

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
JOURNAL OF THE SENATE**

In Senate Chamber
Thursday
September 13, 2018

Senate called to order by President Michael D. Thibodeau of
Waldo County.

Prayer by Pastor Glenn Peterson, Hope Baptist Church in
Manchester.

PASTOR PETERSON: Our Father in Heaven, thank You that
Jesus taught us to pray to You in this way. The fact that You are
our Father reminds us that You are a God who loves his children.
How grateful we are that You are a God of love. I thank You for
the love that is in the heart of these Senators today. I thank You
for their love for the people of the State of Maine and I thank You
for their love for serving their community and their state.
Sometimes people think of love as something soft and
sentimental, but the truth is that love is something strong and
frequently hard to do. I pray, then, that You will give each
Senator here today the strength they need to love. Give them the
strength to speak the truth in love to one another on very difficult
issues today. Give them the strength to forgive those who have
hurt them today. May they show to others the same loving mercy
that You give to us each day and give these Senators the
strength to make sacrifices today, I pray, for we know that there is
no greater love than to lay down your life for the sake of others.
Thank You, our God, that You are a God of love. Give these
Senators the strength to love well today. In Your great name we
pray. Amen.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Andre E. Cushing, III of
Penobscot County.

Reading of the Journal of Thursday, August 30, 2018.

Off Record Remarks

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: S.C. 1124

**STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

September 5, 2018

Honorable Heather J.R. Priest
Secretary of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Secretary Priest:

Pursuant to Joint Order (S.P. 760) passed on August 30, 2018,
the Senate will convene on Thursday, September 13, 2018 at
10:00 a.m.

Sincerely,

S/Michael D. Thibodeau
President of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1125

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

September 5, 2018

The Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau
President of the Senate of Maine
128th 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
Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of John W.
Martin, Esq. of Skowhegan, for appointment as a District Court
Judge.

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	Keim of Oxford
	Representatives	8	Moonen of Portland, Bailey of Saco, Bradstreet of Vassalboro, Cardone of Bangor, Guerin of Glenburn, Johansen of Monticello, McCreight of Harpswell, Reckitt of South Portland

NAYS 0

ABSENT 4 Sen. Hill of York, Sen. Whittemore of Somerset, Rep. Babbidge of Kennebunk, Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon

Nine 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 John W. Martin, Esq. of Skowhegan, for appointment as a District Court Judge be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Lisa Keim
Senate Chair

S/Matthew W. Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from York, Senator **CHENETTE**, the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **VOLK**, the Senator from Franklin, Senator **SAVIELLO**, and the Senator from Hancock, Senator **ROSEN**, and further excused the same Senators from today's Roll Call votes.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158 and with Joint Rule 506 of the 128th Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#739)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BELLOWS, BRAKEY, BREEN, CARPENTER, CARSON, CHIPMAN, COLLINS, CUSHING, CYRWAY, DAVIS, DESCHAMBAULT, DIAMOND, DILL, DION, DOW, GRATWICK, HAMPER, HILL, JACKSON, KATZ, KEIM, LANGLEY, LIBBY, MAKER, MASON, MILLETT, MIRAMANT, VITELLI, WHITTEMORE, WOODSOME, PRESIDENT THIBODEAU

EXCUSED: Senators: CHENETTE, ROSEN, SAVIELLO, VOLK

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 **John W. Martin**, Esq. of Skowhegan, for appointment as a District Court Judge was **CONFIRMED**.

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

Off Record Remarks

The Following Communication: S.C. 1126

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

September 5, 2018

The Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau
President of the Senate of Maine
128th 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 Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of The Honorable John H. O'Neil, Jr. of Kennebunk, for reappointment as a Superior Court Justice.

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	Keim of Oxford
	Representatives	8	Moonen of Portland, Bailey of Saco, Bradstreet of Vassalboro, Cardone of Bangor, Guerin of Glenburn, Johansen of Monticello, McCreight of Harpswell, Reckitt of South Portland
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		4	Sen. Hill of York, Sen. Whittemore of Somerset, Rep. Babbidge of Kennebunk, Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon

Nine 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 John H. O'Neil, Jr. of Kennebunk, for reappointment as a Superior Court Justice be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Lisa Keim S/Matthew W. Moonen
Senate Chair House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1127

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

September 10, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of The Honorable John H. O'Neil, Jr. of Kennebunk for reappointment as a Justice, Maine Superior Court.

