

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

In Senate Chamber  
Tuesday  
March 12, 2024

Senate called to order by President Pro Tem Mark W. Lawrence of York County.

Prayer by the Honorable Susan Deschambault of Biddeford.

**THE PRESIDENT PRO TEM:** The prayer this morning is being offered by The Honorable Susan Deschambault of Biddeford.

**THE HONORABLE SUSAN DESCHAMBAULT** Prière pour la célébration de la journée franco-américaine et composée par Dr. Normand Beaupré. Dieu du ciel et de la terre, Grand Dieu bénissez cette journée dédiée à la célébration de la Francophonie dans notre État du Maine aujourd'hui. Veuillez bénir et soutenir tous les efforts de ceux et celles de cet État qui ont la fierté et l'audace de parvenir à se joindre à tous les membres de la Francophonie universelle surtout les membres associés à la mère patrie, la France, et ceux et celles où ont fleuri notre héritage et notre culture, le Québec et l'Acadie. Nous vous vouons notre fidélité, nous Franco-Américains, à notre héritage, notre culture et notre chère langue pour que le tout devienne notre enseigne de Valeur ethnique et notre blason de fidélité toujours cousu dans notre cœur qui en veut de jamais se soustraire de notre patrie. Daignez bénir notre État du Maine, nos gouvernants, nos représentants et les sénateurs à la législature ainsi que les dignes invités de la France du Québec et de l'Acadie qui sont pour nous les témoins honorés de notre affiliation avec nos sources fidèles de la Francophonie. Que votre bénédiction retombe sur nous tous qui célébrons avec fierté et dignité la Journée de la Franco-Américanie du Maine, surtout sur notre cher État qui ose avouer la frère présence permanente de nos soeurs et frères Franco-Américains et tous ceux qui se joignent à eux avec une fidélité bien reconnue et appréciée. Merci Grand Dieu d'écouter et de recevoir avec entrain notre prière dite avec espoir et confiance.

God of Heaven and Earth, great God, bless this day devoted to the celebration of francophone presence in our State of Maine today. Please bless and sustain all efforts of those in the state who have the pride and the audacity to come and join every member associated with our mother country, France, and also those who have helped to flourish our heritage and our culture, Quebec and Acadia. We vouch our fidelity, we Franco-Americans, to our heritage, our culture, and our dear language so that all becomes a sign of ethnic values and our blazon of fidelity ever sewn in the hearts that wishes to never be cut off from our country. Please bless our State of Maine, those who govern, our Representatives, our Senators of this Legislature, as well as our worthy invited guests from France, Quebec, and Acadia, who show themselves to be honored witnesses of our affiliation with our fateful sources of the francophone world. May your benediction fall upon all of us as we celebrate with pride and dignity Franco-American Day of the State of Maine. And on our

beloved state that dares to avow the proud presence of our Franco-American sisters and brothers and all those who join them with a fatefulness well recognized and appreciated. Thank you, God, for receiving our prayer with zeal and granting it as we offer to you with hope and confidence. Amen.

National Anthems Performed by Melanie Saucier of Quebec.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Troy D. Jackson of Aroostook County.

Reading of the Journal of Thursday, March 7, 2024.

Off Record Remarks

The Following Communication: S.C. 988

**STATE OF MAINE  
131st LEGISLATURE  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

March 7, 2024

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

Dear Secretary Grant:

Pursuant to my authority under Senate Rule 201.3, please be advised that I appoint the Senator from York, Senator Lawrence, to serve as President Pro Tem to convene the Senate on Tuesday, March 12, 2024.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

S/Troy D. Jackson  
President of the Senate

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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

On motion by Senator **JACKSON** of Aroostook, under unanimous consent on behalf of Senator **LAWRENCE** of York,

S.P. 980

**JOINT RESOLUTION  
TO RECOGNIZE MARCH 12, 2024 AS FRANCO-AMERICAN  
DAY**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Maine is named after the Province of Maine in France, and the towns of Paris and Calais owe their names to the capital city of France and the French port city of Calais, respectively; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 1/3 of the population of Maine is of French and Canadian descent, and Franco-Americans in Maine have contributed much to the beauty and quality of this State; and

**WHEREAS**, French is the primary language of thousands of Maine citizens and there has been a resurgence in the use of the French language and a heightened appreciation of Franco-American heritage throughout the State; and

**WHEREAS**, clubs and organizations to promote French culture and language have sprung up throughout the State, including the Franco-American Caucus at the State Capitol; and

**WHEREAS**, fluent French-English bilingual people are a cultural and economic resource to the State; and

**WHEREAS**, cultural tourism can be greatly enhanced by the genuine Franco-American centers throughout the State, and the large Franco-American presence in Maine can further strengthen our relationships with Canada, France and the rest of the francophone world; and

**WHEREAS**, the first Franco-American Day was celebrated in March 2002 at the State Capitol; 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, proclaim that Tuesday, March 12, 2024 is Franco-American Day, to be celebrated at the State Capitol; and be it further

**RESOLVED**: That Franco-American Day be celebrated to commemorate the rich history of the French people in the State of Maine and the United States of America.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **ROTUNDO**: Merci, Monsieur le President. I rise to recognize the many important contributions made to our state by our Franco-American population past and present. As Lewiston's Senator, I am so proud of our Franco-American population and so fortunate to count many of these wonderful people as friends. As the Joint Resolution states, one-third of Maine's population is of French and Canadian descent. Our state has benefited from the rich French-Canadian culture, work ethic, faith, and devotion to family in so many ways. I'm also pleased that we are able to celebrate Franco-American Day in person, after years of remote work during the COVID-19 pandemic. How wonderful it is to see

all these smiling faces in the State House again and celebrate this day in person among our friends, as it should be. Thank you, Senator Lawrence, and everyone who made this day possible this year. I look forward to seeing many friends today and in counting -- and in the coming years on Franco Day as well. Thank you.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Off Record Remarks

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

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Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by  
President Pro Tem **MARK W. LAWRENCE** of York County.

