

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

In Senate Chamber
Tuesday
January 9, 2024

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

Prayer by Pastor David Willhoite of the Apostolic Church in Mexico.

PASTOR DAVID WILLHOITE: Good morning. Lord, we thank you for this opportunity to open this Body of Legislature, and I'm praying today that you would give them the wisdom to know what to do, what policies, and how to lead this great state. Since the beginning of creation, it has been about what you bless or what you curse. It has been about prosperity or poverty. And God, we're asking that you would give them the knowledge and the leadership to lead us into a culture of prosperity, and to break the spirit of poverty in the State of Maine. That families would be blessed, that relationships would be healthy - our relationships with each other and our families, our communities, and even with the government. I pray that most of all, our relationship with you would be in right standing, and I'm asking for your favor and your guidance today. In Jesus' name, amen.

National Anthem Performed by Michele Gonya.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Donna Bailey of York County.

Reading of the Journal of Wednesday, January 3, 2024

Medical Provider of the Day, Valerie Fuller, PhD, DNP, AGACNP-BC, FNP-BC, FAANP of Falmouth.

Off Record Remarks

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Bill "An Act to Establish a Statewide Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Kit Tracking System and Conduct an Inventory of

Existing Forensic Examination Kits in the Possession of Law Enforcement" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1353 L.D. 2129

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Unauthorized Paramilitary Training"
H.P. 1354 L.D. 2130

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 Fund the Delivery of Educational Services to Children with Special Needs as Required by State and Federal Law in Special Purpose Private Preschools" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1344 L.D. 2120

Bill "An Act to Support Extended Learning Opportunities"
H.P. 1355 L.D. 2131

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

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

Bill "An Act to Increase the Number of Commissioners on the Public Utilities Commission"
H.P. 1351 L.D. 2127

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Right to Appeal Certain Public Utilities Commission Decisions"
H.P. 1356 L.D. 2132

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

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

Bill "An Act Regarding Responsibility for Activities Intended to Increase the Use of Refillable and Reusable Beverage Containers"
H.P. 1358 L.D. 2134

Resolve, to Investigate and Address Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Services Issues (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1359 L.D. 2135

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

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

Bill "An Act to Establish the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias Advisory Council Within the Department of Health and Human Services and to Require a State Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias"
H.P. 1349 L.D. 2125

Bill "An Act Regarding Nonemergency Transportation for MaineCare Members" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1352 L.D. 2128

Bill "An Act to Add Schedule V Substances to the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program"
H.P. 1363 L.D. 2139

Bill "An Act Regarding the Cost of Copies of Medical Records"
H.P. 1375 L.D. 2151

Bill "An Act to Clarify MaineCare Copayments"
H.P. 1377 L.D. 2153

Bill "An Act to Make Corrections and Updates to the Laws Affecting Children and Families"
H.P. 1378 L.D. 2154

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

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

Bill "An Act to Create Parity in the Licensing of Emergency Medical Services Professionals and Other Health Care Professionals Who Enter Private Residences"
H.P. 1346 L.D. 2122

Bill "An Act Regarding Licensure of Emergency Medical Services Persons"
H.P. 1347 L.D. 2123

Bill "An Act Relating to Delegation of Nursing Activities and Tasks to Unlicensed Assistive Personnel by Registered Professional Nurses"
H.P. 1350 L.D. 2126

Bill "An Act to Join the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact"
H.P. 1361 L.D. 2137

Bill "An Act to Enact the Interstate Social Work Licensure Compact"

H.P. 1364 L.D. 2140

Bill "An Act to Authorize the Provision of Emergency Medical Treatment for Certain Dogs"
H.P. 1380 L.D. 2156

Come 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 Enhance Protections for and Better Address Invasive Aquatic Plant Infestations in Inland Waters of the State"
H.P. 1365 L.D. 2141

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

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

Bill "An Act to Expand the Use of Career and Technical Education Centers in the Development of the Electrician Workforce" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1357 L.D. 2133

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

On motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Support Suicide Prevention by Allowing the Voluntary Waiver of Firearm Rights" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1343 L.D. 2119

Bill "An Act to Correct Outdated References in and Relating to the Maine Human Rights Act"
H.P. 1366 L.D. 2142

Come 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 Exempt Seasonal Volunteer Ski Patrollers and Seasonal Volunteer Ski Ambassadors and Hosts at Ski Areas from the Minimum Wage Laws"
H.P. 1373 L.D. 2149

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Provide Financial Support for Shelters for Unhoused Individuals"
H.P. 1360 L.D. 2136

Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** suggested and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING**.

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

Resolve, to Improve Funding for Homeless Shelters
H.P. 1362 L.D. 2138
Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** suggested and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING**.

