

ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
6th Legislative Day
Tuesday, April 18, 2023

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

Prayer by Pastor Erick Ness, Center Conway Baptist Church, New Hampshire.

National Anthem by Gary Crocker, West Gardiner.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The Journal of Thursday, April 13, 2023 was read and approved.

Under suspension of the rules, members were allowed to remove their jackets.

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Establish the Gas Tax Fairness Credit"
(S.P. 648) (L.D. 1631)

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

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **TAXATION** in concurrence.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Resolve, to Further Study the Role of Water as a Resource
(H.P. 1051) (L.D. 1641)

REFERRED to the Committee on **TAXATION** in the House on April 12, 2023.

Came from the Senate **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

The House voted to **RECEDE AND CONCUR**.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.P. 1076)

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0148

March 21, 2023
Honorable Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:
Enclosed please find my official certification to the 131st Legislature of the citizen initiative petition entitled "An Act Regarding Automotive Right to Repair".

Sincerely,
S/Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State

STATE OF MAINE
SECRETARY OF STATE

I, Shenna Bellows, Secretary of State, hereby certify that written petitions bearing valid signatures of 74,686 electors of this State were addressed to the Legislature of the State of Maine and were filed in the office of the Secretary of State on January 19, 2023, requesting that the Legislature consider an act entitled, "An Act Regarding Automotive Right to Repair".

I further certify that the number of signatures submitted is in excess of ten percent of the total votes cast in the last gubernatorial election preceding the filing of such petitions, as required by Article IV, Part Third, Section 18 of the Constitution of Maine, that number being 67,682.

I further certify this initiative petition to be valid and attach herewith the text of the legislation circulated on the petition's behalf.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State of Maine to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at Augusta on the Twenty-first day of March in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-three.

S/Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State

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

Sent for concurrence.

On motion of Representative TERRY of Gorham, the accompanying Bill "An Act Regarding Automotive Right to Repair"

(I.B. 3) (L.D. 1677)

Was **TABLED** pending **FURTHER ACTION** and later today assigned.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 131)

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
66 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0066

Letter of Transmittal
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
March 30, 2023

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 132)

**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

April 18, 2023

Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the following Joint Standing Committees have voted unanimously to report the following bills out "Ought Not to Pass:"

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

- 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. 1068 An Act to Ban the Hunting of Animals in Enclosed Areas
- L.D. 1110 An Act Regarding Calibration Requirements for Certain Testing and Measurement Equipment
- L.D. 1121 An Act to Change Responsibility for Animal Control Officer Training to the Department of Public Safety
- 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
- L.D. 1216 An Act to Create the Animal Cruelty Task Force Health and Human Services
- 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
- Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business
- 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
- Marine Resources
- L.D. 711 An Act to Regulate Oyster Seed
- L.D. 811 An Act to Create a Restricted Senior Lobster and Crab Fishing License
- State and Local Government
- 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
- Transportation
- 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

- L.D. 746 An Act to Modernize the State's Vehicle Inspection System by Requiring Inspections Biennially and Allowing for an Electronic Inspection Program
- L.D. 933 An Act Requiring Proof of a Motorcycle License Endorsement or Learner's Permit in Order to Register a Motorcycle
- L.D. 1017 Resolve, to Increase Commercial Driver's License Examiner Capacity
- L.D. 1045 An Act to Allow the Use of Enhanced Driver's Licenses
- 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
- 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
- L.D. 1142 An Act to Eliminate Motor Vehicle Registration Fees for Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Emergency Medical Services Providers

Sincerely,
S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 133)

**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

April 18, 2023

Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the Committee on Health and Human Services has approved the request by the sponsor, Representative Mathieson of Kittery, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw:"

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

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the Committee on Health and Human Services has approved the request by the sponsor, Representative Milliken of Blue Hill, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw:"

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

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the Committee on Transportation has approved the request by the sponsor, Senator Libby of Cumberland, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw:"

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

Sincerely,
S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

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

The Following Communication: (S.C. 322)

**MAINE SENATE
131st LEGISLATURE**

April 13, 2023

Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0002

Dear Speaker Talbot Ross:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A. §158 and Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Maine Legislature, please be advised that the Senate today confirmed the following nominations:

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs:

- Brian Langley of Ellsworth for appointment to the Maine Charter School Commission.

