

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

In Senate Chamber
Tuesday
February 27, 2024

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

Prayer by Pastor Nate Speed of Maranatha Riverside Church in Lincoln.

PASTOR NATE SPEED: Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you so much for this wonderful opportunity to gather. I pray that as we go about these sessions that we all keep in mind that as you promised us, so we don't battle against each other but we're all fighting for a good cause and the right cause of what's in our hearts. And Lord, I pray that they all look to you for what's in their hearts and for the good of the people here today. I pray that as King Nebuchadnezzar found in Daniel, that you do hold the power and each one is here on purpose and they take that power and responsibility to heart, that they are here on purpose to do the work that you've chosen for them. So, Lord, we thank you so much for this opportunity and we pray that you'll come and be with them. We pray for guidance; we pray for health and protection upon these people. And we pray these things in your heavenly name. Amen.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Matthew A. Harrington of York County.

Reading of the Journal of Thursday, February 22, 2024.

Medical Provider of the Day, Kimberly M. Caldwell MPAS, PA-C of Auburn.

Off Record Remarks

Senator **MOORE** of Washington requested and received leave of the Senate that members and staff be allowed to remove their jackets for the remainder of this Legislative Day.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: S.C. 956

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

February 23, 2024

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

RE: Loring Development Authority

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate the following individuals to serve on the Loring Development Authority:

- Lee Umphrey of Bangor for reappointment
- Carolyn Dorsey of Caribou for appointment
- Jeffrey M. Pangburn of Bangor for appointment

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §13080-B, these nominations are contingent on confirmation by the Maine Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business.

Sincerely

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 957

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

February 23, 2024

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

RE: Appointment of Jonathan Crasnick of Scarborough to the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Jonathan Crasnick of Scarborough for appointment to the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §13083-I, this appointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business.

Sincerely,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 940

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

February 22, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of Beth R. Campbell of Hermon, for appointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	3	Rafferty, J. of York, Libby, J. of Cumberland, Pierce, T. of Cumberland
	Representatives	8	Brennan, M. of Portland, Dodge, J. of Belfast, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Millett, R. of Cape Elizabeth, Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Polewarczyk, E. of Wiscasset, Sargent, H. of York, Worth, J. of Ellsworth
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		2	Rep. Bagshaw, B. of Windham, Rep. Sampson, H. of Alfred

Eleven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Beth R. Campbell of Hermon, for appointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard

of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty
Senate Chair

S/Michael F. Brennan
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

THE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** be overridden?"

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from York, Senator **BAILEY**, and the Senator from Penobscot, Senator **BALDACCI**, and the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **DAUGHTRY**, and the Senator from Kennebec, Senator **POULIOT**, and further excused the same Senators from today's Roll Call votes.

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#546)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, DAUGHTRY, POULIOT

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 31 Senators having voted in the negative, with 4 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Beth R. Campbell** of Hermon for appointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Off Record Remarks

The Following Communication: S.C. 941

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

February 22, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of Barbara Millios of Glenburn, for appointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	3	Rafferty, J. of York, Libby, J. of Cumberland, Pierce, T. of Cumberland
	Representatives	8	Brennan, M. of Portland, Dodge, J. of Belfast, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Millett, R. of Cape Elizabeth, Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Polewarczyk, E. of Wiscasset, Sargent, H. of York, Worth, J. of Ellsworth
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		2	Rep. Bagshaw, B. of Windham, Rep. Sampson, H. of Alfred

Eleven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Barbara Millios of Glenburn, for appointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty
Senate Chair

S/Michael F. Brennan
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

THE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#547)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, DAUGHTRY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Barbara Millios** of Glenburn for appointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 942

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

February 22, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature

State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of Dawna Thorpe of Hartland, for appointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	3	Rafferty, J. of York, Libby, J. of Cumberland, Pierce, T. of Cumberland
	Representatives	8	Brennan, M. of Portland, Dodge, J. of Belfast, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Millett, R. of Cape Elizabeth, Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Polewarczyk, E. of Wiscasset, Sargent, H. of York, Worth, J. of Ellsworth
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		2	Rep. Bagshaw, B. of Windham, Rep. Sampson, H. of Alfred

Eleven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Dawna Thorpe of Hartland, for appointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty
Senate Chair

S/Michael F. Brennan
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

THE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#548)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, DAUGHTRY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Dawna Thorpe** of Hartland for appointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Off Record Remarks

The Following Communication: S.C. 943

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

February 22, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of Roxanne Baker of Cape Elizabeth, for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	3	Rafferty, J. of York, Libby, J. of Cumberland, Pierce, T. of Cumberland
	Representatives	8	Brennan, M. of Portland, Dodge, J. of Belfast, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Millett, R. of Cape Elizabeth, Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Polewarczyk, E. of Wiscasset, Sargent, H. of York, Worth, J. of Ellsworth

