

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

In Senate Chamber
Tuesday
May 6, 2025

Senate called to order by President Matthea E. Larsen Daughtry of Cumberland County.

Prayer by President Ray Vensel of the Maine Chapter of the Freedom From Religion Foundation.

PRESIDENT RAY VENSEL: Good morning. If you weren't here for my last visit, you might have expectations from the name of my group. You might be wrong. We support all religious freedom by working for the separation of state and church.

Acknowledge your place in the world as we ask for help from whatever supports you - God, Jehovah, Gici Niwaskw, Krishna, Buddha, or all that is best in our fellow humans. We're here through a combination of ability, hard work, and a little luck. Our lives might be very different if even one small thing were changed. So, let's begin with a moment of gratitude that we are here, and be grateful to a god or the person next to you for so many possibilities. Let's also remember gratitude is only part of the picture and that we should do something good with the opportunities we've both earned and been fortunate enough to receive. We're all flawed, similar but in different ways, different but in similar ways. Put us all together, the flaws fill in and there are no limits.

So, may we listen carefully to those with whom we disagree. May we use evidence and reason to make decisions in an environment where motives are known to be sincere and honorable, where we confront ideas and attack problems, but not each other. May we remember those who are suffering and help them. May we remain tolerant of each other regardless of differences in lifestyles, identities, or religious or nonreligious beliefs. And may your work help to build a better Maine. May it be so. Thank you.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Marianne Moore of Washington County.

Reading of the Journal of Wednesday, April 30, 2025.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication:

S.P. 743

**MAINE SENATE
132nd LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE**

May 1, 2025

Hon. Matthea Daughtry
President of the Senate
132nd Legislature

Hon. Ryan D. Fecteau
Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature

Dear Madam President and Mr. Speaker:

On May 1, 2025, 16 bills were received by the Secretary of the Senate.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, these bills were referred to the Joint Standing Committees on May 1, 2025, as follows:

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill "An Act to Promote Local Seafood in Schools" (S.P. 728) (L.D. 1858) (Sponsored by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative RIELLY of Westbrook and Senators: TEPLER of Sagadahoc, TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland, MOORE of Washington, INGWERSEN of York, DUSON of Cumberland, LIBBY of Cumberland, Representatives: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, MURPHY of Scarborough)

Energy, Utilities and Technology

Bill "An Act to Allow Certain Distributed Energy Resources to Participate in the State's Net Energy Billing Program" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 730) (L.D. 1860) (Sponsored by Senator LAWRENCE of York) (Cosponsored by Representative GUERRETTE of Caribou and Representative: BABIN of Fort Fairfield)

Bill "An Act to Advance a Clean Energy Economy by Updating Renewable and Clean Resource Procurement Laws" (S.P. 738) (L.D. 1868) (Sponsored by Senator LAWRENCE of York)

Environment and Natural Resources

Bill "An Act to Establish a Climate Superfund Cost Recovery Program to Impose Penalties on Climate Polluters" (S.P. 740) (L.D. 1870) (Sponsored by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative DOUDERA of Camden and Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland, CARNEY of Cumberland, Representatives: KUHN of Falmouth, SATO of Gorham)

Health and Human Services

Bill "An Act to Improve Access to Child Care and Early Childhood Education by Establishing Regional Resource Hubs" (S.P. 729) (L.D. 1859) (Sponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York) (Cosponsored by Representative GRAHAM of North Yarmouth and Senators: PIERCE of Cumberland, CARNEY of Cumberland, RAFFERTY of York, DUSON of Cumberland)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the State-designated Agency Advocating for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness" (S.P. 736) (L.D. 1866) (Sponsored by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative MEYER of Eliot and Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, STEWART of Aroostook, MOORE of Washington, Representatives: ZAGER of Portland, HENDERSON of Rumford, DEBRITO of Waterville, MCCABE of Lewiston, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth)

Housing and Economic Development

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Maine Space Corporation" (S.P. 733) (L.D. 1863) (Sponsored by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative ANKELES of Brunswick and Senators: HICKMAN of Kennebec, STEWART of Aroostook, CURRY of Waldo, Representatives: Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, ARFORD of Brunswick)

Bill "An Act to Facilitate the Reconstruction of Storm-damaged Commercial Fisheries Facilities and Infrastructure" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 734) (L.D. 1864) (Sponsored by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative GOLEK of Harpswell)

Judiciary

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Financial Institutions from Using Merchant Category Codes to Identify or Track Firearm Purchases or Disclose Firearm Purchase Records" (S.P. 737) (L.D. 1867) (Sponsored by Senator HARRINGTON of York) (Cosponsored by Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, HAGGAN of Penobscot, STEWART of Aroostook)

Bill "An Act to Permit Sealing Criminal History Record Information of Victims of Sex Trafficking or Sexual Exploitation" (S.P. 741) (L.D. 1871) (Sponsored by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative SATO of Gorham and Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, BAILEY of York, CARNEY of Cumberland, Representatives: STOVER of Boothbay, MATHIESON of Kittery, LEE of Auburn, BOYER of Poland, SINCLAIR of Bath)

Labor

Bill "An Act to Require Training on Textured Hair for Aestheticians, Barber Hair Stylists, Cosmetologists and Hair Designers" (S.P. 731) (L.D. 1861) (Sponsored by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative DHALAC of South Portland and Senators: HICKMAN of Kennebec, BAILEY of York, HAGGAN of Penobscot, Representatives: MATHIESON of Kittery, RANA of Bangor, BABIN of Fort Fairfield, HENDERSON of Rumford, SATO of Gorham)

Taxation

Bill "An Act to Expand Property Tax Relief for Veterans and Their Survivors and to Modify Certain Corporate Tax Expenditures" (S.P. 727) (L.D. 1857) (Sponsored by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot)

Resolve, to Create a Tax Incentive Pilot Project to Encourage Businesses to Adopt a 4-day Workweek (S.P. 735) (L.D. 1865) (Sponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford)

Bill "An Act to Lower Property Taxes by Allowing a Local Option Sales Tax on Recreational Cannabis Sales" (S.P. 739) (L.D. 1869) (Sponsored by Senator NANGLE of Cumberland)

Veterans and Legal Affairs

Bill "An Act to Provide That Authority over In-person Sports Betting Resides Solely with the Gambling Control Board" (S.P. 732) (L.D. 1862) (Sponsored by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot)

Bill "An Act to Support Nonprofit Organizations by Authorizing the Operation of Electronic Lucky Seven Devices and Similar Sealed Ticket Games" (S.P. 742) (L.D. 1902) (Sponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec) (Cosponsored by Representative CHAPMAN of Auburn and Senator: President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, Representatives: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, SUPICA of Bangor)

Sincerely,

S/Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Sent down for concurrence.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 339

**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SPEAKER'S OFFICE
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

May 2, 2025

The Honorable Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Secretary Grant:

Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (I) (a), I am temporarily appointing Assistant Majority Leader, Lori Gramlich of Old Orchard Beach, to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, as House Chair replacing Representative Victoria Doudera of Camden, effective May 5th through May 16th.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding this temporary appointment.

