

SEN. TROY JACKSON  
CHAIR

REP. RACHEL TALBOT ROSS  
VICE-CHAIR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SUZANNE M. GRESSER



131<sup>ST</sup> MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. ELOISE A. VITELLI  
SEN. MATTHEA DAUGHTRY  
SEN. HAROLD "TREY" STEWART III  
SEN. LISA KEIM  
REP. MAUREEN F. TERRY  
REP. KRISTEN CLOUTIER  
REP. BILLY BOB FAULKINGHAM  
REP. AMY ARATA

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
MEETING SUMMARY  
November 16, 2023  
Approved December 21, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Jackson called the November 16, 2023 meeting of the 131<sup>st</sup> Legislative Council to order at 10:17 a.m. in the Legislative Council Chamber.

**ROLL CALL**

Senators: President Jackson, Senator Vitelli, Senator Daughtry, Senator Stewart, and Senator Keim

Representatives: Speaker Talbot Ross, Representative Terry, Representative Cloutier (via Zoom), Representative Faulkingham, and Representative Arata

Legislative Officers: Suzanne Gresser, Executive Director of the Legislative Council  
Darek Grant, Secretary of the Senate  
Michelle Dunphy, Assistant Clerk of the House  
Ed Charbonneau, Revisor of Statutes  
Danielle Fox, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Christopher Nolan, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review  
Nik Rende, Director, Office of Legislative Information Technology

President Jackson convened the meeting at 10:17 a.m. with a quorum of members present.

President Jackson announced his intention to take items out of order, and hearing no objection, moved to New Business, Item 2.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Item #3: Procedures for Deciding Appeals for Bill Requests for the Second Regular Session**

Ms. Gresser reviewed the procedures for the review of Legislative Bill Requests and the proposed protocol for deciding those requests.

The Legislative Council proceeded to consider and vote on one hundred five (105) appeals in accordance with the outlined protocol, and using an electronic voting system. The Legislative Council authorized forty-two (42) bills for introduction in the Second Regular Session. Seven (7) bill requests were withdrawn by the sponsors prior to the Legislative Council's vote. The Legislative Council's action on the bill requests is attached.

President Jackson then returned to the printed agenda.

In the interests of time, the Legislative Council deferred acceptance of the summary of the Council meeting held on November 9, 2023, until the next meeting of the Legislative Council.

## **REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND COUNCIL OFFICES**

### **Fiscal Report; Studies Report**

President Jackson drew the Legislative Council's attention in the Council's meeting materials to the written fiscal report prepared by Christopher Nolan, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review, and the studies report prepared by Danielle Fox, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis.

## **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

**None**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Item #1: Council Actions Taken by Ballot**

#### **Legislative Council Decisions:**

**Motion:**           **That, in accordance with Joint Rule 353(7), the Legislative Council extends to December 15, 2023, the reporting deadline of the Blue-Ribbon Commission to Design a Plan for Sustained Investment in Preventing Disease and Improving the Health of Maine Communities.**

Motion by:       Speaker Talbot Ross  
Date:             November 9, 2023  
Vote:             8-0-2-0 Passed

**Motion:**           **That, in accordance with Joint Rule 353(7), the Legislative Council extends to December 15, 2023, the reporting deadline of the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission.**

Motion by:       Speaker Talbot Ross  
Date:             November 13, 2023  
Vote:             7-0-3-0 Passed

**Motion:** That, in accordance with Joint Rule 353(7), the Legislative Council extends to December 15, 2023, the reporting deadline of the Commission to Study Expansion of Public Preschool and Early Care Education

Motion by: Speaker Talbot Ross  
Date: November 7, 2023  
Vote: 7-0-3-0 Passed

**Motion:** That, in accordance with Joint Rule 353(7), the Legislative Council extends to December 15, 2023, the reporting deadline of the Criminal Records Review Committee.

Motion by: Speaker Talbot Ross  
Date: November 2, 2023  
Vote: 7-0-3-0 Passed

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Item #1:** Acceptance of the Annual Report of the Loring Development Authority of Maine

In the interests of time, the Legislative Council deferred acceptance of the Annual Report of the Loring Development Authority of Maine until the Council's next meeting.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS**

President Jackson reminded members that the annual Legislative Employee Appreciation event, and the Recognition of Service Awards would take place immediately following the Legislative Council meeting, and invited members who were able to attend.

With no other business to consider or further announcements, the Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.