This nomination is currently pending before the Senate.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1128

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

September 5, 2018

The Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau
President of the Senate of Maine
128th 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 Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of John C. Norman of Portland, for reappointment to the Maine Human Rights Commission.

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	Keim of Oxford
	Representatives	7	Moonen of Portland, Bailey of Saco, Cardone of Bangor, Guerin of Glenburn, Johansen of Monticello, McCreight of Harpswell, Reckitt of South Portland

NAYS 0

ABSENT	5	Sen. Hill of York, Sen. Whittemore of Somerset, Rep. Babbidge of Kennebunk, Rep. Bradstreet of Vassalboro, Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon
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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 John C. Norman of Portland, for reappointment to the Maine Human Rights Commission be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Lisa Keim
Senate Chair

S/Matthew W. Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1129

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of John C. Norman of Portland for reappointment as a member of the Maine Human Rights Commission.

This nomination is currently pending before the Senate.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1130

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

September 5, 2018

The Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau
President of the Senate of Maine
128th 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 Transportation has had under consideration the nomination of The Honorable Douglas A. Thomas of Ripley, for appointment to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority.

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 denied. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	1	Rosen of Hancock
	Representatives	1	Gillway of Searsport
NAYS	Senators	1	Collins of York
	Representatives	6	McLean of Gorham, Austin of Skowhegan, Bryant of Windham, Grant of Gardiner, Schneck of Bangor, Sheats of Auburn
ABSENT		4	Sen. Miramant of Knox, Rep. Cebra of Naples, Rep. Parry of Arundel, Rep. Perkins of Oakland

Two members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and seven in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of The Honorable Douglas A. Thomas of Ripley, for appointment to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority be denied.

Signed,

S/Ronald F. Collins
Senate Chair

S/Andrew J. McLean
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1131

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

September 5, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of The Hon. Douglas A. Thomas of Ripley for appointment as a member of the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority.

This nomination is currently pending before the Senate.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1132

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

September 5, 2018

The Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau
President of the Senate of Maine
128th 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 Transportation has had under consideration the nomination of Ronald J. McKinnon of Chebeague Island, for reappointment to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority.

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	Collins of York, Rosen of Hancock
	Representatives	7	McLean of Gorham, Austin of Skowhegan, Bryant of Windham, Gillway of Searsport, Grant of Gardiner, Schneck of Bangor, Sheats of Auburn
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		4	Sen. Miramant of Knox, Rep. Cebra of Naples, Rep. Parry of Arundel, Rep. Perkins of Oakland

Nine 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 Ronald J. McKinnon of Chebeague Island, for reappointment to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Ronald F. Collins
Senate Chair

S/Andrew J. McLean
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1133

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

September 5, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Ronald J. McKinnon of Chebeague Island for appointment as a member of the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority.

This nomination is currently pending before the Senate.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1134

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

September 5, 2018

The Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau
President of the Senate of Maine
128th 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 Transportation has had under consideration the nomination of Jonathan T. Nass, Esq. of Kennebunk, for appointment to the Maine Turnpike Authority, Board of Directors.

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 denied. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	1	Collins of York
	Representatives	1	Gillway of Searsport
NAYS	Senators	1	Rosen of Hancock
	Representatives	6	McLean of Gorham, Austin of Skowhegan, Bryant of Windham, Grant of Gardiner, Schneck of Bangor, Sheats of Auburn
ABSENT		4	Sen. Miramant of Knox, Rep. Cebra of Naples, Rep. Parry of Arundel, Rep. Perkins of Oakland

Two members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and seven in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Jonathan T. Nass, Esq. of Kennebunk, for appointment to the Maine Turnpike Authority, Board of Directors be denied.

Signed,

S/Ronald F. Collins
Senate Chair

S/Andrew J. McLean
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1135

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Jonathan T. Nass, Esq. for appointment as a member of the Maine Turnpike Authority.