Sincerely,

S/Ryan D. Fecteau
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 344

**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SPEAKER'S OFFICE
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

May 2, 2025

Honorable Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Secretary Grant,

Pursuant to my authority under Title 26, Chapter 49, §3802, I am pleased to appoint the Honorable Flavia DeBrito of Waterville to the Essential Support Workforce Advisory Committee, effective immediately.

Representative DeBrito will serve on this committee as a member of the House of Representatives.

If you have any questions regarding this appointment, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

S/Ryan D. Fecteau
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 326

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

April 30, 2025

The Honorable Matthea Daughtry
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Nominations to the State Workforce Board

Dear President Daughtry:

It is my pleasure to nominate the following individuals for appointment to the State Workforce Board:

- Christian Bartholomew of Augusta
- Jason Judd of Lewiston
- Peter J. Parizo of Bangor
- Michelle Anderson of Westbrook
- Catherine P. MacLaren of Portland
- Janet Kelle of Newport

Pursuant to Title 26 MRSA §2006, these nominations are contingent on confirmation by the Maine Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 327

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

April 30, 2025

The Honorable Matthea Daughtry
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Re: Reappointments to the Northern New England Passenger
Rail Authority

Dear President Daughtry:

I am pleased to nominate James I. Cohen of Portland and Carol
Ann Murray of Sanford for reappointment to the Northern New
England Passenger Rail Authority.

Pursuant to Title 23, MRSA §8112, these reappointments are
contingent on the confirmation by the Maine Senate after review
by the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation.

Sincerely,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 333

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

April 30, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the
Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 614 An Act to Modify Current Property Tax
Assessment Methods to Make Property Taxes
Affordable for Longtime Property Owners

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Kristen Sarah Cloutier
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 342

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

April 1, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the
Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1260 An Act to Revise the Tax Laws Regarding the
Mi'kmaq Nation

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Kristen Sarah Cloutier
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 328

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

April 30, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the
Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1559 An Act to Authorize Medical Cannabis Farmers' Markets

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Craig V. Hickman
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Laura Supica
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 334

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

May 1, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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. 1601 An Act to Create Parity in Poultry Processing and Farming Licenses and Inspections

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Rachel Talbot Ross
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Bill Pluecker
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 329

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

April 29, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 217 An Act to Require Schools to Provide Access to Free Condoms for Students in Grades 9 to 12 in the School Nurse's Office

L.D. 776 An Act to Provide Free School Lunches to Special Purpose Private Schools That Receive Students from the Public School System

L.D. 1118 An Act to Establish a Permanent Free Community College Program for Maine

L.D. 1225 An Act to Amend the Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program

L.D. 1256 An Act to Support Healthy Meal Programs in Maine Schools by Allowing the School Revolving Renovation Fund to Make Loans to Repair and Renovate School Kitchens and Cafeterias

L.D. 1285 An Act to Prohibit the Consideration of Legacy Preferences or Donor Preferences in Postsecondary Educational Institution Admissions

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph E. Rafferty, Jr. S/Rep. Kelly Maureen Noonan
Senate Chair Murphy
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 341

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

May 1, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1271 An Act to Make Permanent the Law Allowing School Boards to Accept the Volunteer Services of Immediate Family Members of Superintendents or School Board Members

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph E. Rafferty, Jr. S/Rep. Kelly Maureen Noonan
Senate Chair Murphy
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 336

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

April 30, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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. 1274 An Act to Cap State General Assistance Reimbursement to Municipalities

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Henry Ingwersen S/Rep. Michele Meyer
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 343

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

May 1, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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. 763 An Act to Improve Long-term Care by Providing Funding for Nursing Facilities

L.D. 1345 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Timely Provide Interim Settlement Payments to Long-term Care Facilities

L.D. 1447 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Expedite Reimbursement of All Vendors

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Henry Ingwersen S/Rep. Michele Meyer
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 335

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND
FINANCIAL SERVICES**

April 30, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1374 An Act to Establish Additional Requirements for Dentists to Administer Botulinum Toxin and Dermal Fillers

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Donna Bailey
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Kristi M. Mathieson
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 338

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

April 29, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 659 An Act to Reduce Housing Costs by Not Requiring Fire Sprinkler Systems for Single-family Homes and Duplexes

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Chip Curry
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Traci Gere
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 340

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

May 1, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1399 An Act to Allow Action Against a Person Violating the Confidentiality of an Executive Session of a Public Body or Agency

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Amy D. Kuhn
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 330

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

April 29, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1267 Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor to Convene a Task Force to Examine and Study Issues Relating to the Gap Between the Economic Output and Wages of Workers in the State

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 331

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

April 25, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1602 An Act to Remove the Exemption from Sales and Use Tax for Automobiles Purchased for Use as Rentals

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Kristen Sarah Cloutier
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 332

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

April 28, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1363 An Act to Exempt Resident Minors' Income from Income Tax

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Kristen Sarah Cloutier
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 337

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

April 30, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| L.D. 203 | An Act to Provide an Income Tax Credit for Employer-supported Child Care |
| L.D. 1491 | An Act to Provide a Tax Credit for New Attorneys Practicing in Underserved Areas |
| L.D. 1520 | An Act to Reduce the Income Tax Paid by Volunteers for Mileage Reimbursements |

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Kristen Sarah Cloutier
House Chair

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

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Address Maine's Housing Shortage"

S.P. 753 L.D. 1912

Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford and Senators: President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, PIERCE of Cumberland, STEWART of Aroostook, Representatives: BLIER of Buxton, DUCHARME of Madison, JACKSON of Oxford, MALON of Biddeford, MCCABE of Lewiston.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Resolve, to Provide a Comprehensive Analysis of Criminal Legal System Data

S.P. 750 L.D. 1909

Presented by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland.