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The President Pro Tem requested the Sergeant-At-Arms escort the Senator from Aroostook, Senator **JACKSON**, to the rostrum where he resumed his duties as President.

The Sergeant-At-Arms escorted the Senator from York, Senator **LAWRENCE**, to his seat on the Floor.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

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Off Record Remarks

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**PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE**

**Joint Resolution**

The following Joint Resolution:  
H.P. 1449

**JOINT RESOLUTION  
RECOGNIZING MARCH 8, 2024 AS INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S DAY**

**WHEREAS**, International Women's Day has been celebrated since 1911; and

**WHEREAS**, Maine women have contributed greatly to the State's, the country's and the world's history; and

**WHEREAS**, those Maine women include Frances Perkins, the first woman appointed to the United States Cabinet; Margaret

Chase Smith, the first woman to serve in both the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate; Olympia Snowe, the first woman to serve in both chambers at both the state and federal levels; Edna St. Vincent Millay, a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet; Cornelia "Fly Rod" Crosby, the first registered Maine guide; Samantha Smith, an international peace advocate; Gail Laughlin, the first woman in Maine to practice law; Dorothea Dix, a nurse and advocate for the mentally ill; Frannie Peabody, an HIV/AIDS activist; Judith Isaacson, a Holocaust survivor and educator; Mary Low, one of the first American women to receive a Bachelor of Arts degree; Elizabeth Russell, a groundbreaking geneticist; Florence Whitehouse, a suffragist, activist and novelist; Rachel Talbot Ross, the first African American woman to serve as Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives; Valerie Stanfill, currently serving as Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court; and Janet T. Mills, the first woman in Maine to serve as Attorney General of Maine and the first woman to serve as Governor of Maine; and

WHEREAS, according to the Center for American Women and Politics, in 2024 a record 32.8% of the 7,386 seats in the 99 state legislative chambers in the United States are currently held by women, including 43.5% of the seats in the Maine Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Maine is one of 26 states with a woman serving as a presiding officer of its Legislature; 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 contributions of Maine women throughout our history, the ongoing march toward gender equality, both in Maine and around the world, and the designation of March 8, 2024 as International Women's Day.

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

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **VITELLI:** Thank you, Mr. President, Men and Women of the Senate. I rise today to speak in favor of the Joint Resolution that is before us. The promise of democracy is that every citizen has an equal voice in the governance of their country, state, and town. When each person is able to take part in democracy, bringing their own unique perspective, values, and experience, our lives become -- our laws, excuse me, become more representative of the people they're meant to serve. It was the pursuit of this promise that guided the women who attended the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848. This convention and the Declaration of Sentiments that came from it are largely considered to be the formal start of the women's suffrage movement; the fight for women to have an equal share in U.S. democracy. The Declaration of Sentiments opens with an echo of the Declaration of Independence: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men and women are created equal. It goes on to enumerate the injustices that women had suffered up to that point as a direct result of being on unequal footing politically, economically, and socially. The women who met at the Seneca

Falls Convention knew they had their work cut out for them. The work of democracy is just that - hard work. It is frequently unglamorous but always deeply necessary. On International Women's Day, it is fitting that we take time to reflect on the hard work of the early suffragettes in this country and elsewhere who fought to extend the rights and promise of democracy to women and other groups long excluded from self-government. Today, I have the privilege of serving in the Senate alongside 13 other women from both sides of the political aisle. Each of us brings our own experience and values to this Chamber and to our votes. Even as we disagree, we trust that each of us comes to the State House with a sense of duty to the constituents who are entrusting us to represent them. It's in this sharing of differing and diverse perspectives that our democracy is made stronger, and every day, as all of us here in this Chamber exercise our democratic duties, we serve as a beacon to men and women around the world who are also engaging - or trying to - in the arduous work of democratic self-governance, with the promise that it brings of liberty and justice for all. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

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#### Off Record Remarks

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#### COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: S.C. 985

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

March 7, 2024

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

RE: Lands for Maine's Future Board

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate the following individuals to serve on the Land for Maine's Future Board:

- Catherine Robbins-Halstead of Searsmont for reappointment
- Beth Schiller of Bowdoinham for appointment

Pursuant to Title 5 MRSA §6204, this appointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

Sincerely,

S/Janet T. Mills  
Governor

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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Off Record Remarks

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The Following Communication: S.C. 986

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

March 7, 2024

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

RE: Maine Indian Tribal State Commission

Dear President Jackson:  
I am pleased to nominate the following individuals to the Maine  
Indian Tribal State Commission:

- Robert Checkoway of Freeport for reappointment
- Gordon Kramer of Enfield for appointment
- Lloyd Cuttler of Carrabassett for appointment
- Richard B. Bronson, Jr. of Bangor for appointment

Pursuant to Title 30 MRSA §6212, these nominations are  
contingent on confirmation by the Maine 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.**

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Off Record Remarks

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The Following Communication: S.C. 987

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

March 7, 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 James P. Gardner, Jr. of Easton to  
serve on the Loring Development Authority.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §13080-B, this nomination 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.**

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The Following Communication: S.C. 990

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

March 11, 2024

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

RE: Reappointment of Sarah LeClaire, Esquire of Woodland to  
the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Sarah LeClaire, Esquire of Woodland  
for reappointment to the Commission on Governmental Ethics  
and Election Practices.