NAYS 0

ABSENT	2	Rep. Bagshaw, B. of Windham, Rep. Sampson, H. of Alfred
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Eleven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Roxanne Baker of Cape Elizabeth, for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty Senate Chair	S/Michael F. Brennan House Chair
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READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#549)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE,

TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT
JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, DAUGHTRY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Roxanne Baker** of Cape Elizabeth for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 944

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

February 22, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of Lisette Belanger of Portland, for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Rafferty, J. of York, Pierce, T. of Cumberland
	Representatives	8	Brennan, M. of Portland, Dodge, J. of Belfast, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Millett, R. of Cape Elizabeth, Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Polewarczyk, E. of Wiscasset, Sargent, H. of York, Worth, J. of Ellsworth
NAYS		0	

ABSENT 3 Sen. Libby, J. of Cumberland,
Rep. Bagshaw, B. of
Windham, Rep. Sampson, H.
of Alfred

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Lisette Belanger of Portland, for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty
Senate Chair

S/Michael F. Brennan
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#550)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, DAUGHTRY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Lisette Belanger** of Portland for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 945

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

February 22, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of Anna Perna of Holden, for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	1	Rafferty, J. of York
	Representatives	7	Dodge, J. of Belfast, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Millett, R. of Cape Elizabeth, Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Polewarczyk, E. of Wiscasset, Sargent, H. of York, Worth, J. of Ellsworth
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		5	Sen. Libby, J. of Cumberland, Sen. Pierce, T. of Cumberland, Rep. Brennan, M. of Portland, Rep. Bagshaw, B. of Windham, Rep. Sampson, H. of Alfred

Eight members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Anna Perna of Holden, for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty
Senate Chair

S/Michael F. Brennan
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

THE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#551)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, DAUGHTRY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Anna Perna** of Holden for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 946

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

February 22, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on

Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of Michael Pulsifer of Cape Elizabeth, for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Rafferty, J. of York, Pierce, T. of Cumberland
	Representatives	8	Brennan, M. of Portland, Dodge, J. of Belfast, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Millett, R. of Cape Elizabeth, Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Polewarczyk, E. of Wiscasset, Sargent, H. of York, Worth, J. of Ellsworth
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Libby, J. of Cumberland, Rep. Bagshaw, B. of Windham, Rep. Sampson, H. of Alfred

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Michael Pulsifer of Cape Elizabeth, for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty
Senate Chair

S/Michael F. Brennan
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

THE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#552)

YEAS	Senators	2	Rafferty, J. of York, Pierce, T. of Cumberland
	Representatives	8	Brennan, M. of Portland, Dodge, J. of Belfast, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Millett, R. of Cape Elizabeth, Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Polewarczyk, E. of Wiscasset, Sargent, H. of York, Worth, J. of Ellsworth
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Libby, J. of Cumberland, Rep. Bagshaw, B. of Windham, Rep. Sampson, H. of Alfred

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, DAUGHTRY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Michael Pulsifer** of Cape Elizabeth for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Sandra Wood of Portland, for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty
Senate Chair

S/Michael F. Brennan
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

THE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#553)

YEAS:	Senators: None
NAYS:	Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, DAUGHTRY

The Following Communication: S.C. 947

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

February 22, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of Sandra Wood of Portland, for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Sandra Wood** of Portland for reappointment to the Board of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 948

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL
RESOURCES**

February 21, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources has had under consideration the nomination of The Honorable Robert S. Duchesne of Old Town, for reappointment to the Board of Environmental Protection.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Brenner, S. of Cumberland, Lyford, P. of Penobscot
	Representatives	8	Gramlich, L. of Old Orchard Beach, Bell, A. of Yarmouth, Bridgeo, W. of Augusta, Campbell, D. of Orrington, Doudera, V. of Camden, Hobbs, D. of Wells, Soboleski, M. of Phillips, Woodsome, D. of Waterboro
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Carney, A. of Cumberland, Rep. O'Neil, M. of Saco, Rep. Schmearsal- Burgess, T. of Mexico

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of The Honorable Robert S. Duchesne of Old Town, for reappointment to the Board of Environmental Protection be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Stacy Fielding Brenner
Senate Chair

S/Lori K. Gramlich
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

On motion by Senator **BRENNER** of Cumberland, Nomination **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **CONSIDERATION**.