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Conform the State's Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Laws to Federal Standards"

S.P. 744 L.D. 1903

Presented by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor and Senators: BERNARD of Aroostook, FARRIN of Somerset, MOORE of Washington, STEWART of Aroostook, Representatives: BABIN of Fort Fairfield, DAIGLE of Fort Kent.

Bill "An Act to Establish the Municipal Shoreline Protection Legal Fund"

S.P. 745 L.D. 1904

Presented by Senator NANGLE of Cumberland.

On motion by Senator **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Authority of the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation and the Licensing Boards and Commissions Within That Office to Pursue Complaints"

S.P. 746 L.D. 1905

Presented by Senator BAILEY of York.
Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act to Improve Accountability and Understanding of Data in Insurance Transactions"

S.P. 747 L.D. 1906

Presented by Senator BAILEY of York.
Cosponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner and Senator: President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, Representatives: BOYER of Cape Elizabeth, Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, FOLEY of Wells, GATTINE of Westbrook, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MATHIESON of Kittery, OLSEN of Raymond.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Protect Consumers from Unfair Dynamic Pricing in Grocery Stores"

S.P. 748 L.D. 1907

Presented by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senators: CURRY of Waldo, NANGLE of Cumberland, RENY of Lincoln, TIPPING of Penobscot, Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, WEBB of Durham.

Bill "An Act to Strengthen Housing Stability Services by Increasing Support and Outreach"

S.P. 751 L.D. 1910

Presented by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative YUSUF of Portland and Senator: CURRY of Waldo, Representatives: GOLEK of Harpswell, JULIA of Waterville, MALON of Biddeford.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Require the Cooperation of Original Manufacturers of Electronic Devices to Facilitate the Repair of Those Devices by Device Owners and Independent Repair Providers"

S.P. 749 L.D. 1908

Presented by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham and Senators: BAILEY of York, BALDACCI of Penobscot, BICKFORD of Androscoggin, CURRY of Waldo, CYRWAY of Kennebec, NANGLE of Cumberland, Representatives: LAVIGNE of Berwick, MASTRACCIO of Sanford.

Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** suggested and ordered printed.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Automatically Seal Criminal History Record Information for Certain Crimes"

S.P. 752 L.D. 1911

Presented by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Representative BOYER of Poland and Senator: TIPPING of Penobscot, Representatives: LEE of Auburn, PUGH of Portland, SATO of Gorham, SINCLAIR of Bath.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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

ORDERS

Joint Orders

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

(4-1) Sawyer Wright, of Bath, a member of the Morse High School Swim Team, who won the 100 Yard Freestyle and 200 Yard Freestyle events at the Class B State Championship and also was named the Maine Interscholastic Swim League's State Swimmer of the Year. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 525

Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: SINCLAIR of Bath.

Spencer Hallowell, of West Bath, who was named the 2025 Class B Swimming Coach of the Year. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 526

Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: HEPLER of Woolwich.

The Morse High School Boys Swim and Dive Team, of Bath, which won the 2025 Class B State Championship. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 527

Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: SINCLAIR of Bath.

Gaffney McDonough, of Bath, a member of the Morse High School Swim Team, who won the 100 Yard Butterfly and 50 Yard Freestyle events at the Class B State Championship and also was named the Maine Interscholastic Swim League's Class B Boys Performer of the Meet. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 528

Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: SINCLAIR of Bath.

The Morse High School Boys Swim Team, of Bath, which won the Kennebec Valley Athletic Conference Class B Championship, the team's fourth consecutive regional title. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 529

Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: SINCLAIR of Bath.

Fletcher McDonough, of Bath, who won the 2025 Class B State Boys Swimming State Championship in the 1-meter Dive event. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 530

Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: SINCLAIR of Bath.

Gaffney McDonough, of Bath, who won the Kennebec Valley Athletic Conference Class B Championship in the 50 free event, breaking the state record, and was named Swimmer of the Meet. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 531

Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: SINCLAIR of Bath.

The Morse High School Boys Swim Team, of Bath, whose 200 free relay team, composed of Brady Chubbuck, Anders Savage, Cameron Griffiee and Max Couture, won the Class B State Championship. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 532

Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: SINCLAIR of Bath.

The Morse High School Boys Swim Team, of Bath, whose 200 medley relay team, composed of Gaffney McDonough, Sawyer Wright, Brady Chubbuck and David Mitchell, won the Kennebec Valley Athletic Conference Class B Championship in the 200 medley relay event, breaking the state record. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 533

Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: SINCLAIR of Bath.

The Morse High School Boys Swim Team 400 Free Relay Team, of Bath, consisting of Gaffney McDonough, David Mitchell, Anders Savage and Sawyer Wright, which won the Class B State Championship and set a new state record. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 534

Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: SINCLAIR of Bath.

David Mitchell, of Bath, a member of the Morse High School Swim Team, who won the 500 Yard Freestyle event at the Class B State Championship. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 535

Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: SINCLAIR of Bath.

The Morse High School Boys Swim Team, of Bath, whose 400 free relay team, composed of Gaffney McDonough, Anders Savage, Sawyer Wright and David Mitchell, won the Kennebec Valley Athletic Conference Class B Championship in the 400 free relay event, breaking the state record. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 536

Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: SINCLAIR of Bath.

Sawyer Wright, of Woolwich, who has earned the distinction of being named First Honor Essayist of the 2025 graduating class of Morse High School. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 537

Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: HEPLER of Woolwich.

The Joint Orders were **READ**.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Sagadahoc, Senator Tepler.

Senator **TEPLER:** Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, Colleagues of the Senate, I rise today to celebrate the achievements of the Morse High School Boys Swim and Dive Team from Bath in winning the 2025 Class B State Championship.

I'm so proud of them. They broke records and they forged ahead. This victory marks the Shipbuilders' first state title since 2006 and the first team state championship in any sport since 2010, ending a 19-year drought.

Madam President, this group of student athletes is really good at making waves. The 2025 Morse High Boys Swim Team consisted of a core group of seniors - Gaffney, David, Anders, and Sawyer. These leaders charted the best path forward for their state title run and were instrumental in the Morse High Swim Team's regional title, their fourth consecutive regional title. Highlights from their performance include the 200 free relay team of Chubbuck, Griffiee, Couture, and Savage securing a first place finish and the state title; the 200 medley relay team of Gaffney McDonough, Sawyer Wright, Brady Chubbuck, and David Mitchell securing a first place finish and the state title; the 400 relay team of Gaffney McDonough, David Mitchell, Anders Savage, Sawyer Wright -- and Sawyer Wright, yes; David Mitchell being named state champion in the 500 free event; Sawyer Wright being state champion and holding the state record in the 100 free and 200 free events and being named the MISL swimmer of the year; Gaffney McDonough holding the state record and state title in the 50 free, state champion in the 100 butterfly, contributed to both of Morse's record-setting relay and being named MISL's performer of the state meet; Max Couture secured the state runners-up in 50 free, Anders Savage tied for third in the 50 free, David Mitchell won the state title in the 500 free, and Fletcher McDonough secured the state title in the 1 meter dive.