Pursuant to Title 1 MRSA §1002, this reappointment is contingent  
on confirmation by the Maine Senate after review by the Joint  
Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills  
Governor

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: S.C. 991

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

March 11, 2024

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

RE: Nominations to the Maine Retirement Savings Board

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate the following individuals to the Maine Retirement Savings Board:

- Tina Wilcoxson of Cumberland Center for reappointment
- Nathan Moody for appointment

Pursuant to 5 MRSA §172, these nominations are contingent on confirmation by the Maine Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills  
Governor

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: S.C. 989

**STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE ON MARINE RESOURCES**

February 15, 2024

The Honorable Troy D. Jackson, President of the Senate  
The Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House  
131<sup>st</sup> Legislature  
3 State House  
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Please accept this letter as a report of the findings of the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources from its review and evaluation of the Lobster Advisory Council under the State Government Evaluation Act, Title 3 of the Maine Revised Statutes, chapter 35.

The committee heard a presentation from the Lobster Advisory Council on February 1, 2024, and finds that the Council is operating within its statutory authority; however, we are recommending that, moving forward, the Lobster Advisory Council be removed from the list of agencies regularly scheduled for review under the State Government Evaluation Act. We make this recommendation because many of the requirements of the GEA are not germane to the Lobster Advisory Council's structure or work. The committee has proposed legislation to effectuate this change.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Cameron Reny  
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Allison Hepler  
House Chair

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: S.C. 984

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

January 30, 2024

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President  
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House  
131<sup>st</sup> 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. LaFountain of Kennebec, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 2098     An Act Regarding Multiple Special Designating  
Plates for Certain Disabled Veterans

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Benjamin Chipman  
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Lydia Crafts  
House Chair

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

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**ORDERS**
**Joint Order**

On motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo, the following Joint Order:  
S.P. 978

**ORDERED**, the House concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business may report out, to the Senate, a bill regarding the establishment of standards governing access to motor vehicle telematics systems as provided in Initiated Bill 2023, chapter 3, An Act Regarding Automotive Right to Repair.

**READ and PASSED.**

Sent down for concurrence.

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

Parker Sergent, of Augusta, a student at Cony High School and a player on the boys basketball team, who recently scored his 1,000th career point. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;  
SLS 1546

Sponsored by Senator **POULIOT** of Kennebec.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: **BRIDGEO** of Augusta, **LaROCHELLE** of Augusta.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

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

Senator **POULIOT:** Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I am very pleased to have the opportunity to be standing before you today to commemorate the accomplishments of one highly determined young man who has brought a good deal to the table for Cony High School athletics in recent years. On Saturday, January 27th, with seven minutes to go in the second quarter of a match against Spruce Mountain, Parker Sergent threw up a three-pointer that would forever seal his position in the illustrious 1,000-point club for Maine high school basketball. This was an accomplishment that was a long time in the making, as Parker has been a steady contributor to the team ever since joining. Looking back to this athletic season alone, his performance across two sports more than speak for itself. He consistently appeared atop the leader board in the Kennebec Valley Athletic Conference in individual points per game for basketball and made equally impressive contributions on the football squad, where he set a Cony record for receptions with a whopping 76, along with 1,159 receiving yards and 14 touchdown receptions. For those among us less inclined with sports, I promise you, that is a lot. Also noteworthy is his previous recognition as a semi-finalist for the Fitzpatrick Award. The Cony squad at large for basketball got off to a rocky start early running this season, beginning with a one and six record. However, with

the proper resilience and mindset, they rebounded to qualify for the number six seed in the Class A North MPA Basketball Tournament - an overall effort Parker and head coach TJ Maines were no doubt an essential part of. Parker is joined today by his mom, Vickie, who no doubt has played a huge role in propelling Parker to where he is today, and I likewise have no doubt how immensely grateful he is for that support. Congratulations, Parker, on this wonderful achievement.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair is very pleased to recognize in the rear of the chamber Parker Sergent; he's from Augusta and Cony High School. He's joined by his mother and he's the guest today of the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Pouliot, and the entire Maine Senate. Would he please rise and accept the greetings and congratulations of the Maine Senate.

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**Off Record Remarks**


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**Joint Resolutions**

On motion by Senator **MOORE** of Washington (Cosponsored by Representative **FAULKINGHAM** of Winter Harbor), the following Joint Resolution:  
S.P. 979

**JOINT RESOLUTION  
RECOGNIZING MAY 1, 2024 AS PUREBRED DOG DAY**

**WHEREAS**, purebred dogs are living legacies of the cultures that created them, and historically these dogs worked alongside their people and provided them companionship; and

**WHEREAS**, the service of these breeds continues today as they work alongside humans while serving as guide dogs, service dogs, conservation dogs, livestock guardians, search and rescue dogs, earthdogs, police dogs and canine soldiers serving alongside our military men and women; and

**WHEREAS**, purebred dogs also serve as avalanche dogs, trackers, trailers, herders, controllers of vermin, water rescuers, carting and sled dogs, retrievers, protectors, hunters and bird dogs; and

**WHEREAS**, purebred dogs have been of enormous help to medical science, serving as models for many heritable human diseases, playing a role in humanity's understanding of the human and canine genomes and benefiting pharmaceutical research and development; and

**WHEREAS**, purebred dogs are guardians of family, home and hearth, and always they are companions near and dear to humans; and

**WHEREAS**, each purebred breed is indelibly etched in the history of the culture that created it just as surely as are that culture's music, art and language; and

**WHEREAS**, all dogs should be valued, whatever their ancestry, but the purpose-bred dog and the predictability of its breed should be cherished and preserved; and

**WHEREAS**, there is currently no day set aside to celebrate and acknowledge the contributions of the purebred dog; 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 May 1, 2024 as Purebred Dog Day in celebration of purebred dogs and the many service and companion benefits they provide in Maine.