This nomination is currently pending before the Senate.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1136

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Morten Arntzen of Norwalk, CT for reappointment as a member of the Board of Trustees, Maine Maritime Academy.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1137

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Arthur K. Watson, Jr. of New Canaan, CT for reappointment as a member of the Board of Trustees, Maine Maritime Academy.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1138

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

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

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Jason A. Oney of Falmouth for reappointment as a member of the Board of Trustees, Maine Maritime Academy.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1139

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Ernest E. Kilbride of Carmel, for appointment as a member of the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1140

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Casey J. Cramton of Scarborough, for appointment as a member of the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.
Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1141

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of The Hon. Jean Ginn Marvin of Scarborough, for reappointment as a member of the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1142

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Peter J. DelGreco of North Yarmouth for reappointment as a member of the Maine Rural Development Authority.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1143

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Bruce S. Harrington of Fairfield for reappointment as a member of the Maine Rural Development Authority.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1144

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Michael A. Wiers, Esq. of St. Albans for reappointment as a member of the Maine Milk Commission.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee for Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1145

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Jack L. Waterman, M.D. for reappointment as a member of the Board of Pesticides Control.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1146

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of John M. Jemison, Ph.D. for reappointment as a member of the Board of Pesticides Control.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee for Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1147

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Steven N. Whipple of Yarmouth for appointment as a member of the Board of Environmental Protection.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1148

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of John H. Kilbourne of Brunswick for reappointment as a member of the Maine Regional Redevelopment Authority.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1149

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of John G. Gallagher of Brunswick for reappointment as a member of the Maine State Housing Authority.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1151

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of William J. Cody of Calais for appointment as a member of Gambling Control Board.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1150

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Gerald T. Reid of Northport for appointment as a member of the Gambling Control Board.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1152

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Robert A. Harmon of Raymond for reappointment as a member of the Gambling Control Board.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1153

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Holly D. Ferguson, CPA of Yarmouth for appointment as a member of the Finance Authority of Maine.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1154

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Eric B. Lusk of Harpswell for appointment as a member of the Finance Authority of Maine.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1155

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Clifford Andrew McGadney, Ph.D. of Waterville for appointment as a member of the Finance Authority of Maine.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1156

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Blue Keim of Dixfield for appointment as a member of the Finance Authority of Maine.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1157

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Richard M. Roderick of Cape Elizabeth for reappointment as a member of the Finance Authority of Maine.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1158

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Rebecca J. McKenna of Machias for appointment as a member of the Washington County Development Authority.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1159

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Daniel M. Sullivan of Cooper for appointment as a member of the Washington County Development Authority.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1160

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Joshua A. Chalmers of Scarborough for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees, Maine School of Science and Mathematics.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1161

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Marian A. Reagan of Kennebunkport for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees, Maine School of Science and Mathematics.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1162

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Joel E. Pike of Augusta for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees, Maine School of Science and Mathematics.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1163

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of James E. Havu of Augusta for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees, Maine School of Science and Mathematics.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1164

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Kelly M. LaRue, Ph.D. of Ellsworth for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees, Maine School of Science and Mathematics.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1165

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of David R. Ferguson, Esq. of Kennebunk for reappointment as a member of the Board of Trustees, Maine School of Science and Mathematics.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1166

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Robert C. Brooks, Esq. of Portland for appointment as a member of the Maine Labor Relations Board.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1167

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Christine E. Riendeau of Durham for reappointment as a member of the Maine Labor Relations Board.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1168

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Robert W. Bower, Jr. Esq. of Cumberland for reappointment as a member of the Maine Labor Relations Board.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1169

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of George A. Spear of Buxton, for reappointment as a member of the State Harness Racing Commission.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee for Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1170

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Donna M. Chapman of Windham for reappointment as a member of the State Harness Racing Commission.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee for Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1171

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Richard R. Shiers of Gorham, for reappointment as a member of the State Harness Racing Commission.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee for Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1172

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Samantha J. Hebert of Windham for reappointment as a member of the School Board for the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1173

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Robin L. Foster of Orrington for reappointment as a member of the School Board for the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1174

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Roxanne Baker of Cape Elizabeth for reappointment as a member of the School Board for the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1175

