

**STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
JOURNAL OF THE SENATE**

In Senate Chamber  
Wednesday  
February 16, 2005

Senate called to order by President Beth Edmonds of  
Cumberland County.

Prayer by Paul Cates of the Vassalboro Friends Meeting.

**MR. CATES:** My prayer this morning is for creative diversity. Let us join together in celebrating God's presence.

Dear God, this morning I am speaking not just for our legislators but for all Mainers when I say we are deeply grateful that the Devine Spirit knows no political affiliation and can know with certainty that You are neither a Democrat or a Republican because in our imperfect world partisanship has too often been expressed in the words 'God is on our side, God is surely not on their side.' This morning we ask Your support as our legislators, and just about all Mainers, strive to maintain the time honored tradition of creative and considerate partisanship, creative because it helps us illuminate all aspects of important issues, considerate because, whether in the country store or in legislative halls, we Mainers can express different opinions without losing respect for the motivation of our opponent in debate. We are truly grateful this morning because we know that Your presence helps us stay level-headed and keep our sense of perspective even in vigorous exchange of ideas. Dear God, when all the discussion is ended and the time for decision has arrived, help our elected representatives, men and women of all political persuasions, to make their decision with all the Mainers in mind. Again, we are grateful for Your inspiring and guiding presence. Please help the people of this room to be legislators in the finest tradition of our great State of Maine. We ask this in the name of all the people of Maine, all of them. Amen.

Doctor of the day, Dr. Edward Pontius of Topsham.

Reading of the Journal of Tuesday, February 15, 2005.

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, on motion by Senator **BRENNAN** of Cumberland, the following Joint Order:  
S.P. 275

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, February 22, 2005, at 10:00 in the morning.

**READ and PASSED.**

Ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Off Record Remarks

**PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE**

**Non-Concurrent Matter**

Bill "An Act To Recruit and Retain College Graduates through Loan Repayment"

H.P. 302 L.D. 399

In House, January 25, 2005, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **BUSINESS RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed.

In Senate, February 10, 2005, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Comes from the House, that Body **ADHERED**.

On motion by Senator **HOBBINS** of York, the Senate **RECEDED** and **CONCURRED**.

**House Papers**

Resolve, To Create Sebago Lake Village State Park  
H.P. 558 L.D. 781

Bill "An Act To Allow Park Passes To Be Used at Scarborough Beach State Park"

H.P. 568 L.D. 803

Bill "An Act To Make Technical Changes in Laws Relating to Conservation"

H.P. 578 L.D. 813

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

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

Bill "An Act To Support the New Century Community Program"  
H.P. 543 L.D. 766

Bill "An Act To Provide a Stable Source of Funding for the Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund"

H.P. 552 L.D. 775

Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Maine Resident College Graduates Employed in Maine"  
H.P. 563 L.D. 786

Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Enhanced Development of Public Geographic Information"  
H.P. 564 L.D. 787

Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Finance the Acquisition of Land and Interest in Land for Conservation, Water Access, Outdoor Recreation, Wilderness and Fish Habitat"  
H.P. 570 L.D. 805

Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Encourage Rural High-speed Internet Access"  
H.P. 571 L.D. 806

Bill "An Act To Provide Funding for 'Camp To Belong' To Reunite Siblings Separated by Foster Care"  
H.P. 573 L.D. 808

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **BRENNAN** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act Requiring the Disclosure of Odometer Changes"  
H.P. 553 L.D. 776

Bill "An Act To Establish Consumer Protections and Regulations for Deferred Deposit Loans"  
H.P. 565 L.D. 788

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **HOBBS** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act To Assist Municipalities in Recruiting Emergency Services Personnel"  
H.P. 537 L.D. 760

Bill "An Act To Make Illegal Possession of Certain Narcotic Drugs a Class C Crime"  
H.P. 577 L.D. 812

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **BRENNAN** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Resolve, To Study Ways To Create More Teachers of Modern and Classical Languages  
H.P. 541 L.D. 764

Bill "An Act To Require That the Pupil Evaluation Team Set Graduation Standards for Special Education Students" (EMERGENCY)  
H.P. 560 L.D. 783

Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Conduct a Fiscal Analysis of State Requirements That School Administrative Units Implement Local Assessment Systems  
H.P. 561 L.D. 784

Bill "An Act Regarding Veterans' Educational Assistance Benefits at the University of Maine System"  
H.P. 572 L.D. 807