**READ and ADOPTED.**

Sent down for concurrence.

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On motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland (Cosponsored by Representative: RISEMAN of Harrison), the following Joint Resolution:  
S.P. 981

**JOINT RESOLUTION  
DESIGNATING MARCH 10, 2024 TO MARCH 16, 2024 AS  
AMERICORPS WEEK IN MAINE**

**WHEREAS**, service is a hallmark of the American character and has the unique ability to bring people of all backgrounds together in common cause, and throughout our history citizens have stepped up to meet our most pressing challenges of the day by volunteering in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors programs provide opportunities for more than 200,000 Americans to serve their country through service at nonprofits, schools, public agencies and community and faith-based groups across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, in the State of Maine, more than 2,700 AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers of diverse ages and backgrounds helped to meet local needs at more than 200 locations in the State of Maine by tutoring or mentoring children and youth, supporting veterans, combatting the opioid epidemic, ensuring citizens can age in their communities, working to end hunger in Maine, supporting new Maine residents, restoring the environment, repairing the effects of adverse childhood experiences and working with communities on building resilience; and

**WHEREAS**, AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers encourage collaboration and partnerships, leveraging millions of volunteers in service and acquiring the support of businesses, foundations and other local partners to increase the effectiveness of their initiatives; and

**WHEREAS**, AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors programs bring people together across race, age and place to address critical issues facing the country, forge relationships and cultivate mutual respect and help build resilient and thriving communities; and

**WHEREAS**, AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers demonstrate commitment, dedication and patriotism by making an intensive commitment to service, a commitment that remains with them in their future endeavors; and

**WHEREAS**, through their service, AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers strengthen the lives of their families and communities and the State of Maine as a whole; and

**WHEREAS**, national service represents a unique public-private partnership that invests in community solutions and leverages nonfederal resources to strengthen community impact and increase the return on taxpayer dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, AmeriCorps Week is an opportunity to recognize the dedication and commitment of the more than 1.2 million Americans who have chosen to serve their country through AmeriCorps and millions more who have served in AmeriCorps Seniors and their community partners and to encourage more Americans to follow in their footsteps in service; 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, designate March 10, 2024 to March 16, 2024 as AmeriCorps Week in Maine and urge citizens to thank AmeriCorps members and alumni and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers for their service and to find their own ways to give back to their communities.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **NANGLE:** Thank you, Mr. President, and Distinguished Colleagues of the Senate. This week is AmeriCorps Week, as the Secretary just read. It's an opportunity to highlight the spirit of service that is so deeply woven into the fabric of our state. AmeriCorps is an organization that embodies this spirit, bringing together over 2700 Mainers of diverse backgrounds to address our most pressing challenges. From tutoring young Mainers to combating the opioid epidemic, from supporting our veterans to building resilience in our communities, AmeriCorps members and volunteers are all on the forefront of change in their communities. As we celebrate AmeriCorps Week, we extend our gratitude to these remarkable individuals and are inspired by their example. Their dedication is a vital part of Maine's community support system. As we recognize AmeriCorps members this week, let us also acknowledge the importance of other volunteers who work hard and contribute significantly to our state's wellbeing. Let's take this opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to civic engagement and volunteerism as cornerstones of a healthy democracy. Let's acknowledge the hard work, dedication, and patriotism of those who serve in volunteer roles, and always remember the powerful impact coming together for a common

cause and let's encourage our constituents to follow in their footsteps and find ways to contribute, serve, and help build a brighter future for Maine. I'm proud to stand in support of this resolution and I thank you for your time.

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

Senator **CURRY:** Thank you, Mr. President. I wanted to echo the praise and honor for the AmeriCorps members and the communities that host them and the organizations that host them. I have had the pleasure of working with AmeriCorps members for many years and it is a great joy. I stand mostly, though, to encourage my fellow colleagues here to think about AmeriCorps when you're faced with community challenges, when you're faced with organizations that have great ideas but they're stretching beyond their resources to achieve that mission, to look to the possibility of engaging AmeriCorps and engage them through reaching out through our -- the Maine Commission for Community Service, which is known in Maine as Volunteer Maine. And it's a great tool to think about as you're working at some of these really challenging local community level problems that maybe a full-time, full-year volunteer could really help your community. So, I encourage you to think about that. Thank you very much.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Joint Resolutions in Memoriam:

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

The Honorable Patricia Collins, of Caribou. Mrs. Collins served in both state and community roles, becoming the first female mayor of Caribou. She served on the University of Maine System Board of Trustees from 1987 to 1997 and in 1991 became only the second woman to serve as board chair. She was a member of the Caribou School Board, chair of the Maine Committee for Judicial Responsibility and Disability, a member of the Board of Visitors at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, a member of the advisory committee of the Maine Public Broadcasting Network, a court-appointed special advocate for children, chair of the Catholic Charities Maine Board of Directors and the Catholic Foundation of Maine Board of Trustees and one of two New England representatives to the National Advisory Council of the Conference of Catholic Bishops. She also was a painter, photographer and cook, writing two cookbooks, "Fifty Years of Cooking 1948-1998" and "Encore 1998-2010." She directed religious education programming at Holy Rosary Church in Caribou for nine years. Among the honors and awards she received were an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of Maine at Presque Isle, the Deborah Morton Award from Westbrook College, the Black Bear Award from the University of Maine General Alumni Association, the Diocesan Miraculous Conception Medal and the Fogler Legacy Award from the University of Maine, which was awarded to the Don and Pat Collins Family. She was elected to the Maine Women's Hall of Fame in 2005. Mrs. Collins will be long remembered and sadly

missed by her family and friends and all those whose lives she touched;  
SLS 1548

Sponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook.  
Cosponsored by Senators: BAILEY of York, BALDACCI of Penobscot, BEEBE-CENTER of Knox, BENNETT of Oxford, BLACK of Franklin, BRAKEY of Androscoggin, BRENNER of Cumberland, CARNEY of Cumberland, CHIPMAN of Cumberland, CURRY of Waldo, DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, DUSON of Cumberland, FARRIN of Somerset, GROHOSKI of Hancock, GUERIN of Penobscot, HARRINGTON of York, HICKMAN of Kennebec, INGWERSEN of York, KEIM of Oxford, LaFOUNTAIN of Kennebec, LAWRENCE of York, LIBBY of Cumberland, LYFORD of Penobscot, MOORE of Washington, NANGLE of Cumberland, PIERCE of Cumberland, POULIOT of Kennebec, RAFFERTY of York, RENY of Lincoln, ROTUNDO of Androscoggin, STEWART of Aroostook, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin, TIPPING of Penobscot, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, ADAMS of Lebanon, ALBERT of Madawaska, ANDREWS of Paris, ANKELES of Brunswick, ARATA of New Gloucester, ARDELL of Monticello, ARFORD of Brunswick, BABIN of Fort Fairfield, BAGSHAW of Windham, BECK of South Portland, BELL of Yarmouth, BLIER of Buxton, BOYER of Poland, BOYLE of Gorham, BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, BRENNAN of Portland, BRIDGEO of Augusta, CAMPBELL of Orrington, CARLOW of Buxton, CARMICHAEL of Greenbush, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, COLLAMORE of Pittsfield, COLLINGS of Portland, COPELAND of Saco, COSTAIN of Plymouth, CRAFTS of Newcastle, CRAVEN of Lewiston, CRAY of Palmyra, CROCKETT of Portland, CYRWAY of Albion, DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, DAVIS of East Machias, DHALAC of South Portland, DILL of Old Town, DODGE of Belfast, DOUDERA of Camden, DRINKWATER of Milford, DUCHARME of Madison, DUNPHY of Embden, EATON of Deer Isle, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, FAY of Raymond, FOSTER of Dexter, FREDERICKS of Sanford, GALLETTA of Durham, GATTINE of Westbrook, GEIGER of Rockland, GERE of Kennebunkport, GIFFORD of Lincoln, GOLEK of Harpswell, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, GREENWOOD of Wales, GRIFFIN of Levant, GUERRETTE of Caribou, HAGGAN of Hampden, HALL of Wilton, HASENFUS of Readfield, HENDERSON of Rumford, HEPLER of Woolwich, HOBBS of Wells, HYMES of Waldo, JACKSON of Oxford, JAUCH of Topsham, JAVNER of Chester, KESSLER of South Portland, KUHN of Falmouth, LAJOIE of Lewiston, LANDRY of Farmington, LANIGAN of Sanford, LaROCHELLE of Augusta, LAVIGNE of Berwick, LEE of Auburn, LEMELIN of Chelsea, LIBBY of Auburn, LOOKNER of Portland, LYMAN of Livermore Falls, MADIGAN of Waterville, MALON of Biddeford, MASON of Lisbon, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, MATHIESON of Kittery, MATLACK of St. George, MEYER of Eliot, MILLETT of Waterford, MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth, MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, MONTELL of Gardiner, MOONEN of Portland, MORIARTY of Cumberland, MORRIS of Turner, MURPHY of Scarborough, NESS of Fryeburg, NEWMAN of Belgrade, NUTTING of Oakland, O'CONNELL of Brewer, O'NEIL of Saco, OSHER of Orono, PARRY of Arundel, PAUL of Winterport, PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft, PERRY of Calais, PERRY of Bangor, PLUECKER of Warren, POIRIER of Skowhegan, POLEWARCZYK of Wiscasset, POMERLEAU of Standish, PRINGLE of Windham, QUINT of Hodgdon, RANA of