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Robert T. Weston for appointment as a member of the Maine Board of Tax Appeals.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1176

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of The Honorable David E. Bowles of Sanford for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1177

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Betsy B. Gleysteen of Scarborough for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1178

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Raymond C. Stevens, Ph.D. of Los Angeles, CA for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees, University of Maine System.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1179

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Peter J. DelGreco of North Yarmouth for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees, University of Maine System.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1180

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Craig G. Larrabee of Belgrade for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees, University of Maine System.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1181

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

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that, pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of The Honorable Nichi S. Farnham of Bangor for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees, University of Maine System.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 1182

**STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SPEAKER'S OFFICE**

August 31, 2018

Honorable Heather J. R. Priest
Secretary of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Secretary Priest,

Pursuant to my authority under Public Law 2017, Chapter 460, Part L, I am pleased to appoint the following members of the public to serve on The Task Force To Study and Plan for the Implementation of Maine's Early Childhood Special Education Services, effective immediately:

- Rep. Richard Farnsworth of Portland, as a member of the House of Representatives;
- Melissa Camire of Saco, Senior Director of Education Programs at the Morrison Center, as a representative of the Maine Association of Community Service Providers;
- Gayle Keeshen of Falmouth, a staff member of the Child Development Services System;
- Susan Hufnagel of Owls Head, a staff member of the Child Development Services System;
- Leslee Pierce of Portland, Director of St. Elizabeth's Child Development Center, as a representative of a child care program;
- Jane Stork of Etna, Principal of Etna-Dixmont School, as a representative of the Maine Principal's Association;
- Katy Grondin of Auburn, Superintendent of the Auburn School Department, as a representative of the Maine School Superintendent's Association;
- Nancy Cronin of Augusta, Executive Director of the Maine Developmental Disabilities Council, as a representative of the Maine Developmental Disabilities Council;
- Kim Feeny of Brownfield, who is employed as a speech language pathologist by both the Winthrop School Department

and Child Development Services, as a representative of a statewide association of speech, language and hearing therapists.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

S/Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

ORDERS

Joint Resolution

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, the following Joint Resolution:

S.P. 761

**JOINT RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 7-13, 2018 AS CASE
MANAGEMENT WEEK**

WHEREAS, case management is a multidisciplinary profession that seeks to ensure the delivery of high-quality, appropriate, efficient and cost-effective health care services to patients throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, case managers function in a variety of contexts including hospitals and home health care, long-term care, rehabilitation, elder care, managed care and occupational health settings to facilitate the coordination of continuing care services; and

WHEREAS, case management is a medical management strategy that fosters the careful shepherding of health care dollars while maintaining a primary and consistent focus on patient advocacy; and

WHEREAS, case management services enhance patients' quality of life while promoting the achievement of positive health care outcomes; and

WHEREAS, case management is an integral component of health care delivery in the State and throughout the United States; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Legislature now assembled in the Second Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize October 7-13, 2018 as Case Management Week and encourage all citizens of the State to recognize the contributions of case managers.

READ and ADOPTED.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

The President requested the Sergeant-At-Arms escort the Senator from York, Senator **COLLINS**, to the rostrum where he assumed the duties as President Pro Tempore.

The President took a seat on the Floor.

The Senate was called to order by President Pro Tempore **RONALD F. COLLINS** of York County.

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

ORDERS

Joint Order

An Expression of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

The Honorable Ronald Collins and Linda Collins, of Wells, who are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Senator and Mrs. Collins were married at Christ Church in Kennebunk on September 28, 1968. Senator Collins served in the Maine House of Representatives from 1999 to 2006 and has served in the Maine Senate since 2011. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 1177

Sponsored by President THIBODEAU of Waldo. Cosponsored by Senators: BRAKEY of Androscoggin, CUSHING of Penobscot, CYRWAY of Kennebec, DAVIS of Piscataquis, DOW of Lincoln, HAMPER of Oxford, KATZ of Kennebec, KEIM of Oxford, LANGLEY of Hancock, MAKER of Washington, MASON of Androscoggin, ROSEN of Hancock, SAVIELLO of Franklin, VOLK of Cumberland, WHITTEMORE of Somerset, WOODSOME of York, Representatives: FOLEY of Wells, HYMANSON of York.