The Following Communication: S.C. 949

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL
RESOURCES**

February 21, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources has had under consideration the nomination of Steven K. Pelletier of Topsham, for reappointment to the Board of Environmental Protection.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Brenner, S. of Cumberland, Lyford, P. of Penobscot
	Representatives	8	Gramlich, L. of Old Orchard Beach, Bell, A. of Yarmouth, Bridgeo, W. of Augusta, Campbell, D. of Orrington, Doudera, V. of Camden, Hobbs, D. of Wells, Soboleski, M. of Phillips, Woodsome, D. of Waterboro
NAYS		0	

ABSENT 3 Sen. Carney, A. of
Cumberland, Rep. O'Neil, M.
of Saco, Rep. Schmursal-
Burgess, T. of Mexico

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Steven K. Pelletier of Topsham, for reappointment to the Board of Environmental Protection be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Stacy Fielding Brenner
Senate Chair

S/Lori K. Gramlich
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

On motion by Senator **BRENNER** of Cumberland, Nomination **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **CONSIDERATION**.

The Following Communication: S.C. 950

STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

February 21, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources has had under consideration the nomination of Robert M. Sanford of Gorham, for reappointment to the Board of Environmental Protection.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Brenner, S. of Cumberland, Lyford, P. of Penobscot
	Representatives	8	Gramlich, L. of Old Orchard Beach, Bell, A. of Yarmouth, Bridgeo, W. of Augusta, Campbell, D. of Orrington, Doudera, V. of Camden, Hobbs, D. of Wells, Soboleski, M. of Phillips, Woodsome, D. of Waterboro

NAYS 0

ABSENT 3 Sen. Carney, A. of
Cumberland, Rep. O'Neil, M.
of Saco, Rep. Schmursal-
Burgess, T. of Mexico

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Robert M. Sanford of Gorham, for reappointment to the Board of Environmental Protection be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Stacy Fielding Brenner
Senate Chair

S/Lori K. Gramlich
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

On motion by Senator **BRENNER** of Cumberland, Nomination **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **CONSIDERATION**.

The Following Communication: S.C. 951

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

February 22, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services has had under consideration the nomination of Robert L. Carey of East Boothbay, for appointment as the Superintendent of the Maine Bureau of Insurance.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Bailey, D. of York, Brakey, E. of Androscoggin
	Representatives	8	Perry, A. of Calais, Arford, P. of Brunswick, Cyrway, S. of Albion, Mastraccio, A. of Sanford, Mathieson, K. of Kittery, Morris, J. of Turner, Nutting, R. of Oakland, Pringle, J. of Windham

NAYS 0

ABSENT 3 Sen. Reny, C. of Lincoln,
Rep. Cluchey, S. of
Bowdoinham, Rep. Swallow,
G. of Houlton

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Robert L. Carey of East Boothbay, for appointment as the Superintendent of the Maine Bureau of Insurance be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Donna Bailey
Senate Chair

S/Anne C. Perry
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#554)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, DAUGHTRY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Robert L. Carey** of East Boothbay for appointment as the Superintendent of the Maine Bureau of Insurance was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 952

STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

February 22, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government has had under consideration the nomination of Susan P. Herman, Esquire of Mount Vernon, for reappointment to the State Civil Service Appeals Board.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	1	Nangle, T. of Cumberland
	Representatives	9	Stover, H. of Boothbay, Abdi, M. of Lewiston, Copeland, L. of Saco, Dhalac, D. of South Portland, Greenwood, R. of Wales, Pomerleau, K. of Standish, Riseman, W. of Harrison, Sinclair, D. of Bath, Underwood, J. of Presque Isle
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Baldacci, J. of Penobscot, Sen. Lyford, P. of Penobscot, Rep. Adams, J. of Lebanon

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Susan P. Herman, Esquire of Mount Vernon, for reappointment to the State Civil Service Appeals Board be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Tim Nangle
Senate Chair

S/Holly B. Stover
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#555)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, DAUGHTRY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Susan P. Herman**, Esquire of Mount Vernon for reappointment to the State Civil Service Appeals Board was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 953

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

February 20, 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 Health Coverage, Insurance and

Financial Services has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 2074 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

L.D. 2123 An Act Regarding Licensure of Emergency Medical Services Persons

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Donna Bailey
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Anne C. Perry
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 954

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

February 16, 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 Judiciary has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 1550 An Act to Authorize the Expungement of Records of Nonviolent Crimes

This is notification of the Committee's action.