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

Bill "An Act to Address Chronic Understaffing of State Government Positions" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1345 L.D. 2121

Resolve, to Add Members to the Maine Semiquincentennial Commission and Set the Compensation Rate for Commission Members (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1369 L.D. 2145

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Certain Municipalities from Adopting Moratoria on Emergency Shelters"
H.P. 1370 L.D. 2146

Bill "An Act to Require Constitutional Officers to Complete Harassment Training"
H.P. 1374 L.D. 2150

Bill "An Act to Allow Equitable Compensation of Certain Board Members"
H.P. 1376 L.D. 2152

Come 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 Dedicate the Revenue from the Sales Tax on Electricity to Low-income Ratepayer Assistance"
H.P. 1367 L.D. 2143

Bill "An Act to Provide Property Tax Relief by Increasing the Availability of the Property Tax Fairness Credit"
H.P. 1368 L.D. 2144

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.

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Eligibility of an Off-track Betting Facility to Receive Funding If the Facility Is Sold or Relocates"
H.P. 1348 L.D. 2124

Bill "An Act to Remove the Requirement for Edible Cannabis Products to Be Stamped or Embossed on Each Serving with a Universal Symbol" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1371 L.D. 2147

Bill "An Act to Establish Common Carrier Reporting for the Direct Shipment of Wine"
H.P. 1372 L.D. 2148

Bill "An Act to Clarify Licensing Criteria and Criminal History Record Check and Notification Requirements for Adult Use Cannabis Establishments"
H.P. 1379 L.D. 2155

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

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

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

Joint Resolution

The following Joint Resolution:
H.P. 1342

**JOINT RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF FIRST RESPONDERS
IN THE TRAGIC MASS SHOOTING IN LEWISTON**

WHEREAS, on October 25, 2023, a mass shooting in Lewiston took the lives of 18 people and injured 13 others; and

WHEREAS, the shooting uprooted the lives of innumerable family members, friends, partners and community members in Lewiston and beyond; and

WHEREAS, first responders in Lewiston and from around the State immediately took action to respond to the medical needs of those injured and to prevent the crisis from developing further; and

WHEREAS, first responders who assisted during the crisis came from municipal and county fire and police departments, private and volunteer ambulance services and the State of Maine; and

WHEREAS, these first responders included paramedics, law enforcement officers, emergency medical technicians, medical professionals and firefighters; and

WHEREAS, these individuals exhibited remarkable courage, character and resilience in a moment of dire need for Lewiston and the State in service to a greater mission to ensure that our State and its many communities remain safe and secure; and

WHEREAS, we owe these individuals a deep debt of gratitude for their response to the mass shooting in Lewiston and for the critically important work they do every day; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize the heroic efforts of first responders in the mass shooting in Lewiston.

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

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **ROTUNDO:** Thank you, Mr. President, Colleagues of the Senate. Today, I rise in recognition of the first responders, members of law enforcement, and health professionals who responded courageously to the devastating attack in Lewiston on October 25th. In our darkest hours, it is the heroism of everyday Mainers that just takes our breath away. It gives one hope and reminds us of who we are. So, it's truly an honor to have a chance to recognize this heroism on the floor of the Senate today. In the midst of a horrible attack on our city of Lewiston, first

responders, members of law enforcement, and healthcare professionals sprung into action from communities all across the state. It made clear that the people of Lewiston, our community, was not alone. So, today, on National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, I want to express my gratitude on behalf of the Legislature and the citizens of Lewiston for these brave people who showed up when we needed them most. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Lafountain.

Senator **LAFOUNTAIN:** Thank you, Mr. President, Members of the Senate. I rise today to add my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the brave men and women who jumped into action on the evening of October 25th. As a former fire chief of Waterville and Winslow, I have responded to many late-night emergencies, often with unpredictable outcomes. First responders are taught and trained to expect the unexpected, and it's often said we help people on the worst day of their lives. But nothing could have prepared anyone for the events that they all went through. The personnel who responded to the scenes in Lewiston that night showed incredible bravery and selflessness. From first responders in Lewiston to those from surrounding communities who provided mutual aid support, words cannot express how grateful we all are for their actions. As the city of Lewiston continues the grieving process and begins to heal, we must never forget the toll taken on the community. My colleagues and I are committed to doing the best we can to ensure that a tragedy like this does not happen again here in Maine. Thank you again to the first responders for your fortitude in helping those in need. We are forever indebted to you. Together, we are Lewiston strong.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Waldo, Senator Curry.