Bangor, RIELLY of Westbrook, RISEMAN of Harrison, ROBERTS of South Berwick, ROEDER of Bangor, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, RUNTE of York, RUSSELL of Verona Island, SACHS of Freeport, SALISBURY of Westbrook, SAMPSON of Alfred, SARGENT of York, SAYRE of Kennebunk, SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico, SHAGOURY of Hallowell, SHAW of Auburn, SHEEHAN of Biddeford, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, SINCLAIR of Bath, SKOLD of Portland, SMITH of Palermo, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, STOVER of Boothbay, STROUT of Harrington, SUPICA of Bangor, SWALLOW of Houlton, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, TERRY of Gorham, THERIAULT of Fort Kent, THORNE of Carmel, UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle, WALKER of Naples, WARREN of Scarborough, WHITE of Waterville, WHITE of Guilford, WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor, WOOD of Greene, WOODSOME of Waterboro, WORTH of Ellsworth, ZAGER of Portland, ZEIGLER of Montville.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you very much, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I rise today to mourn, along with the countless families in Aroostook County whose lives she touched, the passing of Pat Collins. As you all just heard, her community involvement was very broad but also very deep. And she touched so many different individuals, children, families, and different segments of our community back home in the many, many, many hours that she gave back to varying community causes. I think the work that she did with children back home is very telling of the kind of caring mother who she was. I had the pleasure towards the end of her life to get to know her a little bit and, you know, there is nobody that could ever replace her in her service, and I think it's such a testament to someone when you think about, you know, legacy, and what does this mean for someone's life. And for me, the biggest legacy that Pat and Don, her late husband, left behind was that of her children. And yes, there is a certain Senior Senator from the State of Maine that we hear a lot about certainly in this Body and anybody that's politically involved knows about, but her other children as well - she had six - and 11 grandkids. And the involvement in the community that they have is a testament to the upbringing that Don and Pat provided their children and understanding of why it's so important to help your neighbors, to get involved in your community, to do good things with the abilities that you have. And yes, bake delicious treats, as she was very well known for. But that's really, I think, the legacy that Pat and Don leave behind is a very strong lineage of community involvement that we all benefit from in Aroostook County and, indeed, across the entire state. And so, to the members of the Collins family, our most sincere condolences on your loss and kind of the ending of an era and one generation but certainly know that we all appreciate all that your family has done for the State of Maine and will continue to do for the State of Maine and all of the good deeds that will be done because of the values that people like Pat and Don Collins cared about and made sure to impart the next generation and the one after that. So, with that, I appreciate the fact that this is a resolution that includes all of the Legislature, I think that's so important here, and I appreciate you, Mr. President, for that opportunity to do that. Just, you know, I think it's very fitting today that we recognize not only International Women's Day but Pat

Collins because I think the two go very hand in hand. She was certainly a force back home in Aroostook County and across the entire state for doing good deeds and leaving a positive mark across so many different spectrums and in so many different homes and for so many different lives. So, Thank you, Mr. President, and again, our sincerest condolences to the Collins family.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

### House

#### Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Identify the State's Unidentified Human Remains" H.P. 527 L.D. 838

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-807)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-807)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair recognizes the Senator from Washington, Senator Moore.

Senator **MOORE:** Thank you, Mr. President. I just wanted to take an opportunity to say a few words about this important bill. The National Crime Information Center maintains a missing person file as well as an unidentified person file. The latter has been active since 1983. It includes records of deceased but unidentified people, living people who are unable to ascertain their own identities, and catastrophic victims who die in a catastrophe and whose identity cannot be confirmed due to bodily trauma. As of December 31, 2022, there were 8,450 unidentified people in the database, including 902 records entered in 2022. Of the 8,450 persons, 581 were unidentified remains, five were catastrophic victims, and 316 were living persons. In the State of Maine, the Chief Medical Examiner's Office is responsible or is the state clearinghouse for Maine's missing and unidentified people. They currently have 27 unidentified sets of human remains dating back to 1973. In the past five years, forensic genealogy was attempted on six individuals and resulted in two identifications. Unfortunately, their budget cannot manage the cost of using the technology on all of the remains. There is a fiscal note associated with this bill, the office estimates it would cost between \$3,000-5,000 for a kit for testing, but that there may be documents for bulk services -- there may be discounts, excuse me, for bulk services. To get through the backlog of cases could cost about \$100,000 and then after that, it would be 10,000-

15,000 per year ongoing. I think this is an important expenditure for the state to give families whose children or people have been unidentified. We had several of them come forth and talk with us in committee and it was very touching to know that this would be an important passing of this bill. Thank you, Mr. President.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-807) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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The Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Expand the General Assistance Program" (EMERGENCY) H.P. 1111 L.D. 1732

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-805)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-805)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-805) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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The Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on 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

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-806)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-806)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-806) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

### Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act Concerning Housing and Support Services for At-risk Youth and Youth Who Have Committed Juvenile Crimes" H.P. 186 L.D. 288

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-804)**.

Signed:

Senator:  
BEEBE-CENTER of Knox

Representatives:  
SALISBURY of Westbrook  
HASENFUS of Readfield  
LAJOIE of Lewiston  
LOOKNER of Portland  
MATHIESON of Kittery  
MILLIKEN of Blue Hill

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

Signed:

Senator:  
HARRINGTON of York

Representatives:  
ARDELL of Monticello  
NEWMAN of Belgrade  
NUTTING of Oakland  
PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-804)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-804)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox 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.

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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.

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The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Oxford, Senator **KEIM**, and further excused the same Senator from today's Roll Call votes.

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The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

### ROLL CALL (#581)

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

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

EXCUSED: Senators: KEIM

21 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-804) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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

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### Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish an Officer on Tribal Relations  
H.P. 1166 L.D. 1834

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-809)**.

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland  
BAILEY of York  
BRAKEY of Androscoggin

Representatives:

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

(Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe - of the House - supports the Majority **Ought To Pass as Amended** Report.)

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-809)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the RESOLUTION **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-809)**.

Reports **READ**.

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

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence.

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### Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act to Allow Equitable Compensation of Certain Board Members"  
H.P. 1376 L.D. 2152

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-808)**.

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-808)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-808)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland 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 Aroostook, Senator Stewart.

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. There were a number of questions in caucus this morning brought up about trying to understand how there's no fiscal impact on -- according to what's posted online, the fiscal note says that this restructuring and new payment system that we're going to be operating under for boards and commissions can be absorbed, but I'm failing to understand adequately exactly why that is. And so, in an effort to try to just get some more information about what this bill does and which boards it would apply to, I think that would be a helpful resource to have if there's a list published available somewhere where that you can see where it's delineated, it would apply to this board but not this, I think that would be helpful in understanding what it is that they're trying to do here. So, Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator **NANGLE:** Thank you, Mr. President. All this bill does is allows commissions of certain boards to receive much more reasonable reimbursement for lunch, for example. Members of the Maine EMS board only receive \$5 for lunch, this would up that. There is no fiscal note because the department overseeing that would only reimburse those costs, those expenses, if the department overseeing that commission or board has the existing resources to fund those payments, and the payments are limited to our stipend.