The Shipbuilders, under the exceptional leadership of first-year head coach Spencer Hallowell, who was also named Varsity

Maine Swim Coach of the Year. Coach Hallowell was a senior at Morse when the boys won their last state title. His leadership was instrumental in sailing this team to victory. The championship win is the culmination of years of dedication and improvement. The Shipbuilders showcased their resilience, being unbeaten the entire season, winning nine out of 12 events during the state championship.

As we honor these young athletes, let us recognize their athletic prowess and their perseverance, teamwork, and dedication to excellence. Their achievements bring pride to Morse High School, the city of Bath, and our entire state.

Madam President and colleagues, I ask you to join me -- to please join me in welcoming the Morse High School Boys Swim and Dive Team and their coach, as well as all those who have supported their journey to this well-deserved state championship.

The Joint Orders were **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is now pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber, the Morse Swim Team, our champions who are here joining us of the Class B State Championship, as well as their head coach, Spencer Hallowell. Will they please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate?

Off Record Remarks

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

Rita Dube, of Brunswick, a prolific fundraiser and past Executive Director of the Franco-American Heritage Center. Mrs. Dube was employed at St. Dominic High School from 1985 to 1993 as Alumni Relations and Development Director. She then served 8 years as the Development Director at the YWCA of Lewiston/Auburn. She was a member of the founding Board of Directors of the Franco-American Heritage Center, and as Executive Director she led the center for over 12 years, raising over 6 million dollars to create a legacy for the Lewiston-Auburn community and Franco-American population of Maine. The Board of Directors dedicated the Franco-American Heritage Museum in her honor in 2018. She was a member of Governors Maine State Museum Commission, President of St. Mary's Patronesses, St. Mary's Foundation Board Member, Central Maine Medical Center Corporator, founding member of the Lewiston Public Library/Auburn Public Library Arts Association, Chair of the March of Dimes Mothers March, Eucharistic Minister at St. Joseph's and Prince of Peace Parish and member of the Prince of Peace Finance Committee. For 42 years, she and her family delivered hundreds of Christmas gifts each year to those in need in the community. She was a two-time recipient of the Community Service Leadership Award from the Chamber of Commerce, received Lewiston's Citizen of the Year award, was inducted into the Franco-American Hall of Fame in Augusta and recently received a recognition for Lifetime Achievement from St. Dominic Academy's Regional High School. Mrs. Dube will be

long remembered and sadly missed by her family, friends and community;

SLS 542

Sponsored by Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Senator: President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, ANKELES of Brunswick, ARFORD of Brunswick, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, GOLEK of Harpswell, LAJOIE of Lewiston, MCCABE of Lewiston.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **ROTUNDO:** Thank you, Madame President. Madam President, Colleagues of the Senate, I rise today to pay tribute to Rita Dube and the lasting contributions she made to Lewiston and the State of Maine during her lifetime.

Rita's generosity and compassion characterized all the work she did to enrich our community and the lives of those in it. Whether organizing the distribution of Christmas gifts to families in need or serving on various nonprofit boards, Rita could always be found leading efforts to help others. In my mind, Rita's most significant civic contribution to the people of Maine was the creation of the Franco-American Heritage Center in Lewiston. When the beautiful St. Mary's Church in Lewiston was slated for closure many years ago, Rita helped persuade the dioceses to sell it to a group of people who envisioned repurposing the church into a center which would honor the thousands of Francos who would come to Maine to live and work in the mills.

The work involved in raising the money for this conversion, which included the creation of a state-of-the-art auditorium, was immense, but under Rita's leadership and through her determination and hard, hard work, the Franco Center came into being. The Center serves as a lasting tribute to the Francos whose hard work powered Maine's economy and whose presence in our community and state has provided a rich cultural diversity. Family and friends will greatly miss Rita, but her generosity will continue to inspire us. She has left us with a treasured legacy for which we will always be grateful. Thank you.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber, Paul Dube, Rita's Dube's husband, from the town of Brunswick. He is the guest today of the Senators from Cumberland, Senator Daughtry, and the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Rotundo. Will he please rise and accept the condolences of the Maine Senate?

Off Record Remarks

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Ought to Pass

The Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** on Bill "An Act to Ensure Rent-to-own Protections Apply to Mobile Home Park Tenants"
H.P. 788 L.D. 1183

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**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** in concurrence.

Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Provide Funding to Area Agencies on Aging for Community-based Services and Programs to Support Older Adults"
H.P. 521 L.D. 814

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-77)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-77)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-77) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**, in concurrence.

The Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Increase Community Support for Families in Maine" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 690 L.D. 1061

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-78)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-78)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-78) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**, in concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Enhance Public Safety in Rural Counties by Providing State Police Patrol and Policing Services"
H.P. 306 L.D. 477

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-80)**.

Signed:

Senators:
BEEBE-CENTER of Knox
CYRWAY of Kennebec

Representatives:
HASENFUS of Readfield
ARDELL of Monticello
BUNKER of Farmington
LAJOIE of Lewiston
MCINTYRE of Lowell
NUTTING of Oakland
PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Representatives:
ABDI of Lewiston
LOOKNER of Portland
MILLIKEN of Blue Hill

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-80)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-80)**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-80) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED** in concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** on Bill "An Act to Enhance Protections Regarding Invasive Aquatic Plant Infestations in Inland Waters of the State" H.P. 104 L.D. 171

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-79)**.

Signed:

Senators:

BALDACCI of Penobscot
CARNEY of Cumberland

Representatives:

ROBERTS of South Berwick
BRIDGEO of Augusta
CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham
DILL of Old Town
TERRY of Gorham
WOODSOME of Waterboro

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:

GUERIN of Penobscot

Representatives:

LANCE of Paris
MASON of Lisbon
THORNE of Carmel
WOOD of Greene

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-79)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-79)**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-79) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED** in concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Authorize Judicial Disposition of a Juvenile Adjudicated of Murder or a Class A Crime to a Term of Commitment Extending Beyond the Juvenile's 21st Birthday"

H.P. 354 L.D. 535

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

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland
TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland

Representatives:

KUHN of Falmouth
BABIN of Fort Fairfield
CARUSO of Caratunk
HENDERSON of Rumford
LEE of Auburn
O'HALLORAN of Brewer
POIRIER of Skowhegan
PUGH of Portland
SATO of Gorham
SINCLAIR of Bath

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-81)**.