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology:

- Kenneth A. Colburn of Bar Harbor for reappointment, to the Efficiency Maine Trust Board,
- Mark Isaacson of Cumberland for reappointment, to the Efficiency Maine Trust Board.

Best Regards,

S/Darek M. Grant

Secretary of the Senate

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Study and Report on Soil Carbon Sequestration Incentive Programs

(H.P. 1077) (L.D. 1678)

Sponsored by Representative OSHER of Orono.

Cosponsored by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland and Representatives: HEPLER of Woolwich, JACKSON of Oxford, JAUCH of Topsham, PLUECKER of Warren, SHAW of Auburn, Senators: BLACK of Franklin, HICKMAN of Kennebec, INGWERSEN of York.

Bill "An Act to Create the Maine Experiential Education Program"

(H.P. 1081) (L.D. 1682)

Sponsored by Representative SHAW of Auburn.

Cosponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York and Representatives: CRAY of Palmyra, GUERRETTE of Caribou, HALL of Wilton, JACKSON of Oxford, JAUCH of Topsham, OSHER of Orono, PLUECKER of Warren, Senator: BLACK of Franklin.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Resolve, to Reestablish and Continue the Work of the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Emergency Medical Services in the State

(H.P. 1090) (L.D. 1701)

Sponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator FARRIN of Somerset and Representatives: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, HASENFUS of Readfield, NEWMAN of Belgrade, NUTTING of Oakland, SALISBURY of Westbrook, Senators: BEEBE-CENTER of Knox, CURRY of Waldo, President JACKSON of Aroostook.

Bill "An Act to Replace Certain Stigmatizing Language in the Maine Revised Statutes, Titles 22, 25 and 34-A with Respectful Language"

(H.P. 1104) (L.D. 1715)

Sponsored by Representative MILLIKEN of Blue Hill.
Cosponsored by Representatives: HASENFUS of Readfield, MATHIESON of Kittery, PLUECKER of Warren, RANA of Bangor, SALISBURY of Westbrook, Senators: BEEBE-CENTER of Knox, LaFOUNTAIN of Kennebec.

Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Incarcerated Individuals and Legislative Apportionment"

(H.P. 1093) (L.D. 1704)

Sponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: PLUECKER of Warren, STOVER of Boothbay, Senator: NANGLE of Cumberland.

Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** suggested.

On motion of Representative SALISBURY of Westbrook, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Give Consumers Control over Sensitive Personal Data by Requiring Consumer Consent Prior to Collection of Data"

(H.P. 1094) (L.D. 1705)

Sponsored by Representative O'NEIL of Saco.
Cosponsored by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot, Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec and Representatives: BOYER of Poland, LIBBY of Auburn, MALON of Biddeford, POIRIER of Skowhegan, RIELLY of Westbrook, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, KEIM of Oxford.

Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** suggested.

On motion of Representative SALISBURY of Westbrook, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Implement Background Checks for School Board Members"

(H.P. 1086) (L.D. 1697)

Sponsored by Representative ANDREWS of Paris.

Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Improve the Educational Experience of People Who Are Resettling in Maine

(H.P. 1091) (L.D. 1702)

Sponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, BRENNAN of Portland, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, DHALAC of South Portland, RANA of Bangor, Senators: RAFFERTY of York, ROTUNDO of Androscoggin.

Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Protect Agricultural Lands by Creating a Permitting Process for Solar Development on Those Lands"

(H.P. 1089) (L.D. 1700)

Sponsored by Representative PLUECKER of Warren.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CRAFTS of Newcastle, CRAY of Palmyra, DODGE of Belfast, GUERRETTE of Caribou, JAUCH of Topsham, SHAW of Auburn, Senators: BLACK of Franklin, INGWERSEN of York.

Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** suggested.

On motion of Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Invest in the Health and Wellness of Older Maine Residents by Expanding Coordinated Community Programming"

(H.P. 1083) (L.D. 1684)

Sponsored by Representative GATTINE of Westbrook.
Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and Representatives: CRAVEN of Lewiston, FAY of Raymond, GRIFFIN of Levant, JAVNER of Chester, MEYER of Eliot, SHAGOURY of Hallowell, Senator: INGWERSEN of York.