Senator **CURRY:** Thank you, Mr. President. When I chose to serve and was elected to serve, I did not know so much of my focus would be on fire and EMS, and it is a great joy of my service to be connected with those across the state who are championing both fire and EMS. And I want to thank all of the first responders, law enforcement, fire and EMS, and make sure that you know that we see you. We see the work that you are doing, we see you running into situations where everyone else is running away. We see the after-effects. We see that you are dealing with responding to what is then needed and taking that back with you as professionally as you can, and we see the support that you need, and we promise that support -- I promise that support. I will champion you, and I will champion your efforts, and I just want to say thank you. Thank you for all of your professionalism and your commitment and service to this state.

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

Joint Resolution in Memoriam:

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

The Honorable Lois Galgay Reckitt, of South Portland, a member of the Maine House of Representatives who represented House District #122. Representative Reckitt was the Executive Director of Family Crisis Services in Portland for 36 years and was the driving force behind Maine's proposed Equal Rights Amendment. She won four elections to serve in the Legislature from 2017 to 2023. She championed many issues, most especially women's rights and the rights of other disadvantaged people. She helped to found the Maine Women's Lobby and was a board member for the National Organization for Women. During her last legislative session, she successfully sponsored a bill to partially decriminalize prostitution. As Executive Director of Family Crisis Services in Cumberland County, she served victims of domestic violence and promoted prevention efforts. In the 1980s, she was elected national executive vice president of the National Organization for Women and was a co-founder of the Human Rights Campaign Fund. Representative Reckitt will be long remembered and sadly missed by her family and friends and all those whose lives she touched;
HLS 683

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

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **CARNEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Colleagues. I rise to share with you some of my memories of Representative Reckitt. We -- she was a constituent and a friend, and we spent a lot of time driving back and forth to the State House together, so I got to know her pretty well. And when I think of Lois, I think of her deep appreciation for legislative service. For her, it was truly an honor, it was her passion, and I think in many ways she saw it as the capstone of a life of service. I first really got to know Lois in 2019 on the bus tour, which is happening again toward the end of this week, and I watched her operate in this like speed dating. She very intentionally sat with every single legislator on that bus and forged a friendship with them. And it was beautiful to see those connections at the inception of the friendship and then to watch them persist and grow throughout the legislative service. She and I both were members of the Judiciary Committee in the 130th and in this Legislature, and in that committee, she - Lois - shared her vast experience with us in an effort to further and improve the work that we did together. She shared everything, from her experiences as a young girl being subject to incest, to her statewide work as an advocate for victims of sexual violence. All that informed and improved the work we did, and I also think that Lois's vulnerability about her own life experiences really enriched our work. She also, though, is not all serious. She had a great sense of humor, and she would use it a lot. She used it when she sensed that the energy in the room was flagging, she used it to kind of pick us up, and when things got a little hot in committee, she would use it to pull

the horseshoe back together. During the last year and a half of her service, Lois experienced a lot of pain and a lot of very challenging medical issues, but she really was undaunted in her service of her constituents and what she would refer to as the ocean end of South Portland, and also those throughout the state because she really did think of every Mainer as being her constituent. She took on and got passed landmark legislation to protect people who had been subject to sex trafficking. She was invited to participate at a symposium in Philadelphia - well, in Pennsylvania - toward the end of the summer, early fall. She was so excited to present information about the fight to get that bill passed at the symposium. But sadly, she was admitted to the emergency room the day that she was supposed to travel to Pennsylvania. But in true Lois fashion, she just pulled up her phone on her emergency room bed and connected to the symposium by Zoom and participated for several hours in the symposium. In her final days, Lois was - again, true to character and true to the passion that she brought to legislative service - she called me a couple days before she passed away and said, you know, I'd like to see you and by the way, can you bring over a box of tangerine popsicles when you come. And so, I did, and when I got there, she shared with me, you know, her perspectives and advice about the legislation that was going to be presented to Judiciary in the upcoming session to make sure that I knew what her thoughts were, and then - and this is where I need my tissue - she also shared very warm and encouraging thoughts about all of the committee members and asked me to pass on specific messages to people and just to let everybody know that she was thinking of our work and would be following us. And so, I think I'll sit down because I'm crying, but I do really appreciate the honor of serving with her, and I'm happy to share that all with you. Thank you.