Bill "An Act To Assist the Implementation of the Essential Programs and Services School Funding Model"  
H.P. 576 L.D. 811

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **MITCHELL** of Kennebec, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act Regarding General Assistance under Special Circumstances"  
H.P. 545 L.D. 768

Resolve, To Examine Smoking Prevention and Cessation Programs for Maine's Youth  
H.P. 546 L.D. 769

Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Develop Strategies to Reduce Tobacco Use and Improve Public Health  
H.P. 566 L.D. 801

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

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

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Bill "An Act To Provide For Special Antlerless Deer Permits to Certain Disabled Hunters"  
H.P. 536 L.D. 759

Bill "An Act To Extend the Deer Hunting Season by One Week"  
H.P. 538 L.D. 761

Bill "An Act To Provide Moose Permits to Persons 75 Years of  
Age or Older with Hunting Experience"  
H.P. 539 L.D. 762

Bill "An Act To Require the Use of Reflective Material on Ice  
Fishing Shacks"  
H.P. 575 L.D. 810

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INLAND  
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **BRENNAN** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to  
the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** and  
ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act To Improve the Affordability of Health Insurance"  
H.P. 544 L.D. 767

Bill "An Act To Provide Disclosure Related to Workers'  
Compensation Insurance"  
H.P. 547 L.D. 770

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

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

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Bill "An Act To Protect Consumers' Use of Gift Cards"  
H.P. 548 L.D. 771

Bill "An Act To Prohibit the Placement of Expiration Dates on Gift  
Cards"  
H.P. 549 L.D. 772

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on  
**JUDICIARY** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **HOBBINS** of York, **REFERRED** to the  
Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act To Allow Municipalities To Collect Debts through the  
Placement of Liens on Property"  
H.P. 550 L.D. 773

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

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

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

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Bill "An Act To Allow a Landlord To Discover Whether Sewer and  
Water Bills Have Been Paid"  
H.P. 557 L.D. 780

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

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on  
**UTILITIES AND ENERGY**.

On motion by Senator **BRENNAN** of Cumberland, **TABLED** until  
Later in Today's Session, pending **REFERENCE**.

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Bill "An Act To Increase Retired Teachers' Health Insurance  
Benefits"  
H.P. 535 L.D. 758

Bill "An Act To Facilitate Testimony in Workers' Compensation  
Proceedings"  
H.P. 574 L.D. 809

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR**  
and ordered printed.

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

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Bill "An Act Requiring That Contributions for a Clean Election  
Candidate Be from the Candidate's Political Party"  
H.P. 542 L.D. 765

Bill "An Act To Enhance Enforcement of Liquor Laws"  
H.P. 554 L.D. 777

Bill "An Act Allowing Certain Clean Election Campaign Reports  
To Be Filed by Telephone"  
H.P. 556 L.D. 779

Bill "An Act To Prohibit Clean Election Candidates from Using  
Clean Money for Personal Profit or Use"  
H.P. 569 L.D. 804

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LEGAL  
AND VETERANS AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

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

Bill "An Act To Improve the Efficiency of the Legislature"  
H.P. 567 L.D. 802

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

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

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Bill "An Act To Exempt the Sale of Electric, Hybrid or Hydrogen-Fueled Vehicles from State Sales Tax and Excise Tax"  
H.P. 555 L.D. 778

Bill "An Act To Provide a Capital Gains Tax Exemption for the Sale of a Business or Unimproved Property for a Taxpayer 50 Years of Age or Older"

H.P. 559 L.D. 782

Bill "An Act To Allow Employers To Take a Tax Deduction for Their Employees' Transportation Costs"

H.P. 562 L.D. 785

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

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

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Bill "An Act To Prohibit the Issuance of a Driver's License to an Undocumented Illegal Alien"

H.P. 540 L.D. 763

Resolve, To Require the Department of Transportation To Put a Bicycle Lane on Route 5 in Waterboro

H.P. 551 L.D. 774

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

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

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#### COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: S.C. 66

#### JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

February 10, 2005

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate  
Honorable John Richardson, Speaker of the House  
122nd Maine Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Richardson:

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 out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 139 An Act To Make a Record of Dog Licenses Available On-line

We have also notified the sponsor and cosponsors of each bill listed of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. John M. Nutting  
Senate Chair

S/Rep. John F. Piotti  
House Chair

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

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The Following Communication: S.C. 67

#### JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

February 10, 2005

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate  
Honorable John Richardson, Speaker of the House  
122nd Maine Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Richardson:

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

L.D. 161 An Act To Assist Dental Hygienists

We have also notified the sponsor and cosponsors of each bill listed of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nancy B. Sullivan  
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Anne C. Perry  
House Chair

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

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The Following Communication: S.C. 68

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL  
AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

February 10, 2005

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate  
Honorable John Richardson, Speaker of the House  
122nd Maine Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Richardson:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs has voted unanimously to report the following bill out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 91 An Act To Amend the Law Governing the  
Storage of Spirits

We have also notified the sponsor and cosponsors of each bill listed of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Kenneth T. Gagnon  
Senate Chair

S/Rep. John L. Patrick  
House Chair

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

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The Following Communication: S.C. 69

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION**

February 10, 2005

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate  
Honorable John Richardson, Speaker of the House  
122nd Maine Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Richardson:

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 out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 59 An Act To Repeal the Authority of the  
Department of Transportation To Assess  
Impact Fees on New Businesses

We have also notified the sponsor and cosponsors of each bill listed of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Dennis Damon  
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Boyd P. Marley  
House Chair

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

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**SENATE PAPERS**

Bill "An Act To Require that Division Heads within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources Be Unclassified"  
S.P. 270 L.D. 815

Sponsored by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin.

On motion by Senator **NUTTING** of Androscoggin, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Expand Maine's Ocean-based Economy"  
S.P. 274 L.D. 819

Sponsored by President EDMONDS of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Speaker RICHARDSON of Brunswick,  
Representative ASH of Belfast and Senators: DAMON of  
Hancock, DOW of Lincoln, RAYE of Washington, TURNER of  
Cumberland, Representatives: KAELIN of Winterport, PINGREE  
of North Haven, RECTOR of Thomaston, WEBSTER of Freeport.

On motion by Senator **BRENNAN** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Fix within State Government the Responsibility for Mental Health Services to Maine's Elderly"  
S.P. 272 L.D. 817

Sponsored by Senator MAYO of Sagadahoc.  
Cosponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Newfield and Representatives: BURNS of Berwick, GROSE of Woolwich, LEWIN of Eliot, MILLER of Somerville.

On motion by Senator **BRENNAN** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act To Prohibit Changing the Flow of Water on Another's Land"

S.P. 271 L.D. 816

Sponsored by Senator ANDREWS of York.

Bill "An Act To Specify Phosphorus Limits for Gulf Island Pond"  
S.P. 273 L.D. 818

Sponsored by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin.  
Cosponsored by Representative MAKAS of Lewiston and Senators: COWGER of Kennebec, ROTUNDO of Androscoggin, Representatives: EBERLE of South Portland, KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, SMITH of Monmouth, WALCOTT of Lewiston.

On motion by Senator **COWGER** of Kennebec, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Resolve, To Require the Department of Transportation To Use Adjustable Warning Signs

S.P. 269 L.D. 814

Sponsored by Senator SNOWE-MELLO of Androscoggin.  
Cosponsored by Senator: DOW of Lincoln, Representatives: CEBRA of Naples, HAMPER of Oxford, LANSLEY of Sabattus.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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

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**ORDERS**

**Joint Order**

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

Coach Joel Sankey, of Brewer, who has been named the "Little Ten Conference" Coach of the Year. Coach Sankey led the Bucksport High School "Golden Bucks" Football Team to the 2004 State Class C Football Championship, their first since 1980. We congratulate him and extend our best wishes to him;  
SLS 98

Sponsored by Senator ROSEN of Hancock.  
Cosponsored by Senator: DAMON of Hancock, Representatives: ROSEN of Bucksport, HALL of Holden, FISHER of Brewer.

**READ.**

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

Senator **ROSEN:** Thank you, Madame President and members of the Senate. Thank you very much for your accommodation in allowing the presentation of these three sentiments. You realize that the expression of these sentiments allows us the opportunity to be able to relay to you our great pride in the accomplishments of our football team, the Golden Bucks. The Golden Bucks are the State Championship team for Class C. They are also representing all the eastern Maine teams in the championship arena this year. We are extraordinarily proud of the accomplishments of the members of the team on the field and in the classroom as outstanding students and wonderful ambassadors for our community. In particular, we are also, as stated by the Secretary, proud to acknowledge our coach, Joel Sankey, as Coach of the Year. In addition, one outstanding player also received recognition as the Fitzpatrick Award recipient, Nick Tymoczko, who was named this year the state's outstanding senior football player. We are extraordinarily proud of their accomplishments and we're thrilled that they have been able to join us today. Thank you, Madame President.