Signed:

Senator:

HAGGAN of Penobscot

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

Reports **READ**.

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

Senate

Ought to Pass

Senator TALBOT ROSS for the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Bill "An Act Regarding Confidential Information Gathered for Forest Fire Emergency Response and Planning"

S.P. 138 L.D. 379

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

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Ought to Pass As Amended

Senator TALBOT ROSS for the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Resolve, to Establish the Committee to Study the Use of Sunflower Crops to Produce Biofuels

S.P. 527 L.D. 1297

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-42)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-42) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator RAFFERTY for the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act Regarding School Enrollment for Military-connected Students"

S.P. 48 L.D. 31

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-36)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-36) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator TEPLER for the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act to Exempt Pegmatite Mining from the Maine Metallic Mineral Mining Act and Establish a Permit-by-rule Process"

S.P. 360 L.D. 795

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-38)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-38) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator BALDACCI for the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act to Support the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions"

S.P. 310 L.D. 693

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-39)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-39) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator NANGLE for the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Resolve, to Create a Working Group to Study the Safety and Use of Small Lightweight Vehicles on Maine's Roads and Highways, the Systems and Laws Governing Antique Vehicles and the General Improvement of Road Safety

S.P. 498 L.D. 1209

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-41)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-41) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator NANGLE for the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act to Authorize the Display of an Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal Decal on a Special Veterans Commemorative License Plate"

S.P. 545 L.D. 1315

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-43)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-43) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Provide Educational Opportunities for Students in Secondary Schools with 200 or Fewer Students"

S.P. 230 L.D. 512

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

Signed:

Senators:

RAFFERTY of York
LIBBY of Cumberland
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:

MURPHY of Scarborough
BRENNAN of Portland
CARLOW of Buxton
CROCKETT of Portland
DODGE of Belfast
MITCHELL of Cumberland
SARGENT of York

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-37)**.

Signed:

Representatives:

BAGSHAW of Windham
HAGGAN of Hampden
LYMAN of Livermore Falls

Reports **READ**.

Senator **RAFFERTY** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report.

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

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

Senator **GUERIN:** Thank you, Madam President, and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. This bill is a crucial step towards ensuring that all students, regardless of where they live, have access to educational opportunities they deserve.

For students in small districts, fewer than 200 students, educational options can be very limited. These students often lack access to specialized programs, extracurricular activities, or resources that larger school districts can offer. By allowing parents and students to choose a school outside of their district, this gives families the flexibility to seek out the best fit for their child's needs and interests. The bill establishes a clear and fair process for making this choice. Parents must notify their resident school by April 1st of their intent to enroll in another school and provide an acceptance letter by May 1st. This gives both parents and schools enough time to plan for the upcoming year. It also ensures that funding is allocated appropriately, with the receiving district invoicing the resident district for a per pupil rate not exceeding the State's maximum allowable tuition.

This bill represents a step forward in providing equitable access in education and extracurricular activities while empowering families to make decisions that are in the best interests of their children. I believe it will help level the playing field for students in smaller districts by giving them and their families this option.

Thank you, Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Rafferty.

Senator **RAFFERTY:** Thanks again, Madam President, and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I just want to make a couple of comments relative to this piece of legislation.

So, the Department of Education has identified statewide there are 53 schools enrolled with fewer than 200 students. And while LD 512 is affecting secondary schools, there are only 17 secondary schools that are exclusively grades 9-12. The remainder are a combination of a variety of age groups. So, essentially, what I would say is that this bill is unnecessary.

Currently, high schools across the state are already making a variety of local partnerships and arrangements to expand opportunities for all students, including collaboration for athletics or exchanges with neighboring districts to broaden course offerings for both districts. These partnerships maintain investments and connection in our community while expanding student opportunities. Students can also pursue opportunities through a variety of career and technical education offerings as well as early college programs offered through Maine's universities and community colleges. All of this can go without destabilizing their local school district, which a student leaving or

vacating their school is a loss of funding.

So, I urge you to vote against LD 512. Thank you.

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 Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Waldo, Senator **CURRY**, and the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **DUSON**, and further excused the same Senators from today's Roll Call votes.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#136)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BRENNER, CARNEY, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, MARTIN, MOORE, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: CURRY, DUSON

22 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 11 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Allow the Spouse of a School Board Member to Serve as a Stipend Employee Within the School Board's Jurisdiction"

S.P. 232 L.D. 513

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

Signed:

Senators:

RAFFERTY of York
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:

MURPHY of Scarborough
BRENNAN of Portland
CARLOW of Buxton
CROCKETT of Portland
DODGE of Belfast
HAGGAN of Hampden
LYMAN of Livermore Falls
MITCHELL of Cumberland
SARGENT of York

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

Signed:

Senator:

LIBBY of Cumberland

Representative:

BAGSHAW of Windham

Reports **READ**.

Senator **RAFFERTY** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, 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 Washington, Senator Moore.

Senator **MOORE:** Thank you, Madam President. I stand in opposition of the motion that is currently on the floor.

Last summer, I was contacted by several constituents in Alexander and Eastport when several members of the school boards had to resign their seats because their spouses had taken stipend positions in the school system. They had been able to serve until a 2021 law sunsetted on July 1st, 2024. The original bill was sponsored by Representative Christopher Babbidge in the 130th Legislature, passed under the hammer, and was signed into law by the Governor. Its goal was to prevent needless discrimination against family members of school board members receiving stipend positions such as a baseball coach, chess club, American Field Services advisor, or supervisors of other extracurricular activities. During the 130th Legislature, the Maine School Board Management Association and the Maine Principals Association testified against the original version of the bill. They found that the bill became acceptable when a sunset provision was added in the initial bill in an amendment. Unfortunately, Representative Babbidge was not in the Legislature last session, and apparently no other legislator thought of extending the law after the 2024 sunset. Therefore, several school board members in my rural district had to resign.

I'm sure many of you know how difficult it can be to find dedicated people willing to serve on municipal boards and in low-paying school jobs. We need to make it easier for good people to fill these positions. When I checked with the Maine School Board Management Association this go-around, I was told they were not

aware of any issues that have arisen from Representative Babbidge's law. In fact, they knew of examples where spouses served in stipend positions and had been a great benefit to the district. They are in support of my bill, asking we keep a sunset date as a precautionary measure.