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. 955

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

February 20, 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 Transportation has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 2116 An Act to Require Flame-retardant Seats on
New School Buses

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Ben Chipman
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Lydia Crafts
House Chair

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

SENATE PAPERS

Resolve, to Promote Access to Education and Workforce Development by Transferring Ownership of the Hutchinson Center Property in Belfast to the City of Belfast (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 956 L.D. 2231

Presented by Senator CURRY of Waldo.
Cosponsored by Representative DODGE of Belfast and Senators: BEEBE-CENTER of Knox, DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, DUSON of Cumberland, GROHOSKI of Hancock, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, WORTH of Ellsworth. Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Change Department of Health and Human Services Rules Regarding Youth Camps to Major Substantive Rules"

S.P. 955 L.D. 2230

Presented by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative FAY of Raymond and Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, CURRY of Waldo, HICKMAN of Kennebec, INGWERSEN of York, KEIM of Oxford, NANGLE of Cumberland, Representatives: GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, PERRY of Bangor.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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

ORDERS

Joint Orders

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

The Portland Symphony Orchestra, which is celebrating its 100th Anniversary. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 1436

Sponsored by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senator: DUSON of Cumberland, Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, COLLINGS of Portland, CROCKETT of Portland, LOOKNER of Portland, MOONEN of Portland, SARGENT of York, SKOLD of Portland, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, ZAGER of Portland.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

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

Senator **CHIPMAN:** Thank you, Mr. President. I apologize for getting a little ahead of myself there, but again, I wanted to rise to recognize the Portland Symphony Orchestra on this remarkable occasion of their 100th anniversary. This organization has enriched the lives of countless individuals in our community for now a century. Since their inception in 1924, the Portland Symphony Orchestra has served as a beacon of musical excellence, bringing symphonic masterpieces to our stage and nurturing local talent. From classical to pops and unique holiday productions, the Portland Symphony Orchestra's repertoire has created cherished memories in our community for generations. And today, as we celebrate this important milestone, let us recognize the Portland Symphony Orchestra for a century of excellence and for being a cultural cornerstone of our city and for their countless moments of beauty and inspiration they've shared

with us. Here's to another 100 years of enriching lives through music. Thank you.

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

Senator **DUSON:** Thank you, Mr. President, Esteemed Colleagues of the Senate. I rise today to join the senior Senator from Portland in recognizing this legislative sentiment to celebrate the Portland Symphony Orchestra's 100th anniversary. The PSO strengthens the local economy, drawing large audiences to concerts, many of whom support local businesses during their visits, helping to contribute over \$1.2 million to Portland's economy. The PSO welcomes thousands of students from communities across Maine for youth concerts in the Merrill Auditorium. The PSO musicians visit Maine schools with music programs designed to support literacy education nearly every day in the school year, and they happen to have brought some instruments with them today. There will be an instrument touching zoo, I think it's called, on the fourth floor this afternoon. In its 100th anniversary, the Portland Symphony Orchestra commits to celebrating local talent and to internationally renowned artists performing both in the concert hall and meeting new audiences in communities across our state. The orchestra inspires us to strive and dream. It is a catalyst for inspiring change and creative ideas and energy within our community. The orchestra is a microcosm of all things that make our society great. It is an all-inclusive organization that enriches our lives in countless ways. So, may the next hundred years bring even more memories and success, and a quick special shoutout to Representative Holly Sargent of York, who serves on the orchestra board and took the lead in organizing the orchestra's attendance today.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the chamber Maestro Eckart Preu, Executive Director Carolyn Nishon, Board President Colleen Khoury, they're from the Portland Symphony Orchestra and are the guests today of the Senators from Cumberland, Senator Chipman and Senator Duson. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate.

ORDERS

Joint Resolution

On motion by Senator **KEIM** of Oxford, the following Joint Resolution:
S.P. 954

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 3, 2024 AS TOPICAL STEROID WITHDRAWAL SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS, Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome, also known as Topical Steroid Addiction or Red Skin Syndrome, is a severe, debilitating condition that can arise from intentional or unintentional exposure to topical steroids; and

WHEREAS, topical steroids are widely prescribed and purchased over the counter to treat acute and chronic skin conditions such as eczema, psoriasis, vitiligo and alopecia areata; and

WHEREAS, Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome is characterized by skin flushing, inflammation, diffuse spreading rashes, profuse skin flaking and a burning and itching worse than the original condition, symptoms that typically appear after the use of topical steroid treatments, between treatments or after discontinuing treatments; and

WHEREAS, symptoms may take several months to several years to subside, leaving some Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome sufferers bedridden and housebound, unable to work, care for children or go to school; and

WHEREAS, a prolonged withdrawal and recovery period can take a significant toll on a person's mental and physical health, and 81% of adults and 56% of children experiencing Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome report feeling anxious or depressed and 47% of adults and 11% of children experiencing Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome report suicidal ideation; and

WHEREAS, the prevalence of topical steroid addiction is unknown due to a scarcity of published research; and

WHEREAS, the scarcity of research on Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome impedes efforts to define diagnostic criteria; understand the causes, mechanics and effects of the syndrome; develop appropriate treatment protocols; and educate providers and patients about the syndrome and steroid stewardship; and

WHEREAS, a lack of awareness of and education about Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome among patients and providers can lead patients to question their providers' medical oversight and providers to suspect their patients of medication noncompliance and occasionally parental neglect; 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 designate February 3, 2024 as Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome Awareness Day and to express our support for increased awareness and prevention education on the signs of topical steroid dependence and the risks of Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome.