On motion by Senator **BENNETT** of Oxford, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence.

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**Senate**

**Pursuant to Public Law**

Senator HICKMAN for the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Update the Laws Regarding the Sale of Pari-mutuel Pools for Simulcast Races" S.P. 977 L.D. 2260

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**, pursuant to Public Law, chapter 440, section 13.

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

Bill and accompanying papers **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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**Ought to Pass As Amended**

Senator LAWRENCE for the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Improve Access to Affordable Wireless Communications by Allowing the Public Utilities Commission to Designate Eligible Telecommunications Carriers" S.P. 932 L.D. 2193

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-562)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-562) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Maintain State Police Rural Patrol Services at 2020 Staffing Levels" (EMERGENCY)  
S.P. 902 L.D. 2109

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-564)**.

Signed:

Senators:

BEEBE-CENTER of Knox  
HARRINGTON of York  
LaFOUNTAIN of Kennebec

Representatives:

SALISBURY of Westbrook  
ARDELL of Monticello  
LAJOIE of Lewiston  
MATHIESON of Kittery  
NEWMAN of Belgrade  
NUTTING of Oakland  
PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft

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

Signed:

Representatives:

LOOKNER of Portland  
MILLIKEN of Blue Hill

Reports **READ**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-564) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Finance Clean Energy and Infrastructure in Maine"  
S.P. 638 L.D. 1606

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-570)**.

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**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-570) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** on Bill "An Act to Protect Maine's Inland Fisheries from Invasive Fish"  
S.P. 418 L.D. 1049

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-563)**.

Signed:

Senators:

LaFOUNTAIN of Kennebec  
BLACK of Franklin  
CURRY of Waldo

Representatives:

LANDRY of Farmington  
DILL of Old Town  
DRINKWATER of Milford  
HEPLER of Woolwich  
MASON of Lisbon  
THORNE of Carmel  
WOODSOME of Waterboro

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

Signed:

Representatives:

CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham  
GOLEK of Harpswell  
WOOD of Greene

Reports **READ**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-563) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act Regarding Disclosure of Flood Risk by Sellers of Real Estate" S.P. 863 L.D. 2035

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-566)**.

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland  
BAILEY of York

Representatives:

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

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

Signed:

Senator:

BRAKEY of Androscoggin

Representatives:

ANDREWS of Paris  
HAGGAN of Hampden  
HENDERSON of Rumford  
POIRIER of Skowhegan

Reports **READ**.

Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act to Reauthorize Maine's New Markets Tax Credit Program" S.P. 808 L.D. 1974

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-568)**.

Signed:

Senators:

GROHOSKI of Hancock  
CHIPMAN of Cumberland  
LIBBY of Cumberland

Representatives:

PERRY of Bangor  
CARMICHAEL of Greenbush  
CROCKETT of Portland  
HASENFUS of Readfield  
MATLACK of St. George  
RANA of Bangor  
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

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

Signed:

Representatives:

LIBBY of Auburn  
QUINT of Hodgdon

Reports **READ**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-568) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act to Accelerate the Production of Affordable Housing and Strengthen the Historic Property Rehabilitation Tax Credit"  
S.P. 899 L.D. 2106

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-567)**.

Signed:

Senators:

GROHOSKI of Hancock  
CHIPMAN of Cumberland  
LIBBY of Cumberland

Representatives:

PERRY of Bangor  
CROCKETT of Portland  
HASENFUS of Readfield  
MATLACK of St. George  
RANA of Bangor

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

Signed:

Representatives:

CARMICHAEL of Greenbush  
LIBBY of Auburn  
QUINT of Hodgdon  
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

Reports **READ**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-567) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act to Identify the Railroad Lines from Portland to Bangor as a Major Corridor and to Fund a Feasibility Study"  
S.P. 357 L.D. 860

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

Signed:

Senator:

FARRIN of Somerset

Representatives:

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

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-565)**.

Signed:

Senator:

CHIPMAN of Cumberland

Representatives:

O'CONNELL of Brewer  
WHITE of Waterville

Reports **READ**.

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

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**Divided Report**

Five Members of the Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act to Promote Economic Growth Through Increased Film Incentives"  
S.P. 444 L.D. 1075

Reported in Report "A" that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-569)**

Signed:

Senators:

GROHOSKI of Hancock  
CHIPMAN of Cumberland

Representatives:

CROCKETT of Portland  
HASENFUS of Readfield  
MATLACK of St. George

Five Members of the same Committee on the same subject reported in Report "B" that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:

LIBBY of Cumberland

Representatives:

LAVIGNE of Berwick  
QUINT of Hodgdon  
RANA of Bangor  
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, Report "A" **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-569) ACCEPTED**

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-569) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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**SECOND READERS**

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

**House**

Bill "An Act to Make Technical Corrections to the Maine Juvenile Code, the Maine Criminal Code and the Intelligence and Investigative Record Information Act"  
H.P. 1381 L.D. 2161

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

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Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 9: Rules Governing Administrative Civil Money Penalties for Labor Law Violations, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards (EMERGENCY)  
H.P. 1398 L.D. 2184

On motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **PASSAGE TO BE ENGROSSED**, in concurrence.