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

Senator **VITELLI:** Thank you, Mr. President, women and men of the Senate. I also rise to honor the late Lois Galgay Reckitt, who was a venerated lawmaker, a community leader, a changemaker, an unabashed feminist, and a persistent activist. She was intelligent and compassionate in equal measure. She was also a dear friend and colleague over many decades. Lois was a stalwart advocate for the rights of women, children, victims of sexual violence, and the LGBTQ+ community. She took the pain of her past and turned it into motivation, standing up for those who needed it. Whenever she saw a gap in advocacy or a social safety net, she put herself to the task of fixing it. We all deserve someone who will fight for our inalienable human rights, and in Maine, that person was Lois. I was so proud to fight alongside her, time and again, to try and pass an equal rights amendment for Maine. It was always clear to me that she was in it for the long haul. She never gave up, nor will I. She will be deeply missed, but I know her legacy will serve as inspiration for generations for champions for equal rights. May her memory be a blessing for her family and her loved ones and for all of us in the State of Maine. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator **BRAKEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. I'd say I had the distinct honor and privilege to work alongside Representative

Reckitt on the Judiciary Committee this past year, and I know it came as a surprise to me, came as a surprise to her, and she kept telling me how much it came as a surprise to many of her democratic colleagues, just how close a friendship we managed to form despite being from different generations, different regions, different political parties, different ideological bents. There was something in Lois that I think really sets a standard for all of us as legislators, and that was her ability to possess the courage to stand her ground on matters she passionately believed in, and to not back down, while also possessing the good faith to seek common ground with those who we do not always -- do not always agree with. And I think that really led to some interesting moments of bipartisan accomplishments that because of that good faith, because of that ability to seek common ground that Lois had, we found some surprising opportunities to move things forward. So, just holding that out, the model that she set, the courage to stand her ground, and the good faith to seek common ground, I think Lois set the standard that we all can aspire to. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Hickman.

Senator **HICKMAN:** Thank you, Mr. President, women and men of the Senate. Lois Galgay Reckitt; when she came to the Maine House of Representatives, I think a term or two after I did, she sat two seats in front of me on the aisle, and I knew I recognized her from somewhere, but the photographic memory didn't work, so I didn't know where that was. Turns out, I met her two decades ago. I was doing a book reading from my memoir and she was there and, as one does at book readings, it was actually a book signing, and I signed her book. And a year ago, she presented my book back to me. She says, it doesn't look like I've read this, Senator, but I have. But it was in perfect condition, and she said open up to the title page, and I saw my signature and the date, and I cried. I was unfortunately unable to attend her memorial service because I wasn't feeling well, and you don't go to a memorial service if you're not feeling well. But I never took a day for granted that I was able to serve the people of the great State of Maine alongside what I always called a living legend. She was a fierce advocate who always amplified the voices of those who cried in the dark. She was a relentless warrior for freedom and justice for all people. She was a remarkable, down-to-earth human being with a heart bigger than a continent, and hilarious as all get-out. She would have me in stitches. Her humor was irreverent and surprising and disarming in every way. So, rest in power, dearest Lois, you will inspire me forever. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator **DAUGHTRY:** Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. Sometimes in our lives, we get a chance to meet an icon, and sometimes, if we're lucky, we get to not only meet and work with them, we get to call them a friend. For me, Lois was one of those people. I have family and friends who worked with her at family crisis services and even a friend who worked with her when she was a high school -- not when -- when she was a high schooler and when Lois was at NOW, at the National Organization of Women, and always spoke so highly of her. For me, I heard about her work and passion from them, and

she felt like this amazing icon and living legend, as Senator Hickman said. She was a pillar of the Maine feminist that I grew up caring about, and she is part of a vanguard of Maine women that I like to consider as sort of the founding mothers - some which sit here, near me, in this Chamber. And I'm still excited and stunned that I got to be a little part of her life and get to know more than just her resume. Getting to experience her wit and humor and warmth were an incredible part of my legislative service. And also, her incredible polished nails, which I did have painted in the same shade but unfortunately did not last quite long enough. Her love of the Red Sox and getting to celebrate all things Irish, she always told me that I was just Irish enough to count. And one of the things that I will always remember is when I got to work with her at Emerge Maine, I was part of the class where she was working on her pitch for running for office. And one thing that I will always take with me that I think can apply to so many people is she would stand up in front of the class and she'd start her speech and go I'm not from Maine, but I got here as fast as I could. Rest in peace, rest in power, we miss you, Lois.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Oxford, Senator Keim.

Senator **KEIM:** I can't add much to what's been said, but Lois -- I served with Lois in my first term in office and was chair of Judiciary and gosh, it was such a pleasure to serve with her. She was smart and she was kindhearted and witty and always surprising. And I just loved at first, you know, being a little bit like oh, gosh, I'm supposed to be controlling this committee and, you know, she'd just go on and on and on at the mic. And then finally, you just sit back and enjoy the ride, right? Because it seems like she's going nowhere, but eventually, she brings it right back around. And she was connected to everyone. She'd get on mic, and it doesn't matter who was coming in front of committee, Lois could find a way that she knew them or she was connected to them. And I think we all can see why, because she made it an effort to be connected. So, politics aside, Lois led with her heart. She loved people, she was always kind - like, even when I voted against the thing she cared about the most, which is the ERA, you know, she was angry with me for a little bit, she really was, but, you know, there was a warmth there that went beyond that and that is what -- that's what marked her life and absolutely made her so successful at what she did. And she's a role model for all of us, just her love of people and her way to use humor to bring everyone together and really lighten the situation, even though she was talking about something she cared about so passionately. So, it was an honor to serve with Lois.