The Joint Resolution **READ**.

On motion by Senator **KEIM** of Oxford, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending the motion by same Senator to **ADOPT**.

Off Record Remarks

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

Grace Campanella, of Kennebunk. Ms. Campanella, as a student-athlete attending Kennebunk High School, won Maine's singles tennis state championship as a sophomore and a junior and was the overwhelming favorite to win the state title again before the coronavirus pandemic led to the cancellation of the 2020 spring sports season. She accepted an athletic scholarship to play NCAA Division I tennis at the University of Rhode Island, where she planned to get a degree in animal science and become a veterinarian. She volunteered at Safe Haven Animal Rescue in Wells and the Animal Welfare Society in Kennebunk and was an intern at the Kennebunk Veterinary Hospital. Ms. Campanella will be long remembered and sadly missed by her family and friends and all those whose lives she touched;
SLS 1449

Sponsored by Senator RAFFERTY of York.
Cosponsored by Representatives: GERE of Kennebunkport, SAYRE of Kennebunk.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **RAFFERTY:** Thank you, Mr. President. Grace Campanella could've been the daughter or granddaughter of anyone in this room. In my case, she was a former student, and from my view, Grace was always very happy. She was a talented athlete, passionate about tennis, and had a genuine love for animals. Grace as a sophomore and junior was a two-time state champion in tennis and if not for COVID in 2020, she was the favorite to win a third. She did win a scholarship for the Division I tennis program at the University of Rhode Island, where she wanted to study to become a veterinarian. The pandemic did more than strip Grace of her last high school season and her momentum. The forced isolation and accompanying anxiety spiraled into despair and depression. She became estranged from the college tennis team, she lost interest in her academics, and her darkest hour came late last month. Grace committed suicide while on break during the winter of her senior year. She was 22. Her parents wrote in her obituary she struggled the past two years to see a life ahead of her, and they were quoted as saying we will now struggle to see a life without her. Karen, Kevin - her mom and dad - and her sister, Rose, are hopeful that by sharing Grace's story, which they -- that was published in the Portland Press Herald recently, they can chip away at the stigma surrounding suicide, raise awareness of mental illness, and encourage those who see a friend and a loved one in crisis to offer support. My ask is that each of us keep Grace and the many people across our state struggling with mental illness in mind as we deal with related legislation moving forward. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Ought to Pass

The Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 270: Uniform Reporting System for Quality Data Sets, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Health Data Organization (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1385 L.D. 2165

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

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

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

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Increase the State's Share of the Cost of Health Insurance for Retired Teachers" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1136 L.D. 1773

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-762)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-762)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-762) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Establish the African American Studies Advisory Council and Require Funding for African American Studies"
H.P. 1279 L.D. 2001

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-763)**.

Signed:

Senators:

RAFFERTY of York
LIBBY of Cumberland
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:

BRENNAN of Portland
DODGE of Belfast
MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth
MURPHY of Scarborough
SARGENT of York
WORTH of Ellsworth

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

Signed:

Representatives:

BAGSHAW of Windham
LYMAN of Livermore Falls
POLEWARCZYK of Wiscasset
SAMPSON of Alfred

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-763)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-763)**.

Reports **READ**.

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

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 Oxford, Senator Bennett.

Senator **BENNETT:** Thank you, Mr. President. I pose a question, perhaps, or a point of information that it says there's a fiscal note required on this matter, but the system doesn't have

the fiscal note in -- available through our desktop devices here. I'm wondering if we could get that information in some fashion.

THE PRESIDENT: The Secretary has a copy of the note, and we'll have it read and obviously if you want a copy of it, you can get one.

THE SECRETARY: Fiscal note on Committee Amendment "A" with a filing number of H-763. The detail and notes say this bill includes general fund appropriations totaling 3.1 -- \$3,110,889 in fiscal year 2024-25 to the Innovative Teaching and Learning Program with the Department of Education. Of this amount, 2 million in non-lapsing funds is appropriated on a one-time basis to support the work of the African American and Wabanaki Studies Advisory Council and to administer and provide grants to administrative units to expand or implement African American and Wabanaki studies curricula. And 1 million in non-lapsing funds is appropriated on a one-time basis to provide grants to SAUs to expand or implement financial literacy, civics, or other Maine learning results curricula. Additionally, \$110,889 is appropriated on an ongoing basis in fiscal year 2024-25 for the one interdisciplinary instruction specialist position to serve as a content specialist in African American and Wabanaki studies to provide support and technical assistance to SAUs.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended 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 (#556)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, KEIM, LYFORD, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, DAUGHTRY