So, I went ahead and added that as an amendment and I'm really encouraging everyone to oppose the Ought Not to Pass motion that is currently on the floor and consider my request. Thank you.

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 (#137)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: CURRY, DUSON

18 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 15 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Continue Support for the Maine Multicultural Center"

S.P. 341 L.D. 783

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-34)**.

Signed:

Senators:
RAFFERTY of York
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:

MURPHY of Scarborough
BRENNAN of Portland
CROCKETT of Portland
DODGE of Belfast
MITCHELL of Cumberland
SARGENT of York

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:
LIBBY of Cumberland

Representatives:

BAGSHAW of Windham
CARLOW of Buxton
HAGGAN of Hampden
LYMAN of Livermore Falls

Reports **READ**.

Senator **RAFFERTY** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#138)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BICKFORD, BRENNER, CARNEY, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BERNARD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: CURRY, DUSON

21 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 12 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-34) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Change the Residency Requirements for State Funding for Student Tuition at the Maine School of Science and Mathematics"

S.P. 428 L.D. 1011

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

Signed:

Senators:

RAFFERTY of York
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:

MURPHY of Scarborough
BRENNAN of Portland
CROCKETT of Portland
DODGE of Belfast
MITCHELL of Cumberland
SARGENT of York

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

Signed:

Senator:

LIBBY of Cumberland

Representatives:

BAGSHAW of Windham
CARLOW of Buxton
HAGGAN of Hampden
LYMAN of Livermore Falls

Reports **READ**.

Senator **RAFFERTY** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook 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 Cumberland, Senator Libby.

Senator **LIBBY:** Thank you, Madam President, Men and Women of the Senate. This is a bill that really has not a lot of cost to it and it's something that I feel strongly about.

When we're talking about the Maine School of Science and Mathematics, I think we have to go back to the closure of the Air

Force Base up in Aroostook County, in Limestone. We dedicated a school to that area in the redevelopment process and ever since then, we've been bleeding the place to death, and I do not understand the lack of funding that goes on with this school, I don't understand where the opposition is coming from - I'm sure I'm about to learn, but -- and I'm looking forward to learning more about that - but this simply makes it easier to qualify for tuition funding by changing the residency requirement to make it more lenient. And for me, it's a good piece of legislation, simple, and they need the help, they need the support.

I am hoping that you'll follow my light on this one. Thank you very much.

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

Senator **GROHOSKI:** Thank you very much, Madam President. I just wanted to comment on this legislation.

I have -- I am a graduate of the Maine School of Science and Mathematics and like the Good Senator from Cumberland, I am very concerned about the lack of funding that the State has provided the school over many years and do have additional legislation that the committee was very supportive of, and I am grateful for that to increase that funding. That legislation also addresses this issue, just in a slightly - very slightly - different wording and so I think that -- and that's wording that I worked on directly with the school administration based on the board, so I think that there is an opportunity to fix this in that other vehicle that is not yet before the Body and just a little bit of a difference of opinion on the exact way to word that.

So, I just wanted to indicate that when I vote for the Majority Ought Not to Pass Report, it is not at all related to a lack of support for the school or a concern with the intention of this bill, just that there's like a slight difference in the wording, is all. Thank you.

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

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I appreciate the comments we just heard. I am -- given the financial state of things, and this is a bit of a tough pickle here to talk about another bill as we're talking about this bill, which we're --

THE PRESIDENT: The Member may proceed.

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you. And I think, from my vantage point, as somebody that lives adjacent to the school and this community but is profoundly impacted by it, my reservation around just killing this bill as the vehicle - or a vehicle, I should say - to get at this issue -- and to be clear, what we're talking about are realistically probably just a very small handful of students each year, maybe two or three at most, it may not seem like a lot, and yet for this institution that really takes a dollar as far as you can take it and stretches it and does really incredible things with it. That little bit is a big deal and can be the difference between tilting one way or the other on a nice edge here.

So, I appreciate that there appears to be a fairly broad support here for this school, with the other vehicle that is coming as well, understanding it's more directly fiscally involved, which is a weird thing to say, but - and also noting the financial status that

the State is in currently and the sort of tenuous posture that that's in, I don't want to necessarily put all of our eggs into one basket to then risk if we don't know what any sort of supplemental budget is going to look like, we don't know what the table process is going to look like, we don't know if there's going to be any money left over at all to do anything with that other vehicle.

So, to that end, I'm wondering if potentially either there's an appetite to table this bill today, get a handle on what that other bill is, maybe square up the language some. I don't want to do something today on this bill in anticipation of a different item that may or may not survive any of the multiple steps within the legislative process that could otherwise then result in that going nowhere and then -- then we're left with nothing for in terms of progress here to help the school at all.

So, I think to me that's worst-case scenario and something I would like to try to avoid if at all possible. If there's an appetite in the room, I hate to be the guy that, you know, stands up and, you know, runs his mouth for a couple minutes and then moves to table something, so if somebody else would like to make that motion, I'd be more than happy to support it, but I guess that would be my request for today, to give some stakeholders here a little bit more time to figure out and try to gameplan forward. So, thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Rafferty.

Senator **RAFFERTY:** I thought I was done, Madam President, but thank you for your patience. So, I rise, really, to speak to this issue.

Clearly, there is a funding issue at the school, there's no doubt, but this particular bill is one that is going to essentially loosen the eligibility requirements in terms of application, that -- that timeline. The reality is, you know, that there are some concerns that loosening that eligibility could result in more people moving to Maine in order to attend the school without necessarily establishing the current requirement of having a long-term residency being established.

So, clearly there are more issues in terms of the funding, and they need to be worked out, but broadening the residency requirement at this time I don't think is the answer for that school. I think that we as a Legislature need to take a closer look at how we fund that program that has been highly successful over the years but as I mentioned at the start, it was -- this is my fifth year in the Legislature and we've heard about this funding issue from this particular site every year and it's a tough one to battle, but I don't think broadening residency requirements is the issue, I think it's going to take our nose to the grindstone to find a financial solution.

So, I again urge you to follow my light and Ought Not to Pass. Thank you.

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

Senator **LIBBY:** Thank you, Madam President, for allowing me to stand up and speak a second time. I appreciate that.