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Waldo, Senator Thibodeau.

Senator **THIBODEAU:** Thank you, Mr. President. Could the Secretary please read the Order?

The Joint Order was **READ**.

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Waldo, Senator Thibodeau.

Senator **THIBODEAU:** Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, you know, not every day here at the State House is fun but today is. It's because we get to recognize really an

extraordinary person. That person is Linda Collins. Make no mistake. Make no mistake, on September 28, 1968 she made a commitment, one that she has followed through with for 50 years and I think we're all fortunate that she did exactly that because she's done a good job taking care of our friend. In all seriousness, anybody that makes it to 50 years of marriage deserves to be recognized and I feel bad that Linda isn't here right now, Senator Collins, but the fact of the matter is we're all pleased for you, for Linda, for your entire family, and want to congratulate you on this milestone. We fully anticipate that you'll be back in the State Legislature and celebrating your 75th wedding anniversary and the Senate will be able to recognize that as well. But congratulations on a really, really important milestone in you and Linda's life. Thank you.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

The President Pro Tempore requested the Sergeant-At-Arms escort the Senator from Waldo, Senator **THIBODEAU**, to the rostrum where he resumed his duties as President.

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

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Off Record Remarks

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

Off Record Remarks

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

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:

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act To Restore the Integrity of the Unemployment Compensation System" (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 763 L.D. 1927

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.
(GOVERNOR'S BILL)

Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** suggested and ordered printed.

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

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Specify the Qualifications of Electors
S.P. 762 L.D. 1926

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.
(GOVERNOR'S BILL)

On motion by Senator **MASON** of Androscoggin, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

Off Record Remarks

RECESSED until the sound of the bell.

After Recess the Senate was called to order by the President.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act To Improve Information Sharing Relating to Investigations of Educators"

H.P. 1366 L.D. 1924

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-813)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-813)**.

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

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

Senator **LANGLEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, I'd like to speak to the Body about this particular bill in front of you. It's L.D. 1924. It came to the Education Committee at the very tail end. We had a public hearing and work session last week and, as the title says, it's An Act To Improve Information Sharing Relating to Investigations of Educators. In the most basic of summaries, it requires that any school entity that has started an investigation of a credentialed employee, anyone with a certificate to be in a school, if an investigation is over a covered investigation, and we define that in the bill as the following. So if there is an investigation that affects the credential holder's employment involving alcohol, illegal drugs, physical abuse, emotional abuse, violating boundaries, inappropriate contact between a credential holder and a student, stalking, or similar behavior that may endanger the health, safety, or welfare of the student. What this bill requires is that a school entity that starts an investigation such as this has 15 business days to notify the Department of Education that there is an ongoing investigation. Then the Department would look and see if that individual is working in other districts and would notify, confidentially notify, the other districts in which they are working. At the end, the bill goes on to say that within 5 days of the conclusion of any investigation of these covered matters that the school entity would report the outcome of that to the Department. There's other pieces in the bill that does require that this be a major substantive rule so it would come back in front of a future Legislature, possibly the next one, maybe in the second session of the 129th, to have all these rules voted on. With that, I appreciate your indulgence and if you have any other questions please feel free to ask them. Senator Millett and I are here to answer them, and Senator Maker.

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

Senator **MILLETT:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I rise in support of this motion and concur with the good Senator from Hancock, Senator Langley, that the Education Committee endeavored to do the best work it could in a rather difficult situation with a public hearing and a work session on the same day. I think we all recognize that that can certainly make it challenging to do strong, good legislative work. I think what we have before us today is, indeed, the best that we could do and I'm hopeful that, with the substantive rule making part of this bill, we can continue to have this conversation and make sure that we are protecting our students and our employees in the correct manner. Certainly we all - I know we all want to make sure that our children are kept safe and sound both in our schools and at home, and this is just one more companion piece to that effort. So thank you, Mr. President.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-813) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Ordered sent down forthwith.