24 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 9 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, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-763) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on 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

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-761).**

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland
BAILEY of York
BRAKEY of Androscoggin

Representatives:

MOONEN of Portland
KUHN of Falmouth
LEE of Auburn
MORIARTY of Cumberland
POIRIER of Skowhegan
SHEEHAN of Biddeford

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

Signed:

Representatives:

ANDREWS of Paris
HAGGAN of Hampden
HENDERSON of Rumford

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-761)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-761).**

Reports **READ.**

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

Bill **READ ONCE.**

Committee Amendment "A" (H-761) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act to Prohibit Certain Municipalities from Adopting Moratoria on Emergency Shelters"
H.P. 1370 L.D. 2146

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-760).**

Signed:

Senators:

NANGLE of Cumberland
BALDACCI of Penobscot

Representatives:

STOVER of Boothbay
ABDI of Lewiston
COPELAND of Saco
DHALAC of South Portland
RISEMAN of Harrison
SINCLAIR of Bath

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

Signed:

Senator:

LYFORD of Penobscot

Representatives:

ADAMS of Lebanon
GREENWOOD of Wales
POMERLEAU of Standish
UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-760)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-760).**

Reports **READ.**

On motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **ACCEPTANCE OF EITHER REPORT.**

Senate

Ought to Pass As Amended

Senator BAILEY for the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding State-chartered Credit Unions"
S.P. 783 L.D. 1921

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-542).**

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-542) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Senator CURRY for the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** on 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

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-543).**

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-543) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Senator CARNEY for the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Provide Funding for Essential Services for Victims of Crimes"
S.P. 877 L.D. 2084

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-539).**

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-539) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Senator RENY for the Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act to Authorize Medical Waivers for Menhaden Fishing Licenses"
S.P. 854 L.D. 2026

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-545).**

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-545) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Senator GROHOSKI for the Committee on **TAXATION** on Resolve, to Authorize the State Tax Assessor to Convey the Interest of the State in Certain Real Estate in the Unorganized Territory
S.P. 852 L.D. 2024

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-540).**

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

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-540) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Senator CHIPMAN for the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act to Require Industry Training and Certification for Persons Undertaking Corrosion Prevention and Mitigation for Bridges"
S.P. 657 L.D. 1640

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-546).**

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-546) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Senator CHIPMAN for the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Resolve, to Rename the Interstate 295 Interchange in the Town of Freeport the Matthew MacMillan Bridge
S.P. 924 L.D. 2173

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-538).**

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

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-538) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Off Record Remarks

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Authorize the Efficiency Maine Trust to Establish a Program to Support the Uptake of Medium-duty and Heavy-duty Zero-emission Vehicles by Maine Businesses and to Establish a Medium-duty and Heavy-duty Zero-emission Vehicle-to-grid Pilot Project"
S.P. 61 L.D. 122

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-541)**.

Signed:

Senators:

LAWRENCE of York
GROHOSKI of Hancock

Representatives:

ZEIGLER of Montville
GEIGER of Rockland
KESSLER of South Portland
RUNTE of York
WARREN of Scarborough

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

Signed:

Senator:

HARRINGTON of York

Representatives:

BABIN of Fort Fairfield
DUNPHY of Embden
FOSTER of Dexter
PAUL of Winterport

Reports **READ**.

Senator **LAWRENCE** 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 PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Oxford, Senator Bennett.

Senator **BENNETT:** Thank you, Mr. President. Some confusion regarding the businesses that might qualify to be in this pilot project and the amount of money that might be reserved for different size businesses. I'm wondering if someone could respond to the question as to who, exactly -- what size businesses may exactly benefit from this. Thank you.

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

Senator **LAWRENCE:** Thank you, Mr. President, Men and Women of the Senate. The committee designed this bill to apply to businesses of up to 500 employees. That was done largely because larger businesses have people on staff who can help them investigate this types of vehicles and it was trying to get assistance to smaller employers in the state to look at these vehicles. We also specified that 50% of the funds be used for very small businesses, 50 or less, that they go to those size businesses.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended 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 (#557)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, DAUGHTRY

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-541) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** on Bill "An Act to Extend and Expand the Loring Job Increment Financing Fund"
S.P. 810 L.D. 1981

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-544)**.