Bill "An Act Regarding Driver's Licenses for Individuals in Foster Care"

(H.P. 1101) (L.D. 1712)

Sponsored by Representative ROEDER of Bangor.
Cosponsored by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot and Representatives: COLLINGS of Portland, FAY of Raymond, O'CONNELL of Brewer, RANA of Bangor, RUSSELL of Verona Island, Senator: TIPPING of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act to Establish Substance Use Disorder Treatment Centers"

(H.P. 1106) (L.D. 1719)

Sponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator FARRIN of Somerset and Representatives: CRAFTS of Newcastle, MEYER of Eliot, PERRY of Calais, RISEMAN of Harrison, Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, President JACKSON of Aroostook, MOORE of Washington, POULIOT of Kennebec.

Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Address Anticompetitive Terms in Health Insurance Carrier and Health Care Provider Contracts" (H.P. 1097) (L.D. 1708)

Sponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner.
Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** suggested and ordered printed.

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Establish a Baseline of Consistency and Safety for the Operation of Construction Cranes and Elevators" (H.P. 1098) (L.D. 1709)

Sponsored by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick.
Cosponsored by Representatives: HASENFUS of Readfield, LaROCHELLE of Augusta, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, SAYRE of Kennebunk.

Bill "An Act to Update Electrical Education and Other Licensure Requirements for Electricians" (H.P. 1102) (L.D. 1713)

Sponsored by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick.
Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act to Establish a Repairability Index for Consumer Electronic Products" (H.P. 1105) (L.D. 1716)

Sponsored by Representative CRAFTS of Newcastle.
Cosponsored by Representatives: COPELAND of Saco, DAVIS of East Machias, KUHN of Falmouth, LEE of Auburn, MURPHY of Scarborough, PLUECKER of Warren, SMITH of Palermo, ZEIGLER of Montville.

Bill "An Act to Encourage Participation in Maine's Essential Support Workforce Through Access to Higher Education" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1107) (L.D. 1718)

Sponsored by Representative MEYER of Eliot.
Cosponsored by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland and Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, FAY of Raymond, GATTINE of Westbrook, TERRY of Gorham.

Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission" (H.P. 1078) (L.D. 1679)

Sponsored by Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and Representatives: BABIN of Fort Fairfield, CARMICHAEL of Greenbush, LEE of Auburn, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, MOONEN of Portland, MORIARTY of Cumberland, SHEEHAN of Biddeford, Senator: HARRINGTON of York.

Bill "An Act to Provide for Civil Recovery Based on Nonconsensual Removal of or Tampering with a Condom and Considering Sexual Assault in Evaluating Parental Rights" (H.P. 1082) (L.D. 1683)

Sponsored by Representative MILLIKEN of Blue Hill.

Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and Representatives: BOYER of Poland, COLLINGS of Portland, DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, PLUECKER of Warren, RANA of Bangor, RIELLY of Westbrook, Senators: BEEBE-CENTER of Knox, BRAKEY of Androscoggin.

Bill "An Act to Create a Civil Cause of Action for Persons Suffering Damages Arising from the Sale of Abnormally Dangerous Firearms" (H.P. 1085) (L.D. 1696)

Sponsored by Representative MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth.
Cosponsored by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland and Representatives: DOUDERA of Camden, GATTINE of Westbrook, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MOONEN of Portland, SACHS of Freeport, SAYRE of Kennebunk, STOVER of Boothbay, Senator: LAWRENCE of York.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Maine Equal Pay Law by Prohibiting Pay Discrimination Based on Race" (H.P. 1092) (L.D. 1703)

Sponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.
Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook and Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, DHALAC of South Portland, RANA of Bangor, Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, DUSON of Cumberland, HICKMAN of Kennebec.

Bill "An Act to Allow Workers to Work Without Having to Pay Labor Organization Service Fees" (H.P. 1096) (L.D. 1707)

Sponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner.
Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Establish the Maine Rental Assistance and Guarantee Program and Amend the Laws Regarding Tenants and the Municipal General Assistance Program" (H.P. 1099) (L.D. 1710)

Sponsored by Representative GOLEK of Harpswell.
Cosponsored by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland and Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, CRAVEN of Lewiston, GATTINE of Westbrook, GERE of Kennebunkport, RANA of Bangor, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, Senators: DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, PIERCE of Cumberland.

Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** suggested.

On motion of Representative ROEDER of Bangor, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Freedom of Access Act and Related Provisions"

(H.P. 1088) (L.D. 1699)

Sponsored by Representative ANDREWS of Paris.

Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** suggested.

On motion of Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Encourage Residential Water Testing by Providing an Income Tax Deduction"

(H.P. 1080) (L.D. 1681)

Sponsored by Representative BOYER of Poland.

Bill "An Act to Increase Acreage Eligibility and Change Requirements for Filing Plans Under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law"

(H.P. 1084) (L.D. 1685)

Sponsored by Representative MATLACK of St. George.

Cosponsored by Representative: ZEIGLER of Montville.

Bill "An Act to Create a Sustainable Funding Source for Recovery Community Centers Using a Percentage of the Adult Use Cannabis Tax Revenue"

(H.P. 1103) (L.D. 1714)

Sponsored by Representative RANA of Bangor.

Cosponsored by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland and Representatives: CROCKETT of Portland, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, HASENFUS of Readfield, MATLACK of St. George, MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, PERRY of Bangor, ROEDER of Bangor, Senator: POULIOT of Kennebec.

Bill "An Act to Provide a Property Tax Exemption for All Veterans over 62 Years of Age"

(H.P. 1108) (L.D. 1717)

Sponsored by Representative COLLAMORE of Pittsfield. (BY REQUEST)

Committee on **TAXATION** suggested and ordered printed. **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Provide for Safe Roadway Construction Design Criteria"

(H.P. 1100) (L.D. 1711)

Sponsored by Representative MALON of Biddeford.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, CRAFTS of Newcastle, KUHN of Falmouth, LEE of Auburn, O'CONNELL of Brewer, SHEEHAN of Biddeford.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Allow Cannabis Advertising and to Allow Cannabis Delivery"

(H.P. 1079) (L.D. 1680)

Sponsored by Representative BOYER of Poland.

Cosponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec and Representatives: COLLINGS of Portland, RIELLY of Westbrook, SUPICA of Bangor.

Bill "An Act to Eliminate Private Donations to the Maine Clean Election Fund"

(H.P. 1087) (L.D. 1698)

Sponsored by Representative ANDREWS of Paris.

Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Clarify Statewide Laws Regarding Affordable Housing and Accessory Dwelling Units"

(H.P. 1095) (L.D. 1706)

Sponsored by Representative MALON of Biddeford.

Cosponsored by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland and Representatives: GATTINE of Westbrook, GERE of Kennebunkport, GOLEK of Harpswell, KUHN of Falmouth, RANA of Bangor, SHEEHAN of Biddeford.

Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

ORDERS

On motion of Representative RIELLY of Westbrook, the following Joint Resolution: (H.P. 1075) (Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and Representatives: COLLINGS of Portland, GATTINE of Westbrook, O'NEIL of Saco, SALISBURY of Westbrook, ZAGER of Portland)

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 2023 AS ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, for over a century, Arab Americans have been making valuable contributions to virtually every aspect of American society, including in medicine, law, business, education, technology, government, military service and culture; and

WHEREAS, people of Arab ethnicity and culture who have immigrated to America have shared their rich culture and traditions with neighbors and friends, while also setting fine examples as model citizens and public servants; and

WHEREAS, these immigrants brought with them to America their resilient family values, strong work ethic, dedication to education and diversity in faith and creed, which have added strength to our great democracy; and

WHEREAS, Arab Americans have enriched our society by sharing in the entrepreneurial American spirit that makes our nation free and prosperous; and

WHEREAS, the history of Arab Americans in the United States continues to be characterized by misconceptions, bigotry and anti-Arab hate expressed by crimes and hate speech; and

WHEREAS, the civil rights abuses, harmful stereotyping and bullying suffered by Arab Americans must be combated with education and awareness; and

WHEREAS, Arab Americans join all Americans in the desire to see a peaceful and diverse society where every individual is treated equally and feels safe; and

WHEREAS, the incredible contributions and heritage of Arab Americans have helped us build a better nation; 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 April 2023 as Arab American Heritage Month.

READ and ADOPTED.
Sent for concurrence.