This is a school where five or ten students really would make a significant difference and as you know, in this case, these students from around the state typically will transfer up, they're outstanding students, and there is some criteria for them to transfer in, but students who have been living with their parents

and moved up for a job in that part of Aroostook County and have been there for three months are not going to get -- they're not going to get state funding. And we just don't handle other programs like that here.

I'd like to see us at least consider it because we're talking about the parents and the child. These are minors, this isn't the community college system at all, so I'd like to see us consider it and I think I'm going to join the Good Senator from Aroostook, Senator Stewart, and I'm not going to call for a tabling motion here, but I really would love to see it considered because I think what he said was true earlier, that some of these other bills that are up -- and we've sent up some of the bills today that are kind of languished on the appropriations table and then disappear - poof - in the middle of the night, you know, you know as well as I do that that's going to happen.

So, this is an important issue, it'd be great to be able to hold onto it. I totally understand, you know, the argument against it now, I didn't before, but I'd still love it if the Body could join me in further consideration of this issue.

Thank you, Madam Chair -- Speaker.

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending motion by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report (Roll Call Ordered).

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Resolve, to Increase Transparency and Evaluate Emergency Response Through a COVID-19 Review Commission (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 171 L.D. 389

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

Signed:

Senators:

INGWERSEN of York
NANGLE of Cumberland

Representatives:

MEYER of Eliot
DEBRITO of Waterville
GRAHAM of North Yarmouth
MCCABE of Lewiston
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-40)**.

Signed:

Senator:

MOORE of Washington

Representatives:

DAIGLE of Fort Kent
GRIFFIN of Levant
JAVNER of Chester
LEMELIN of Chelsea

Reports **READ**.

Senator **INGWERSEN** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report.

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

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I rise in opposition to the pending motion.

This is actually my bill, it's a repeat bill. The original rendition of this bill was actually unanimously supported in this Chamber in the previous Legislature as well as the Other Chamber. It's unfortunate here that we have a divided report in front of us that is based on party lines. The only opposition at the hearing came from an individual from out of state who represented a pro-vaccine organization that I'm still not really clear what he was even doing in Maine testifying on this bill because this bill reviews what happened during COVID from the angle of completely apolitical, nonpartisan, just what did we do, what worked, what didn't work, and what lessons have we learned so that when the inevitable next thing happens, we've got more resources in our back pocket, we've actually spent the time to sit through and we weren't in a crisis setting and review the pros and cons of what state government can do when facing such a problem. That's why it had such broad bipartisan support, unanimous support in the last legislature, and yet there was this one piece of testimony, you know, to insinuate that there's something, you know, anti-vax or whatever in this legislation, which couldn't be the furthest thing from the truth. It wasn't true two years ago, it's not true today.

I really hope that we can put the partisanship aside on this and just -- it's a study bill. It's going to the study table, we'll continue the dialogue there, but there's really no reason to kill this bill, it's kind of a ludicrous move, in my opinion, and with that, I would request a Roll Call. Thank you.

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

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair now recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Ingwersen.

Senator **INGWERSEN:** Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, this bill sounds on the surface like a really good idea. None of us should be afraid of learning from the past. In fact, continuous improvement is an essential component of effective public health. However, with this bill, it's not a meaningful or constructive evaluation.

This would make up a commission of 13 members, all legislators - all legislators. This has been done in other states and what it's resulted in -- in states like Arizona, New Hampshire, Louisiana, they were billed as reviews but in practice, they just became sort of a political theatre. People were throwing away vaccine conspiracies, vaccine ideas, and it really didn't do

anything to help the problem. Now, what we've done as well as voted this bill Ought Not to Pass, what we've also done is we've included a directive to the Department of Health and Human Services to instead conduct a multi-departmental evaluation of COVID-19 response as part of the Government Evaluation Act which is taking part next year, and they will do that and get back to us. I think that's a better avenue when we think about doing serious work examining our response to COVID-19.

So, I would urge you to follow my light on this. Thank you so 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 (#139)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACC, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: CURRY, DUSON

18 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 15 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **INGWERSEN** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Fund Medical Research and Cancer Prevention"

S.P. 355 L.D. 792

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

Signed:

Senators:
INGWERSEN of York
NANGLE of Cumberland

Representatives:
MEYER of Eliot

DAIGLE of Fort Kent
DEBRITO of Waterville
GRAHAM of North Yarmouth
JAVNER of Chester
LEMELIN of Chelsea
MCCABE of Lewiston
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-35)**.

Signed:

Senator:
MOORE of Washington

Representative:
GRIFFIN of Levant

Reports **READ**.

Senator **INGWERSEN** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report.

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

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair will recognize the Senator from Washington, Senator Moore.

Senator **MOORE:** Thank you, Madam President. I rise in opposition to the motion that is currently on the floor.

The organization that is behind this request is actually the Christine B. Foundation. Even though it is a nonprofit organization, what this bill is actually doing is providing services to all of our cancer patients in the Western or the Downeast portion of Washington County but also around the Brewer/the Bangor area.

When someone is diagnosed with a cancer diagnosis, it is kind of scary, and so what this organization has done is they have been able to provide healthy meals, patients are -- when they leave -- when they come in, they're given fresh produce, grains, protein, liquid formula, or other healthy foods are prepared for the patients and tailored -- their packages are tailored for their needs and their preferences. Patients leave that day with an in-hand equivalency of 30 meals. And thanks to the dollars that have been raised by the foundation, they have been able to give them 18 months' worth of service.

Now, what this bill is wanting to do is it's actually supporting a one-time pilot project and what it hopes to do is demonstrate clinical evidence-based findings on the impact of healthy foods and dietician counseling on health outcomes, medical expenses, and quality of life through cancer treatment and recovery. Further, it will establish procedures and policies for healthcare, insurance, and community-based organizations to implement these outcomes in a compliant, scalable, and cost-saving manner. The structure of this applied research project is really a three-arm randomized controlled trial. Pending Northern Light Health institutional review board approval, member hospitals are

to recruit eligible patients with the Christine B. Foundation and with them, their help, and contracted staff performing study interventions along with a robust volunteer workforce contributing the value of the 300,000.

So, this is a very worthwhile project and has been very important, I think, for our cancer patients and all that they go through, especially in a tough time of health situation. So, I would ask that you vote with me and overturn this motion on the floor. Thank you.

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

Senator **BALDACC:** Thank you, Madam President. I want to speak in opposition to this motion Ought Not to Pass.