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

Senator **BAILEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. I'm probably not going to be able to talk long without crying, but it was an honor and a privilege to know Lois and to consider her my friend. I served with her both in Judiciary, I served with her in the House, and I just wanted to add to this two things that I know I just want to be part of the record, part of her legacy on a lighter note. First, was her hard work. And what I mean by that, as Senator Hickman alluded to, she read everything and as an example of that, we in Judiciary were working on the uniform digital asset act and as part of that learning about what access people do have for

peoples' digital social media after they pass away. And in true Lois fashion, she's like well, if I'm going to be discussing this, I want to know what I'm talking about. And so, she is probably the only legislator, if not the only person in the State of Maine, to have actually read the terms and conditions for Facebook from start to finish, and she educated the rest of the committee on it. But that is how hard Lois worked all the time. And the other thing I just wanted to say, Lois, is I am sure, and I am sure you are grateful that there are no private roads in heaven.

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

Off Record Remarks

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: H.P. 1329

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

December 11, 2023

Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross
Speaker of the House
131st Legislature

Honorable Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate
131st Legislature

Dear Madam Speaker and Mr. President:

On December 11, 2023, 27 bills were received by the Clerk of the House.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, these bills were referred to the Joint Standing Committees on December 11, 2023, as follows:

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Resolve, Authorizing the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands to Convey Peacock Beach State Park to the Town of Richmond (H.P. 1323) (L.D. 2061) (Sponsored by Representative CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham) (Submitted by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Laws Governing Disclosure of Wood Processing Data" (H.P. 1325) (L.D. 2063) (Sponsored by Representative PLUECKER of Warren) (Submitted by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Resolve, to Review Traffic Fatalities Occurring While an Operator Was Under the Influence and Subsequent Prosecution with Respect to Those Occurrences (H.P. 1303) (L.D. 2041) (Sponsored by Representative O'CONNELL of Brewer) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Establish Training and Certification Standards for Probation and Parole Officers" (H.P. 1307) (L.D. 2045) (Sponsored by Representative SALISBURY of Westbrook) (Submitted by the Department of Corrections pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Continue Allowing the Department of Corrections to Accept Placement of Certain Defendants Found Incompetent to Stand Trial" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1308) (L.D. 2046) (Sponsored by Representative SALISBURY of Westbrook) (Submitted by the Department of Corrections pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act Regarding the Duties of Bail Commissioners" (H.P. 1313) (L.D. 2051) (Sponsored by Representative LEE of Auburn) (Cosponsored by Representative: HENDERSON of Rumford) (Submitted by the Judicial Department pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Exempt Buildings Used to Cultivate Crops from the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code" (H.P. 1315) (L.D. 2053) (Sponsored by Representative SHAW of Auburn) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Exclude Certain Operating Under the Influence Crimes from the Immunity Provisions That Are Triggered When Law Enforcement Is Called for a Suspected Overdose" (H.P. 1316) (L.D. 2054) (Sponsored by Representative HASENFUS of Readfield) (Cosponsored by Representative: CRAFTS of Newcastle) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill "An Act to Update the Laws Governing Education in the Unorganized Territory" (H.P. 1304) (L.D. 2042) (Sponsored by Representative BRENNAN of Portland) (Submitted by the Department of Education pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Environment and Natural Resources

Bill "An Act to Update Air Quality Health Warnings" (H.P. 1306) (L.D. 2044) (Sponsored by Representative DOUDERA of Camden) (Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act Regarding Compliance with Environmental Permit and License Application Requirements" (H.P. 1320) (L.D. 2058) (Sponsored by Representative BRIDGEO of Augusta) (Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act Regarding Processing of Applications Under the Natural Resources Protection Act to Ensure Consistency with Shoreland Zoning Laws" (H.P. 1321) (L.D. 2059) (Sponsored by

Representative FAY of Raymond) (Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Clarify Liability Under the Uncontrolled Hazardous Substance Site Law and to Waive a Fee Regarding Voluntary Response Action Plans" (H.P. 1328) (L.D. 2066) (Sponsored by Representative FAY of Raymond) (Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Health and Human Services