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

In accordance with House Rule 519 and Joint Rule 213, the following item:

Recognizing:

Leslie Livingston, of North Yarmouth. Ms. Livingston has devoted more than 30 years of her career to the health, safety and well-being of the children and families of Maine and advocating for the prevention of abuse and neglect through community-level collaboration. She helped to pass legislation to create what is now the Maine Families home visiting program. She served as a national trainer for the Healthy Families home visiting program and was responsible for training all home visitors in Maine throughout the 1990s and early 2000s. She was also part of the adjunct faculty at Kaplan University in the Early Childhood Department for several years. From 1993 to 1997, she served as the Executive Director of Healthy Kids, a family resource network in Damariscotta, one of the sixteen Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Councils. Later, she directed the home visiting programs at Goodall Hospital and Southern Maine Medical Center. Returning to Healthy Kids in 2008, she again served as the Executive Director until retiring in January 2023. For many years, she has been instrumental in leading the efforts in Lincoln County to provide a wide range of prevention activities, classes and educational programs for parents, professionals and the local communities. Her advocacy for child abuse and neglect prevention is known statewide, and countless families and colleagues have benefited from her commitment. We extend our appreciation and best wishes;

(HLS 249)

Presented by Representative CRAFTS of Newcastle.
Cosponsored by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland, Representative GRAHAM of North Yarmouth.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative CRAFTS of Newcastle, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Newcastle, Representative Crafts.

Representative **CRAFTS**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and Members of the House. Our State's ongoing investment in child abuse prevention is no better illustrated than in the long and devoted career of Leslie Livingston of North Yarmouth. A long-time advocate for children and families in Maine, Leslie began as the executive director of Healthy Kids in Damariscotta in 1993. With some time away in the early-2000s, she returned once again to lead the local Child Abuse Prevention Council in 2008 and has continued her service until retiring just this year. I first met Leslie in a mandated reporter training she was leading years ago. This work was not easy and required compassion, a deep level of commitment and a thick skin. Leslie has it all. Her decades of work in this field are an ongoing testament to her large heart, her clear vision and her enduring resilience. While

the future work of Healthy Kids will be carried in competent hands, Leslie built a strong and lasting organization and her absence will be felt for many years to come. Whether it was her work to help create Maine Families home visiting, of which I was a grateful participant as a new mom, hosting the annual Strawberry Shortcake Shuffle Fundraiser or participating in our local substance use prevention program, Leslie's presence spanned our county and our services, aiming to support and lift up families and their young children. Her legacy will be lasting, as will our community's gratitude for her service.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from North Yarmouth, Representative Graham.

Representative **GRAHAM**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, ladies and gentlemen, friends of the House. I rise today to thank Leslie Livingston for dedicating her entire professional life to the care and wellbeing of all our children; not just a few children, all of our children. As we recently noted Child Abuse Prevention Month, it is fitting that we honor someone who has had her boots on the ground for over 30 years. It takes a village to help raise healthy, thriving children. I'm grateful that Leslie is part of my village and I can call her my friend. Thank you, Leslie, and I'll see you in the 'hood.

Subsequently, this Expression of Legislative Sentiment was **PASSED** and sent for concurrence.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act to Support Environmental Justice by Requiring Certain Notice Requirements for Whistleblower Protections" (H.P. 586) (L.D. 939)

Signed:
Senator:

LAWRENCE of York

Representatives:

ZEIGLER of Montville
BABIN of Fort Fairfield
BOYLE of Gorham
DUNPHY of Embden
FOSTER of Dexter
PAUL of Winterport
RUNTE of York
WARREN of Scarborough

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:
Senator:

GROHOSKI of Hancock

Representative:

KESSLER of South Portland

READ.

On motion of Representative ZEIGLER of Montville, the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report was **ACCEPTED** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act to Increase the Chance of Receiving a Moose Permit for Maine Service Members and Veterans"

(H.P. 349) (L.D. 544)

Signed:

Senators:

LaFOUNTAIN of Kennebec
CURRY of Waldo

Representatives:

LANDRY of Farmington
CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham
DILL of Old Town
DRINKWATER of Milford
GOLEK of Harpswell
HEPLER of Woolwich
MASON of Lisbon
WOOD of Greene

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representatives:

THORNE of Carmel
WOODSOME of Waterboro

READ.

On motion of Representative LANDRY of Farmington, the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report was **ACCEPTED** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-35)** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Severance Pay to Cover More Types of Employers and Include More Workers"

(H.P. 16) (L.D. 12)

Signed:

Senators:

TIPPING of Penobscot
DAUGHTRY of Cumberland
POULIOT of Kennebec

Representatives:

ROEDER of Bangor
GEIGER of Rockland
GERE of Kennebunkport
MALON of Biddeford
RUSSELL of Verona Island
SKOLD of Portland

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representatives:

BRADSTREET of Vassalboro
DRINKWATER of Milford
SOBOLESKI of Phillips

READ.