The Christine B. Foundation is a very important local institution. It's been founded by a number of stage IV cancer survivors in Eastern Maine. They have worked with Northern Light Hospital and other medical providers for the last ten years. At Northern Light Hospital, they have a collaborative where they are actually the agents for Northern Light in terms of providing not only nutrition counseling, but they actually assist them and help purchase the groceries that are medically tailored. In 2023, they served over a thousand cancer patients. They have over 150 volunteers and so they provide very much important and necessary work. This effort is to develop this area better and to hopefully offer it to more cancer patients and to create a standard of care that can be helpful. 18% of cancers can be attributed to either the lack of exercise or poor nutrition. They are helping cancer patients in eastern Maine get adequate food and nutrition so that they are getting not -- all the supplements and vitamins and protein that they need to make sure, but also medically tailored based on science in order to either alleviate conditions or to help control or respond to the treatments that they're receiving.

So, I would ask for your support in opposition to this motion.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Ingwersen.

Senator **INGWERSEN:** Thank you, Madam President, and I really appreciate the comments from the Good Senator from Washington County and the Senator from Penobscot and agree that this sounds like a good organization doing good work. But what the committee decided in a bipartisan fashion, in a majority way, was that there are so many worthy nonprofits doing good work out there and that we just can't pick and choose at this time to fund them all. The fiscal climate doesn't afford us an opportunity, so that's why the vote turned out the way it did and thank you so 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 (#140)

YEAS: Senators: BRENNER, CARNEY, INGWERSEN,
PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO,
TALBOT ROSS, TIPPING, PRESIDENT
DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER,
BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD,
BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY,
FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN,
HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN,
LAWRENCE, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE,
NANGLE, STEWART, TEPLER,
TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: CURRY, DUSON

10 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 23 Senators
having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused the
motion by Senator **INGWERSEN** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority
OUGHT NOT TO PASS Report, **FAILED**.

The Minority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report
ACCEPTED.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-35) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and
PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED.

Sent down for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on
Resolve, to Require the Department of Transportation to
Implement the Recommendations of the Lower Road Rail Use
Advisory Council

S.P. 46 L.D. 29

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by**
Committee Amendment "A" (S-44).

Signed:

Senators:
NANGLE of Cumberland
FARRIN of Somerset
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:

CRAFTS of Newcastle
ALBERT of Madawaska
ANKELES of Brunswick
EATON of Deer Isle
MASON of Lisbon
PARRY of Arundel
RAY of Lincolnville
WHITE of Guilford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject
reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Representatives:
BISHOP of Bucksport
MONTELL of Gardiner

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland, the Majority
OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED Report **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-44) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and
PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED.

Sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on
Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Implement
the Recommendations of the Portland to Auburn Rail Use
Advisory Council Regarding the Rail Line from Portland to
Yarmouth

S.P. 47 L.D. 30

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by**
Committee Amendment "A" (S-45).

Signed:

Senators:
NANGLE of Cumberland
FARRIN of Somerset
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:

CRAFTS of Newcastle
ANKELES of Brunswick
BISHOP of Bucksport
EATON of Deer Isle
MASON of Lisbon
PARRY of Arundel
RAY of Lincolnville
WHITE of Guilford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Representatives:

ALBERT of Madawaska
MONTELL of Gardiner

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-45) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down forthwith for concurrence.

ENACTORS

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

Emergency Measure

An Act to Amend the Definition of "Transient Occupancy" in the Laws Governing the Maine Land Use Planning Commission
H.P. 252 L.D. 398

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 33 Members of the Senate, with 0 Senators having voted in the negative, and 33 being more than two-thirds of the entire elected Membership of the Senate, was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** and having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

Acts

An Act to Clarify Processes of the Board of Environmental Protection

S.P. 58 L.D. 36
(C "A" S-25)

An Act to Update Waste Discharge License Fees

S.P. 200 L.D. 465
(C "A" S-24)

An Act to Require Reporting of Sheltering or Aiding Missing Children

H.P. 755 L.D. 1150

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

An Act to Appropriate Funds to the Department of Environmental Protection, Lake Water Quality Restoration and Protection Fund

H.P. 196 L.D. 296
(C "A" H-69)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

An Act to Provide Funding for Low-income Electric Ratepayer Assistance

H.P. 642 L.D. 995
(C "A" H-76)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

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

The Senate considered the following additional papers:

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Bill "An Act to Improve Access to Grant Funding for the Maine Farms for the Future Program"

H.P. 1286 L.D. 1925

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

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

Bill "An Act to Repurpose Long Creek Youth Development Center and Build a Community System of Support"

H.P. 1284 L.D. 1923

Bill "An Act to Require Law Enforcement Officers Employed by Tribal Governments to Complete the Same Training Required for Other Law Enforcement Officers"

H.P. 1294 L.D. 1933

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

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Improve Public Utility Service by Addressing Seasonal Property Hazards"

H.P. 1290 L.D. 1929

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** and ordered printed.

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

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Lodging Establishments from Providing Single-use Plastic Containers"

H.P. 1289 L.D. 1928

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Support Essential Support Workers and Enhance Workforce Development"

H.P. 1293 L.D. 1932

Bill "An Act Regarding the Regulation of Tobacco"

H.P. 1297 L.D. 1938

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

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

Bill "An Act to Support Workforce Development for Families That Were Involved in Child Protective Activities by Requiring the Sealing of Certain Records" (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 1283 L.D. 1922

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

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

Bill "An Act to Regulate Earned Wage Access Services Providers"

H.P. 1276 L.D. 1915

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 Create a Statewide Housing Resolution Board"

H.P. 1282 L.D. 1921

Bill "An Act to Require Increased Housing Density or Lower Minimum Lot Sizes for Workforce Housing"

H.P. 1287 L.D. 1926

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

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

Bill "An Act Regarding Acts of Violence Committed Against a Pregnant Woman"

H.P. 1291 L.D. 1930

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

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

Bill "An Act to Promote Responsible Outdoor Lighting"
H.P. 1295 L.D. 1934

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

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

Bill "An Act to Encourage New Residential Housing Through a Tax Exemption for the Sale or Rental of Such Housing"
H.P. 1285 L.D. 1924

Bill "An Act to Annually Reimburse the Town of Charleston for 43 Percent of Property Tax Revenue Lost Due to the Mountain View Correctional Facility's Tax-exempt Status"
H.P. 1292 L.D. 1931

Bill "An Act to Close Maine's Tax Loophole for Offshore Profit Shifting"
H.P. 1298 L.D. 1939

Come 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.

Off Record Remarks

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

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **ADJOURNED**, until Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at 10:00 in the morning.