Bill "An Act to Expand Accreditation Options for Laboratories That Conduct Blood-alcohol or Drug Testing" (H.P. 1312) (L.D. 2050) (Sponsored by Representative MEYER of Eliot) (Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Prohibit the Department of Health and Human Services from Implementing Electronic Visit Verification for Hospice Providers Within the MaineCare Program Unless Mandated by the Federal Government" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1317) (L.D. 2055) (Sponsored by Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston) (Cosponsored by Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin and Representatives: CRAVEN of Lewiston, FAY of Raymond, GATTINE of Westbrook, GERE of Kennebunkport, GOLEK of Harpswell, HASENFUS of Readfield, Senators: PIERCE of Cumberland, VITELLI of Sagadahoc) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Bill "An Act to Restore the Board of Dental Practice's Authority to Issue Letters of Guidance" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1302) (L.D. 2040) (Sponsored by Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford) (Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Add the State of Maine to the Compact for Licensing Physician Assistants" (H.P. 1305) (L.D. 2043) (Sponsored by Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston) (Cosponsored by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland and Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, DODGE of Belfast, MORRIS of Turner, MURPHY of Scarborough, Senators: President JACKSON of Aroostook, STEWART of Aroostook, VITELLI of Sagadahoc) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Require the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists and the Board of Examiners in Physical Therapy to Obtain Fingerprint-based Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Background Checks for Applicants for Licensure" (H.P. 1319) (L.D. 2057) (Sponsored by Representative PERRY of Calais) (Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Bill "An Act to Provide Additional Moose Hunting Opportunities for Maine Youth Experiencing Critical Illnesses" (H.P. 1314) (L.D. 2052) (Sponsored by Representative LANDRY of Farmington)

(Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business

Bill "An Act to Amend Licensing Requirements for Landscape Architects" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1322) (L.D. 2060) (Sponsored by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick) (Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Real Estate Appraisers and Appraisal Management Companies" (H.P. 1324) (L.D. 2062) (Sponsored by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick) (Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Marine Resources

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Certain Advisory Councils and Boards Related to the Department of Marine Resources" (H.P. 1326) (L.D. 2064) (Sponsored by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich) (Submitted by the Department of Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Amend Maine's Aquaculture Leasing Laws" (H.P. 1327) (L.D. 2065) (Sponsored by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich) (Submitted by the Department of Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

State and Local Government

Bill "An Act to Increase the Expenditure Limit for Informal Bidding Processes and Update References to the Office of Procurement Services" (H.P. 1309) (L.D. 2047) (Sponsored by Representative STOVER of Boothbay) (Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Taxation

Bill "An Act to Amend the Content of Notices Provided with Respect to Tax Liens on Certain Property" (H.P. 1310) (L.D. 2048) (Sponsored by Representative PERRY of Bangor) (Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Transportation

Bill "An Act to Increase Safety for Child Welfare Services Workers" (H.P. 1311) (L.D. 2049) (Sponsored by Representative STOVER of Boothbay) (Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Resolve, Designating Route 127 in Arrowsic the Private Merwin A. Delano, Jr. Memorial Highway (H.P. 1318) (L.D. 2056) (Sponsored by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich) (Cosponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

S/Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate

Comes from the House, **READ** and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**, in concurrence.

The Following Communication: H.P. 1331

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

December 14, 2023

Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross
Speaker of the House
131st Legislature

Honorable Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate
131st Legislature

Dear Madam Speaker and Mr. President:

On December 14, 2023, 1 bill was received by the Clerk of the House.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, this bill was referred to a Joint Standing Committee on December 14, 2023, as follows:

Energy, Utilities and Technology

Bill "An Act to Make Permanent the Arrearage Management Program for Low-income Residential Electricity Customers" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1330) (L.D. 2067) (Sponsored by Representative FOSTER of Dexter) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

S/Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate

Comes from the House, **READ** and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**, in concurrence.

The Following Communication: H.P. 1341

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

December 20, 2023

Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross
Speaker of the House
131st Legislature

Honorable Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate
131st Legislature

Dear Madam Speaker and Mr. President:

On December 20, 2023, 9 bills were received by the Clerk of the House.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, these bills were referred to the Joint Standing Committees on December 20, 2023, as follows:

Energy, Utilities and Technology

Bill "An Act Regarding Customer Costs and the Environmental and Health Effects of Natural Gas" (H.P. 1336) (L.D. 2077) (Sponsored by Representative ZEIGLER of Montville) (Cosponsored by Senator LAWRENCE of York) (Submitted by the Office of the Public Advocate pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Health and Human Services

Bill "An Act to Increase Participation by the Department of Health and Human Services Regarding Federal Benefits for Which Children in the Custody of the Department Are Eligible" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1337) (L.D. 2078) (Sponsored by Representative ROEDER of Bangor) (Cosponsored by Representative: SUPICA of Bangor) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Bill "An Act to Amend the Application of the Law Requiring Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance Policies to Cover Towing and Storage Charges for Certain Vehicles" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1332) (L.D. 2073) (Sponsored by Representative PERRY of Calais) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Property and Casualty Insurance Companies from Denying Policyholders in the State Insurance on Their Residences in the State Because of a Loss Sustained to a Home in Another State" (H.P. 1333) (L.D. 2074) (Sponsored by Representative PERRY of Calais) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Protect Health Care Workers from HIV" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1334) (L.D. 2075) (Sponsored by Representative PERRY of Calais) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Judiciary

Bill "An Act to Amend a Notice Provision Regarding Registration of Out-of-state Child Custody Determinations Under the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act" (H.P. 1340) (L.D. 2081) (Submitted by the Family Law Advisory Commission pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 19-A, section 354, subsection 2.)