Representative ROEDER of Bangor moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

Representative BRADSTREET of Vassalboro **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Vassalboro, Representative Bradstreet.

Representative **BRADSTREET**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I rise in opposition to the pending motion. I realize this doesn't appear to be a big item in the full scheme of things, and yet it's one more thing that we are forcing upon our small businesses, indeed every business in Maine. It's like another nail in the coffin of businesses that are trying to survive, doing their best to survive and it discourages them and it also discourages other business from considering moving to Maine, who already has what is considered a really negative regulatory environment. So, I hope you would join me in voting against the pending motion. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Albion, Representative Cyrway.

Representative **CYRWAY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker of the House and also Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I just wanted to stand up and say I'm opposed to this bill. I think it should be Ought Not to Pass only because I believe the unions really use pieces of bartering and working things out amongst themselves and we shouldn't, as the State, be making all these union decisions. And I think that we really are taking away the spirit of what they'd like to do and it also does affect a lot of small businesses that may or may not survive because we keep adding to the pot, as Representative Bradstreet had mentioned. So, thank you, Madam Speaker, for this chance to speak and I do think that we can make a difference for the people of letting them make the choice, not just this small Body. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bangor, Representative Roeder.

Representative **ROEDER**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I just want to convey to the Members of this Body this bill was brought to me by the Department of Labor and it is a requested change that simply clarifies something that has been an issue ongoing and with that language clarification, hopefully they will be able to do their jobs better. And I appreciate the consideration of our labor unions. I did want to point out that the Maine AFL-CIO testified in favor. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 32

YEA - Abdi, Ankeles, Arford, Bell, Boyle, Brennan, Bridgeo, Cloutier, Cluchey, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Dhalac, Dill, Dodge, Doudera, Fay, Gattine, Geiger, Gere, Golek, Graham, Gramlich, Hasenus, Hepler, Hobbs, Jauch, Kuhn, Landry, LaRochelle, Lee, Madigan, Malon, Mastraccio, Mathieson, Matlack, Meyer, Millett R, Milliken, Montell, Moonen, Moriarty, Murphy, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Paulhus, Perry A, Perry J, Pluecker, Pringle, Rana, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roberts, Roeder, Runte, Russell, Salisbury, Sargent, Sayre, Shagoury, Shaw, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Terry, Warren, White B, Williams, Worth, Zager, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Albert, Andrews, Arata, Ardell, Babin, Bagshaw, Blier, Boyer, Bradstreet, Campbell, Carlow, Carmichael, Costain, Cray, Cyrway, Davis, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Dunphy, Faulkingham, Foster, Fredericks, Galletta, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffin, Guerrette, Hall, Henderson, Hymes, Jackson, Javner, Lavigne, Lemelin, Libby, Lyman, Mason, Millett H, Morris, Ness, Newman, Nutting, Parry, Paul, Perkins, Poirier, Polewarczyk, Pomerleau, Quint, Rudnicki, Schmersal-Burgess, Smith,

Soboleski, Strout, Swallow, Theriault, Thorne, Underwood, Walker, White J, Wood, Woodsome.

ABSENT - Adams, Collamore, Crockett, Eaton, Haggan, Kessler, Lajoie, Lanigan, Lookner, Sachs, Sampson, Skold.

Yes, 76; No, 62; Absent, 12; Vacant, 1; Excused, 0.

76 having voted in the affirmative and 62 voted in the negative, 1 vacancy with 12 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-35)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-35)** and sent for concurrence.