Signed:

Senators:

CURRY of Waldo
RAFFERTY of York

Representatives:

ROBERTS of South Berwick
COLLAMORE of Pittsfield
CROCKETT of Portland
LANIGAN of Sanford
LaROCHELLE of Augusta
NESS of Fryeburg
SAYRE of Kennebunk
WHITE of Waterville

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

Signed:

Senator:

GUERIN of Penobscot

Representative:

SMITH of Palermo

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **ACCEPTANCE OF EITHER REPORT**.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** on Bill "An Act to Improve Maine's Labor Laws by Changing the Laws Governing Elections of Collective Bargaining Agents for Certain Public Employees"
S.P. 860 L.D. 2032

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

Signed:

Senator:

TIPPING of Penobscot

Representatives:

ROEDER of Bangor

GERE of Kennebunkport
MALON of Biddeford
RUSSELL of Verona Island
SKOLD of Portland

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

Signed:

Senator:

POULIOT of Kennebec

Representatives:

BRADSTREET of Vassalboro
DRINKWATER of Milford

Reports **READ**.

Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report.

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

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending the motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report. (Roll Call Ordered)

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Resolve, to Adopt Conceptual Elements of the 2023 Augusta State Facilities Master Plan
S.P. 869 L.D. 2068

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

Signed:

Senators:

NANGLE of Cumberland
BALDACCI of Penobscot
LYFORD of Penobscot

Representatives:

STOVER of Boothbay
ABDI of Lewiston
COPELAND of Saco
RISEMAN of Harrison
SINCLAIR of Bath

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

Signed:

(C "A" S-537)

Representatives:

ADAMS of Lebanon
GREENWOOD of Wales
POMERLEAU of Standish
UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle

Bill "An Act to Make Changes to Certain Laws Governing
Renewable Energy Projects"
S.P. 892 L.D. 2099
(C "A" S-530)

READ A SECOND TIME and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED.**

Reports **READ.**

Sent down for concurrence.

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

Bill **READ ONCE.**

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

ENACTORS

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

Emergency Measure

An Act to Transfer the Monhegan Water Company to Monhegan Plantation and to Repeal the Monhegan Water Company Charter
H.P. 231 L.D. 380
(C "A" H-744)

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 33 Members of the Senate, with no 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.

SECOND READERS

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

House

Resolve, Directing the State Board of Education to Amend Chapter 115: The Credentialing of Education Personnel, a Major Substantive Rule of the State Board of Education
H.P. 1424 L.D. 2221

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

Emergency Resolve

Resolve, to Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission to Make Recommendations on the Continuum of Long-term Care Options
S.P. 743 L.D. 1827
(C "A" S-521)

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, placed on the **SPECIAL STUDY TABLE** pending **PASSAGE**, in concurrence.

House As Amended

Bill "An Act to Provide Appropriations and Allocations for the Operations of State Government" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 423 L.D. 646
(C "A" H-755)

Bill "An Act to Provide Funds to the Maine Indian Education School District"
H.P. 917 L.D. 1421
(C "A" H-756)

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Unauthorized Paramilitary Training"
H.P. 1354 L.D. 2130
(C "A" H-757)

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

Emergency Resolve

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 355: Coastal Sand Dune Rules, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection
H.P. 1389 L.D. 2168

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 33 Members of the Senate, with no Senators having voted in the negative, and 33 being more than two-thirds of the entire elected Membership of the Senate, was **FINALLY PASSED** and, having been signed by **THE PRESIDENT**, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

Senate As Amended

Bill "An Act to Update the Sex Education and Consent Curriculum"
S.P. 120 L.D. 254

Emergency Resolve

Resolve, to Correct the Designation of a Bridge in Canaan to Be Named After Staff Sergeant Richard Gerald Salsbury
S.P. 928 L.D. 2183

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 33 Members of the Senate, with no Senators having voted in the negative, and 33 being more than two-thirds of the entire elected Membership of the Senate, was **FINALLY PASSED** and, having been signed by **THE PRESIDENT**, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

Acts

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

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
(C "A" H-747)

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
(C "A" H-748)

An Act Regarding Responsibility for Activities Intended to Increase the Use of Refillable and Reusable Beverage Containers
H.P. 1358 L.D. 2134
(C "A" H-745)

An Act Removing the Lobster Advisory Council from the State Government Evaluation Act Review Requirements
H.P. 1415 L.D. 2208

PASSED TO BE ENACTED and, having been signed by **THE PRESIDENT**, were presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

Resolve

Resolve, Designating Route 127 in Arrowsic the Private Merwin A. Delano, Jr. Memorial Highway
H.P. 1318 L.D. 2056
(C "A" H-742)

FINALLY PASSED and, having been signed by **THE PRESIDENT**, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Bill "An Act to Establish the Wabanaki Veterans Memorial"
H.P. 1430 L.D. 2228

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

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

Bill "An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, Highway Fund and Other Funds and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2025" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1431 L.D. 2229