Labor and Housing

Bill "An Act to Strengthen Firefighters' Collective Bargaining Rights" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1338) (L.D. 2079) (Sponsored by Representative ROEDER of Bangor) (Cosponsored by Representative: SUPICA of Bangor) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Taxation

Bill "An Act to Exempt from Excise Tax Vehicles of Active Duty Service Members Stationed Out-of-state" (H.P. 1335) (L.D. 2076) (Sponsored by Representative LEMELIN of Chelsea) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Veterans and Legal Affairs

Bill "An Act to Create a Universal Exclusion List for All Forms of Gambling in the State" (H.P. 1339) (L.D. 2080) (Sponsored by Representative MALON of Biddeford) (Submitted by the Department of Public Safety pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

S/Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate

Comes from the House, **READ** and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**, in concurrence.

The Following Communication: S.C. 769

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

January 3, 2024

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

Dear Secretary Grant:

Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (I) (a), I am appointing Representative Daniel Ankeles of Brunswick to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, effective January 3, 2024.

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

Sincerely,

S/Rachel Talbot Ross
Speaker of the House

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

The Following Communication: S.C. 775

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

January 5, 2024

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Re: Appointment of Jon A. Haddow, Esq. as a Judge of the Maine District Court

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Jon A. Haddow, Esq. of Fairfield for appointment as a judge of the Maine District Court.

Pursuant to Article 5. Part First § 8, this appointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

The Following Communication: S.C. 776

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

AUGUSTA, MAINE

January 5, 2024

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Re: Appointment of Katherine M. Dufour, Esq. as a Judge of the
Maine District Court

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Katherine M. Dufour, Esq. of
Lincolnville for appointment as a judge of the Maine District Court.

Pursuant to Article 5. Part First § 8, this appointment is contingent
on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the
Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 777

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

January 5, 2024

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Re: Appointment of David F. Hathaway, Esq. as a Judge of the
Maine District Court

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate David F. Hathaway, Esq. of Auburn for
appointment as a judge of the Maine District Court.

Pursuant to Article 5. Part First § 8, this appointment is contingent
on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the
Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 778

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

January 4, 2024

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME. 04333

RE: Appointment of the Honorable E. Mary Kelly as an Active
Retired Judge of the Maine District Court

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate The Honorable E. Mary Kelly of
Falmouth for reappointment as an Active Retired Judge of the
Maine District Court.

Pursuant to Article V, Part First, §8, of the Maine Constitution, this
reappointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State
Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on
Judiciary.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 779

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

January 5, 2024

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Re: Appointment of Heather M. Seasonwein, Esq. as a Judge of
the Maine District Court

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Heather M. Seasonwein, Esq. of
Freeport for appointment as a judge of the Maine District Court.

Pursuant to Article 5. Part First § 8, this appointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 771

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

January 3, 2024

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

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross,

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

L.D. 1989 Resolve, to Modify the Deed for a Parcel of
Property in the Town of Carrabassett Valley to
Allow for Workforce Housing

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Henry Ingwersen
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Bill Pluecker
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 772

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

January 3, 2024

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

State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross,

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

L.D. 20 An Act to Further Protect Survivors of
Economic Abuse

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Matt Moonen
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 773

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

December 29, 2023

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

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 699 An Act to Reduce Future Energy Costs

This is notification of the Committee's action.
Sincerely,

S/Sen. Mark Lawrence
Senate Chair

S/Rep. S. Paige Zeigler
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 774

STATE OF MAINE

**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

January 02, 2024

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

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 983 An Act to Exempt Maine from Daylight Saving Time

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Tim Nangle
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Holly B. Stover
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 768

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

December 30, 2023

The Honorable Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

Dear President Jackson,
Pursuant to 5 MRSA § 12009, I am submitting the Report of Board and Commission Appointments or Reappointments to you for the calendar year 2024. Additionally, I am providing a report that lists appointments or reappointments which have not been made from previous years through December 31, 2023. This report also indicates vacancies which exist on a board or commission that needs a new appointment. If you would like a breakdown of only your appointments, we would be pleased to provide this to you as well.