**CONSENT CALENDAR
First Day**

In accordance with House Rule 519, the following items appeared on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

(S.P. 256) (L.D. 588) Bill "An Act to Promote Public Safety and Retain Essential First Responders by Funding the Maine Length of Service Award Program" Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(S.P. 93) (L.D. 189) Bill "An Act to Include an Expanded Archery Permit in the Super Pack License Issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife" Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-21)**

(H.P. 333) (L.D. 528) Bill "An Act to Improve Road Safety for Waste and Recycling Collection Employees" Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 456) (L.D. 687) Bill "An Act to Increase the Allowable Width of a Snowplow" Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 10) (L.D. 6) Resolve, Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey the Interest of the State in Certain Real Estate in the Unorganized Territory Committee on **TAXATION** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-33)**

(H.P. 118) (L.D. 177) Bill "An Act to Amend the Authority of the Public Utilities Commission Regarding Special Rate Contracts" Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-36)**

(H.P. 369) (L.D. 574) Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Working Waterfront Covenants" Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-34)**

Under suspension of the rules, Second Day Consent Calendar notification was given.

There being no objection, the Senate Papers were **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** or **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended** in concurrence and the House Papers were **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** or **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended** and sent for concurrence.

**ENACTORS
Emergency Measure**

An Act to Update References to the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986 Contained in the Maine Revised Statutes and Change the Standard Deduction and References in the Dependent Exemption Tax Credit

(H.P. 11) (L.D. 7)
(C. "A" H-27)

Was reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 112 voted in favor of the same and 3 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act to Raise the Cap on Retirement Benefits for State Employees and Teachers to Which a Cost-of-living Adjustment Is Made

(H.P. 45) (L.D. 70)
(C. "A" H-24)

Was reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Milford, Representative Drinkwater.

Representative **DRINKWATER**: Thank you. Madam Speaker, I rise to support LD 70, An Act to Eliminate the Cap on Retirement Benefits for State Employees and Teachers to Which a Cost-of-living Adjustment Is Made. Sidney Hook once said everyone who remembers his own education remembers teachers. Not methods, not techniques. Teachers are the heart of the educational system. Teachers deserve our respect and gratitude. They've dedicated their lives to instructing our children. Everyone here can remember the name of teachers who inspired them. In my life, it was Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Duff and Ms. Bragdon. Many of them were promised a good retirement when the pay was low, but the benefits were good. I heard from many retired teachers who are struggling to make ends meet. With inflation hurting all families, the senior citizens are the ones feeling it the worst. One retired teacher in her 80s spoke about if it wasn't for her son, she wouldn't be able to continue to live in her house. Serving in the 129th, we heard a bill to fix the COLA and it passed the Committee with a funding request of \$600 million but failed in Appropriations. In the 130th, the same bill passed with a price tag of \$900 million but once again failed in Appropriations. Now, in the 131st, the bill was proposed again with price tag of \$1.2 billion. Madam Speaker, the MEA had the opportunity to meet with the Chief Executive before she finalized the budget. The MEA asked the Chief Executive to fund the COLA and fix the problem. The Chief Executive failed to fund the COLA. I do not understand why the majority party has not made this a priority. After all, they've had majorities on all the committees, control of the House, the Senate and the Blaine House now for five years.

Madam Speaker, I regret that the Chief Executive failed to include some funding to stop the snowball from picking up speed as it's rolling downhill. This is not a Republican versus Democrat debate; this is trying to correct what they had to sacrifice for the State to have a balanced budget as the Constitution requires. We, the members of the Labor Committee, came together in a bipartisan way and requested that the COLA be raised to \$40,000. It is not enough to make them whole, but it's a small attempt to slow the out-of-control cost. Because of the budget being passed by the majority party, we could not include a fix.

What I'm asking for is that we agree to include money in the anticipated supplemental budget if the revenue forecast is as bright as we think. And by this vote, we attempt to restore our promise. Perhaps we could stop funding the thousands of unfilled positions and put that money towards our promise. We promised our retired teachers good benefits when they retired and, frankly, Madam Speaker, I think it's time we stop the talk and walk the talk. When my time here ends and I'm nothing but a memory, I hope I will be remembered as someone who stood up for our retired teachers and tried to right a wrong. Madam Speaker, I'm reading this because of a teacher, and I thank them. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Winter Harbor, Representative Faulkingham.

Representative **FAULKINGHAM**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the pending motion. Madam Speaker, this amendment is the unanimous report of the Committee. This amendment changes the cost of living increase for retired employees and teachers, to increase the COLA to apply to the first \$40,000 of the benefit. That COLA is currently capped at \$24,000 and a little bit extra. That cap was put in at a time when the State was in bad financial shape. It is time now to lift that. Sending this bill to the Appropriations Committee sends a strong message to our retired teachers that we support them and their years of service to the State. I urge the Members to vote yes on the pending motion.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bangor, Representative Roeder.