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

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

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

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Joint Resolution

The following Joint Resolution:
H.P. 1429

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 2024 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, Maine's Black history and the story of Maine's role in the global economy of enslavement have been largely effaced from our narratives and from our collective consciousness; and

WHEREAS, from the earliest arrivals of people from Europe and Africa in the Americas, Africans and African Americans have been part of the story of this land, and researchers have identified over 1,900 people of color who lived in what is now called the State of Maine prior to the year 1800; and

WHEREAS, Africans who were brought involuntarily to these shores suffered generations of enslavement, and their descendants faced the injustices of lynch mobs, segregation and the denial of basic fundamental rights; and

WHEREAS, people living in Maine engaged in the slave trade for at least 112 years, with the earliest known slaving voyage departing from Maine's shores taking place in 1749 and the last known slaving voyage on a Maine-built vessel taking place in 1861; and

WHEREAS, a total of 63 Maine-built vessels are known to have transported enslaved people, representing only the tip of the iceberg, and slaving vessels were constructed in at least 26 Maine towns; and

WHEREAS, Maine merchants were deeply entangled in the global economy of enslavement, as were the banks that handled their accounts and the insurance firms that secured their investments, and at a time when Havana, Cuba was the hub of the illicit slave trade, Portland was that city's number one trading partner; and

WHEREAS, it was not only Maine's coastal towns that were complicit in the global economy of enslavement through shipbuilding and merchant trading activities, but its inland regions as well: crops and livestock were routinely shipped in the "coastwise" trade to provision the sugar plantations of the West Indies, along with salted fish and even ice from this region; and

WHEREAS, great quantities of Maine timber were processed into barrel staves and shipped throughout the 18th and 19th centuries to the West Indies, where enslaved Africans were forced to fashion them into barrels; they then filled these barrels with the sugar and molasses that were shipped back to Portland and distilled into rum, which was used as currency in purchasing more captive Africans; and

WHEREAS, African Americans in all walks of life have shown resilience despite suffering under slavery and injustice and have made significant contributions throughout the history of the State and across the United States; and

WHEREAS, from the Revolutionary War through the abolitionist movement, to marches from Selma to Montgomery and across America today, and in this State, African Americans have remained devoted to the proposition that all of us are created equal, even when their own rights were denied; and

WHEREAS, the month of February is officially celebrated as Black History Month, which dates back to 1926 when Dr. Carter G. Woodson set aside a special period of time in February to recognize the heritage and achievements of African Americans; 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 significance of Black History Month as an important time to honor the contributions of African Americans in the nation's history and encourage all people in the State to learn more about the past and to better understand the experiences that have shaped the State and the nation.

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

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **DUSON:** Thank you, Mr. President. I have deferred the spotlight of Black History Month to spotlight this Resolve, and I thank you for reading the Resolve. I also wanted to announce that there will be an event celebrating Black History Month, a luncheon today in the AFA committee room after session.

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

Senator **HICKMAN:** Thank you, Mr. President. My father would say sometimes you have to toot your own horn. And I will say to my colleagues in the Senate that we recognize the black history in this Chamber. Senator Duson is the first black woman ever to serve in this body and I'm the first black person ever to serve in both Chambers of the Maine Legislature. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator **LAWRENCE:** Thank you, Mr. President. And as we recognize Black History Month, I would be negligent if I didn't stand and say the history in my district. This Chamber used to have the picture of William Pepperrell adorning up here on the Chamber. And I grew up in Kittery, which is where Maine was founded in the 1620s, and I remember as a child, I went to the church down in Kittery Point and would play over in the old cemetery across the street. This was the original parish of the Town of Kittery and of the Berwicks. And I used to play down by the shore and there was a gravestone down there of -- marked the grave in the 1600s of African slaves who were brought over and died on Gerrish Island in Kittery in a shipwreck and they were buried in that cemetery along the shore. The history of slavery goes very far back in the district of Maine. We sometimes don't think of that. We don't think of how much it has impacted the state of Maine. But there's a woman who was a constituent of mine for a long time, Patricia Wall, who wrote a book called Lives of Consequence, in which she chronicles that history, and if you want a good historical read of African American history in Maine and early history in the Berwicks and Kittery when Maine was first founded, that is a very good read on the history. There's also a movie that has come out recently by another constituent of mine on Sir William Pepperrell that sheds light on the fact that sometimes we glorify some people because of he accomplished great things, but we don't recognize the times they lived in and what that meant for slavery in this country. The New England

colonies, they were very much a part of supporting the slave trade, and Maine was, too, at that time, and I think as part of Maine History Month -- of Maine Black History Month, we need to recognize and accept that history. Thank you.

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

Off Record Remarks

On motion by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York, **ADJOURNED** until Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 10:00 in the morning in memory of and lasting tribute to Grace Campanella of Kennebunk.