittsfield, a sergeant with the Maine Warden Service, who has been named the 2025 Warden of the Year for his proactive approach to fish and game enforcement, dedication to training new game wardens and efforts in search and rescue as an experienced K-9 handler. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

HLS 731

(1-13) Taisen Pilotte, of Palermo, who has earned the distinction of being named Salutatorian of the 2026 graduating class of Erskine Academy and who is a recipient of a 2026 Principal's Award for outstanding academic achievement and citizenship, sponsored by the Maine Principals' Association. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

HLS 732

(1-14) Kyle Hladik, of Minot, a sergeant with the Maine Warden Service, who was named the 2025 Maine Warden Service Supervisor of the Year. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

HLS 733

Come from the House, **READ** and **PASSED**.

Joint Resolutions

Joint Resolutions in Memoriam:

WHEREAS, the Legislature has learned with deep regret of the death of:

(1-15) Heather Browning, of Bucksport, a registered nurse working as a charge nurse in long-term care at the Maine Veterans Home in Bangor. Ms. Browning will be long remembered and sadly missed by her family, friends and community;

HLS 708

WHEREAS, the Legislature has learned with deep regret of the death of:

(1-16) Ryan James Jennings, of North Yarmouth, who gave up his life saving two of his children caught in a riptide while vacationing in Florida. Mr. Jennings was a loving husband and father and an active member of his community, who among other pursuits coached football, lacrosse and wrestling. Mr. Jennings will be long remembered and sadly missed by his family, friends and community;

HLS 727

WHEREAS, the Legislature has learned with deep regret of the death of:

(1-17) the Honorable Denise Patricia Harlow, of Oquossoc. An elite marathoner, Ms. Harlow qualified in 2000 for the United States Olympic Trials. She served as a member of the Maine House of Representatives representing Portland from 2010 to 2018. Passionate about nature, she served on the Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. In 2011, she introduced legislation to recognize Juneteenth as a state holiday in Maine, a decade before the United States Congress made the day commemorating the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States a federal holiday. More recently, she taught middle school students at Maine Virtual Academy. Ms. Harlow will be long remembered and sadly missed by her family, friends and community;

HLS 728

WHEREAS, the Legislature has learned with deep regret of the death of:

(1-18) the Honorable Arthur L. Lerman, of Whitefield. Mr. Lerman was a veteran of the United States Coast Guard Reserve. After university, he worked on the Natural Areas Inventory of the State of Maine and a Coastal Protection Priorities Plan for The Nature Conservancy. He then taught at Unity College, where he co-developed an environmental planning program. He later served as planning director for the City of Saco. In 1978, in Kathmandu, Nepal, he worked as a consultant on projects for UNICEF, the World Health Organization and USIS. Returning to the United States, he started a company specializing in land use and environmental and energy planning. He wrote the first set of comprehensive environmental protection regulations for the state of Maine's site location of development law and coastal wetlands law. As the special assistant to the director of the Maine Office of Energy Resources, he wrote laws establishing statewide minimum energy building and appliance standards. In the late 1970s, he was involved in efforts to close Maine Yankee nuclear power plant. He was chair of the Greater Portland Nuclear Referendum Committee and later became one of the leaders of the Maine Nuclear Referendum Committee. In the mid-1980s, he started working on long-term care issues, first on traumatic brain injury rehabilitation and Alzheimer's disease and then, from 1990 on, advocating for and providing services to individuals with developmental disabilities. One of the many innovative programs initiated under his leadership was "A Matter of Perception," an annual juried art show for artists with disabilities hosted at the Portland Museum of Art in partnership with Very Special Arts Maine. Mr. Lerman served two terms in the Maine House of Representatives and was an active member of several committees. He started a Developmental Disabilities Caucus within the Legislature and sponsored legislation to provide financial support for dairy farmers and to require pharmaceutical companies to disclose the results of all clinical trials. Mr. Lerman will be long remembered and sadly missed by his family, friends and community;

HLS 729

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