Representative **ROEDER**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I just wanted to underline and underscore and highlight what my colleagues from Winter Harbor and Milford said. It was a deeply bipartisan vote in Committee, with a lot of support. And as my colleague from Milford said, that number, to make retirees whole, just keeps growing, which is why I urge everyone to support this bill because we're at least taking a step in the right direction with this and we're saying to our retirees that we value you and we want to make you whole. Thank you.

This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 115 voted in favor of the same and 6 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act to Make Permanent the Ability of Certain Retailers and Distilleries to Sell Liquor for Off-premises Consumption and Cocktails for On-premises Consumption

(S.P. 101) (L.D. 201)
(C. "A" S-19)

Was reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 106 voted in favor of the same and 12 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act to Provide Electronic Access to Confidential Juror Information

(H.P. 213) (L.D. 339)

Was reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 106 voted in favor of the same and 13 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor to Request a Federal Waiver to Allow Presumptive Work Eligibility for Asylum Seekers

(S.P. 419) (L.D. 1050)
(C. "A" S-18)

Was reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 98 voted in favor of the same and 36 against, and accordingly the Resolve **FAILED FINAL PASSAGE** and was sent to the Senate.

Acts

An Act to Repeal the Hospital and Health Care Provider Cooperation Act

(H.P. 65) (L.D. 97)
(C. "A" H-25)

An Act to Provide Funding for Children's Guardians Ad Litem

(H.P. 81) (L.D. 113)
(C. "A" H-26)

An Act to Ensure Continuity of Care for Pretrial Defendants

(S.P. 57) (L.D. 118)
(C. "A" S-20)

An Act to Provide Support Services for Military Members Transitioning to Civilian Life in Maine

(H.P. 170) (L.D. 265)
(C. "A" H-23)

An Act to Update the Maine Human Rights Act with Respect to Gender Identity

(H.P. 476) (L.D. 707)

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.

The following items were taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The following matter, in the consideration of which the House was engaged at the time of adjournment Thursday, April 13, 2023, had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

Bill "An Act to Protect the Quality of Care Provided via Telehealth by Prohibiting Physicians from Prescribing Abortion-inducing Drugs or Devices Through Telehealth or Other Electronic Communication"

(H.P. 797) (L.D. 1249)

- In House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on March 21, 2023.
- In Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.
- **CARRIED OVER** to any special or regular session, of the 131st Legislature, pursuant to Joint Order S.P. 594 on March 30, 2023.
TABLED - March 28, 2023 (Till Later Today) by Representative TERRY of Gorham.
PENDING - **FURTHER CONSIDERATION**.
Subsequently, the House voted to **INSIST**.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Improve Geographic Information System Data Acquisition and Maintenance"
(S.P. 674) (L.D. 1687)
Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** suggested and ordered printed.
Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Create the Guilford-Sangerville Utilities District" (EMERGENCY)
(S.P. 679) (L.D. 1692)
Bill "An Act to Amend the Kennebunk Sewer District Charter"
(S.P. 680) (L.D. 1693)
Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** in concurrence.

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)
Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** in concurrence.

Resolve, to Allow Ronald Caron and Jennifer Berube to Sue the State
(S.P. 675) (L.D. 1688)
Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Exempt Prescription Pet Medications from Sales Tax"
(S.P. 676) (L.D. 1689)
Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on **TAXATION** in 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)
Committee on **TAXATION** suggested and ordered printed.
Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Phase Out the Insurance Premium Tax on Annuities"
(S.P. 683) (L.D. 1720)
Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on **TAXATION** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Improve the Rest Stop Facilities Located on Interstate 95 in Medway"
(S.P. 681) (L.D. 1694)
Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** in 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)
Bill "An Act Regarding Ongoing Absentee Voting and Tracking of Absentee Ballots"
(S.P. 677) (L.D. 1690)
Bill "An Act to Provide for the Direct Shipment of Spirits to Consumers"
(S.P. 682) (L.D. 1695)
Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Create Transitional Housing Communities
for Homeless Populations in the State"

(S.P. 684) (L.D. 1721)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select
Committee on **HOUSING** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING**
in concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted
upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

On motion of Representative CRAFTS of Newcastle, the
House adjourned at 12:17 p.m., until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, April
20, 2023.