**PASSED.**

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the chamber Coach Joel Sankey of Brewer; Nick Tymoczko, the Fitzpatrick Player of the Year; and the Golden Bucks championship team. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate.

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**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**House**

**Change of Committee**

The Committee on **LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act To Clarify City Election Procedures" (EMERGENCY)  
H.P. 363 L.D. 488

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**.

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

On motion by Senator **GAGNON** of Kennebec, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**, in concurrence.

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**Ought to Pass**

The Committee on **UTILITIES AND ENERGY** on Bill "An Act To Standardize Water Lien Provisions"

H.P. 183 L.D. 244

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.

**READ ONCE**.

**ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY**.

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**SECOND READERS**

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

**House**

Resolve, Authorizing the City of Gardiner To Refinance Certain Temporary Bond Anticipation Notes Issued for Its Wastewater Project (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 102 L.D. 126

Resolve, To Designate a Certain Intersection in Sidney as the Trooper Jeffrey S. Parola Memorial

H.P. 114 L.D. 163

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

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**Unfinished Business**

The following matters in the consideration of which the Senate was engaged at the time of Adjournment had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by Senate Rule 516.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later (2/10/05) Assigned matter:

Resolve, Regarding Nonnative Invasive Marine Species  
H.P. 487 L.D. 667

Tabled - February 10, 2005, by Senator **COWGER** of Kennebec

Pending - **REFERENCE**

(Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** suggested and ordered printed.)

(In House, February 8, 2005, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **NATURAL RESOURCES**.)

On motion by Senator **COWGER** of Kennebec, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later (2/15/05) Assigned matter:

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Give the Supreme Judicial Court Authority To Decide Contested Elections Results

H.P. 515 L.D. 720

Tabled - February 10, 2005, by Senator **MITCHELL** of Kennebec

Pending - **REFERENCE**

(In House, February 10, 2005, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.)

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

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

**SENATE PAPERS**

Resolve, Regarding a New Certification for Health Care Attendants

S.P. 276 L.D. 837

Sponsored by Senator **MILLS** of Somerset.

On motion by Senator **HOBBINS** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act To Reduce Hardships to Small Community Hospitals Resulting from the Hospital Tax" (EMERGENCY)  
S.P. 278 L.D. 839

Sponsored by Senator ANDREWS of York.  
Cosponsored by Representative KAELIN of Winterport and Senator: SNOWE-MELLO of Androscoggin, Representatives: BROWN of South Berwick, COLLINS of Wells, FLETCHER of Winslow, LEWIN of Eliot, MOULTON of York, OTT of York, SHIELDS of Auburn.

On motion by Senator **BRENNAN** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act To Amend the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act As It Applies to Gift Cards"

S.P. 277 L.D. 838

Sponsored by Senator TURNER of Cumberland.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act To Distribute Costs for the Funding of Pensions and Health Insurance for Retired Teachers"

S.P. 279 L.D. 840

Sponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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

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

**SENATE PAPERS**

Bill "An Act To Prevent Price Gouging and To Stabilize Prices in the Sale of Milk"

S.P. 281 L.D. 842

Sponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset.

On motion by Senator **NUTTING** of Androscoggin, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Provide for Protected Reserve Funds

S.P. 282 L.D. 843

Sponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset.

Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Stimulate Maine's Economy"

S.P. 283 L.D. 844

Sponsored by Senator BROMLEY of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative RECTOR of Thomaston and Senators: BRENNAN of Cumberland, BRYANT of Oxford, DOW of Lincoln, President EDMONDS of Cumberland, MARTIN of Aroostook, Representatives: LERMAN of Augusta, MOODY of Manchester, Speaker RICHARDSON of Brunswick.

On motion by Senator **BRENNAN** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act To Reform the Taxation of Malt Liquor and Wine"

S.P. 280 L.D. 841

Sponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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

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Senate at Ease.

Senate called to order by the President.

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Off Record Remarks

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Senator **HOBBINS** of York was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate off the Record.

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Off Record Remarks

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On motion by Senator **BRENNAN** of Cumberland, **ADJOURNED**, pursuant to the Joint Order, to Tuesday, February 22, 2005, at 10:00 in the morning.