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**House As Amended**

Bill "An Act to Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2025"  
H.P. 1404 L.D. 2190  
(C "A" H-802)

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

**Senate As Amended**

Bill "An Act to Require the Probate Court to Report Name Changes to the State Bureau of Identification" (EMERGENCY)  
S.P. 305 L.D. 747  
(C "A" S-559)

Bill "An Act to Extend and Expand the Loring Job Increment Financing Fund"  
S.P. 810 L.D. 1981  
(S "A" S-557 to C "A" S-544)

Bill "An Act to Transfer the Arch Hangar at the Former Loring Air Force Base to the Loring Air Museum"  
S.P. 823 L.D. 1998  
(C "A" S-561)

Bill "An Act to Make Technical Changes to the State's Marine Resources Laws"  
S.P. 859 L.D. 2031  
(C "A" S-558)

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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

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Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

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## ORDERS OF THE DAY

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Today Assigned matter:

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 9: Rules Governing Administrative Civil Money Penalties for Labor Law Violations, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards (EMERGENCY)  
H.P. 1398 L.D. 2184

Table - March 12, 2024 by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot

Pending - **PASSAGE TO BE ENGROSSED**, in concurrence

(In House, March 6, 2024, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.)

(In Senate, March 12, 2024, **READ A SECOND TIME**.)

On motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot, Senate Amendment "A" (S-572) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

**PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-572)**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

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

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

### Senate

#### Pursuant to Public Law

Senator **NANGLE** for the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act to Further Clarify the Meaning of 'Private Road' and 'Public Easement' in Certain Provisions of Maine Law"  
S.P. 982 L.D. 2264

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**, pursuant to Public Law, chapter 387, section 4.

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

Bill and accompanying papers **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**.

Sent down for concurrence.

## 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 (3/5/24) matter:

HOUSE REPORTS - from the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 41: Special Restrictions on Pesticide Use, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control (EMERGENCY)  
H.P. 1403 L.D. 2189

Majority - **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-776)** (7 members)

Minority - **Ought to Pass** (6 members)

Tabled - March 5, 2024 by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook

Pending - motion by Senator **INGWERSEN** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence

(In House, February 29, 2024, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-776) AND HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-785)**.)

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-776) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Sent down forthwith for concurrence.

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

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Off Record Remarks

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

Senator **DAUGHTRY:** Thank you. Men and women of the Senate, I am proud to rise for my part of the Maine Senate celebration of Women's History Month. Today, I'm proud to rise and honor Maine astronaut Jessica Meir as part of our celebration. Many of you have heard me speak about my love of space, especially while working on the Maine Spaceport Corporation and its projects on Brunswick Landing and that's why I'm so excited today to talk about Jessica Meir. A Caribou native, she was the first Maine woman to travel to space as part of the first three all-female space walks and she spent 205 days there. She's currently training for a future mission to the moon, over half a century after the previous Apollo moon missions of the 1960s and 1970s. For these reasons and many more, it's no surprise that Jessica was named one of Time magazine's 100 Most Influential People of 2020, and was inducted into Maine Women's Hall of Fame in 2022. Growing up in Aroostook County, she often says her favorite place was her family cabin at Big Madawaska Lake. She talks about staring up at the night sky and dreaming of getting to walk in the stars. She began talking about her goal to become an astronaut when she was just in kindergarten, showing the importance of introducing STEM careers and ideas to Mainers of all ages and backgrounds, and I think a good reminder to get outside and look up. After Jessica graduated from high school, she studied biology at Brown University. She went on to earn a Master's degree in Space Studies from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in San Diego and then she finally earned a Ph.D. studying high-flying bar-headed geese at the University of British Columbia. Fun fact, in one experiment Jessica trained a gaggle of goslings to fly in a wind tunnel while they wore masks and little backpacks with data monitoring equipment. I don't know how many of you have seen the movie Migration, but that's what I imagine when I think of those goslings sporting all of their outfits, flapping their wings into new uncharted lands. She continued to research the physiology of animals in extreme environments and she was an aquanaut, so under the ocean, on an exploration mission in Aquarius, an underground research library - a laboratory. I'm sure there was a library there too. Even with this impressive resume, it's hard to become an astronaut. Jessica tried three times, eventually becoming one of the eight people selected from a pool of 6,000 applicants to participate in the astronaut training program. She's an excellent example of why never to give up on your dreams and try, try again. In 2019, she traveled to the International Space Station, making 3,280 orbits of the Earth and traveling 86.9 million miles and during this time she did work alongside fellow Maine astronaut, Chris Cassidy, on the space station for eight days. In 2020, she was selected for the Artemis Team, a group of eight astronauts focused on training efforts for missions to the moon. Can you imagine: we going to put a Mainer on the moon. I also just want to say that I'm particularly grateful to be standing here today and talking about amazing Maine women as my niece, Adalise, and Jamie are here today and I know that Adalise is already thinking about what she might want to become someday. Maybe a nurse like her mother, a State Senator like me, or whatever she dreams of. One day she could walk on my footsteps in this Chamber or maybe Jessica's or on the surface of the moon. The women we're featuring this month, I think, show that Maine women can do anything they put their mind to. Jessica, you made the entire

state of Maine so proud. We are a small state full of close-knit communities, so we all like to celebrate the Mainers who accomplish big things, and when Jessica blasts into space, hopefully to the moon, she carries the entire state with her. We have a bold, adventurous spirit in Maine and she captures this great tradition moving forward. Thank you.

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Off Record Remarks

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On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, **ADJOURNED**, until Wednesday, March 12, 2024 at 10:00 in the morning in memory of and lasting tribute to the Honorable Patricia Collins of Caribou.