If you have any questions concerning these reports or need additional information, please contact me or Cathy Beaudoin, Director of the Division of Corporations, UCC and Commissions at 207-624-7748.

Sincerely,

S/Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State

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

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Provide for the 2024 and 2025 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds" (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 916 L.D. 2160

Presented by Senator CURRY of Waldo.
Submitted by the Finance Authority of Maine pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

On motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Protect the Confidentiality of Attorney-Client E-mail Communications for Residents of Jails and Correctional Facilities"
S.P. 915 L.D. 2159

Presented by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative MOONEN of Portland.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Unfinished Business

The following matter 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 Assigned (1/3/24) matter:

Bill "An Act to Provide Funding to the Maine School of Science and Mathematics Using the School Funding Formula Criteria" S.P. 914 L.D. 2118

Tabled - January 3, 2024 by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York

Pending - **REFERENCE**

(In Senate, January 3, 2024, **READ**.)

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

On motion by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Criminal Code and the Intelligence and Investigative Record Information Act" H.P. 1381 L.D. 2161

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

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

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218, in concurrence.

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Tobacco Sales near Schools" H.P. 1383 L.D. 2157

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

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

Bill "An Act to Improve the Housing Voucher System" H.P. 1382 L.D. 2158

Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** suggested and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING**.

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

Pursuant to Statute Criminal Law Advisory Commission

The Criminal Law Advisory Commission, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 1354, subsection 2 asked leave to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act to Make Technical Corrections to the Maine Juvenile Code, the Maine

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

Off Record Remarks

The President requested the Sergeant-At-Arms escort the Senator from Sagadahoc, Senator **VITELLI**, to the rostrum where she assumed the duties as President Pro Tempore.

The President took a seat on the Floor.

The Senate was called to order by President Pro Tempore **ELOISE A. VITELLI** of Sagadahoc County.

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, the Chair laid before the Senate the following:

Joint Resolutions

Joint Resolutions in Memoriam:

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

Sami Manirath, of Fort Kent, an energetic local entrepreneur. A recent arrival to Maine, Ms. Manirath worked remotely as a corporate attorney for Dallas-based law firm Sumner and Schick, and she also opened three businesses providing over a dozen jobs: Sami's Cuisine and Cocktails restaurants and Club Sami's. She hosted many popular community events, including dance parties tailored for children and "The Voice of Northern Maine" talent contest. Ms. Manirath will be long remembered and sadly missed by her family and friends and all those whose lives she touched;
SLS 1321

Sponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative: THERIAULT of Fort Kent.

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, **ADJOURNED**, until Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 10:00 in the morning in memory of and lasting tribute to the Honorable Lois Galgay Reckitt of South Portland and Sami Manirath of Fort Kent.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

The **PRESIDENT PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Aroostook, Senator Jackson.

Senator **JACKSON**: Thank you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I just wanted to come down for a moment to speak quickly about Sami. You know, I honestly didn't know her real well, you know, she was in the community of Fort Kent and Madawaska not for a very long time but last week, you know, we got word that, you know, a real tragedy had happened and ended up resulting in her death at 52 years old. You know, Sami was someone that I think any one of us in this room and probably many of us did, if you actually had come to the Can-Am sled dog races, you just immediately recognized her as someone that -- well, was just someone you wanted to be around. You know, she had a flare, an energy, and an honesty to her that was, you know, unbelievable. I mean, it's the type of thing that, you know, I would hope to aspire to one day because she just made everyone feel really, really comfortable and like they'd known her for a long time. And in a place like northern Maine, having someone like that move into it and kind of kickstart things that maybe had languished for a long time was really quite amazing to watch. I mean, right out of the gate, she wanted to get her license to practice law in Maine, opened not one but two restaurants with a completely new menu for the area. And every time there was a public thing like Can-Am or Scarecrow Day or whatever the Chamber was putting on in the area, I mean, she was the first one to take off and do a whole bunch of things for the community. Like I said, the last Can-Am, I mean, the place was just mobbed. You couldn't hardly walk in there, and there she was, going around, you know, talking to people, handing out drinks, and things like that. But she just really was an amazing person that in a very short time, and you can see it all throughout Fort Kent, in a very short time, she made a lasting impact on the people up there with her humor, her vibrancy, everything that she brought, I mean, I just never had anyone ever have a bad word about her and nor should they have, because she was a super, super, dynamic person that the whole community is going to miss big time, and it's such a tragedy that somebody so young and energetic and community driven has been taken away. So, I just wanted to spend a moment to remember her because that's what people should do with really great people. So, with that, I'll sit down, and thank you, Madam President.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Off Record Remarks