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. 1369

**JOINT RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE
OF THE SCOTCH-IRISH MIGRANTS OF 1718 ON
THE OCCASION OF THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THEIR ARRIVAL**

WHEREAS, October 2018 marks the 300th anniversary of the arrival in Casco Bay of 2 ships, the HMS McCallum and the HMS Robert, carrying a large group of immigrants from the north of Ireland; and

WHEREAS, the HMS Robert anchored in the Fore River off the coast of what is now South Portland and the HMS McCallum discharged settlers in the area of Merrymeeting Bay; and

WHEREAS, Maine has many descendants of these settlers and later immigrants from the north of Ireland, who brought with them a unique worldview, language and musical culture that enriched and influenced Maine's development; and

WHEREAS, the settlers brought with them fundamental beliefs in representative democracy and in freedom of religion, as they had been persecuted in Scotland and Ireland for their Presbyterian faith; and

WHEREAS, they planted some of the first field crops of potatoes to be grown in New England, an agricultural product that has played a key role in the State's economic development; and

WHEREAS, they brought with them a knowledge of textile production, having participated in the linen manufacturing trade in Ireland, and helped establish important textile manufacturing industries in Maine; and

WHEREAS, these settlers and their descendants participated fully in Maine's local militias and the descendants have participated in all military activities in which the United States has been involved since 1776; and

WHEREAS, these settlers and their descendants have produced many significant legislative and political figures who have played important roles in the history of the State and there have been at least 20 American Presidents with Scotch-Irish ancestry; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Legislature now assembled in the Second Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize in October 2018 the contributions of the

Scotch-Irish in Maine and the Tricentennial of the Arrival of the 1718 Migrants.

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

READ and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: H.C. 598

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

September 13, 2018

The Honorable Heather J.R. Priest
Secretary of the Senate
128th Maine Legislature
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Secretary Priest:

House Paper 1368, Legislative Document 1925, "An Act To Provide Funding for the Conduct of Elections," having been returned by the Governor, together with objections to the same, pursuant to Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, after reconsideration, the House proceeded to vote on the question: "Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?"

74 voted in favor and 46 against, and accordingly it was the vote of the House that the Bill not become a law and the veto was sustained.

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

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

Off Record Remarks

RECESSED until the sound of the bell.

After Recess the Senate was called to order by the President.

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

ENACTORS

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

Mandate

An Act To Improve Information Sharing Relating to Investigations of Educators

H.P. 1366 L.D. 1924
(C "A" H-813)

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

This being a Mandate, in accordance with the provisions of Section 21 of Article IX of the Constitution, having received the affirmative vote of 30 Members of the Senate, with no Senator having voted in the negative, and 30 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 his approval.

Ordered sent down forthwith.

Off Record Remarks

RECESSED until the sound of the bell.

After Recess the Senate was called to order by the President.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Unfinished Business

The following matter in the consideration of which the Senate was engaged at the time of Adjournment had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by Senate Rule 516.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (6/25/18) matter:

HOUSE REPORT - from the Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act To Protect the Elderly from Tax Lien Foreclosures"
H.P. 1124 L.D. 1629

Report - Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-771)

Tabled - June 25, 2018 by Senator **MASON** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ACCEPTANCE OF REPORT**

(In House, Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-771).**)

Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-771) **READ**.

On motion by Senator **DOW** of Lincoln, Senate Amendment "D" (S-551) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-771) **READ**.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Lincoln, Senator Dow.

Senator **DOW:** Thank you, Mr. President. This amendment will help clarify and make it easier for citizens of this State, especially the elderly. This amendment includes Senate Amendment "C" that was drafted by my good friend, Senator Jackson, as well as the following additional changes. It requires that the municipality to attempt to contract with at least three real estate brokers for the sale of property before retaining, selling, or disposing of the property through the tax lien foreclosure process. We're asking for three because we don't want someone to say, 'Well, you didn't try very hard to sell my property,' so if they can contact three, if all three say they don't want to do it the town will have done their job. We don't want to expose the municipalities to unneeded legal liability. We should be clear about what is expected of them and, once that threshold is met, how they should proceed. It also specifies that the procedure established for the sale by the municipalities of homesteads acquired through tax lien foreclosure applies to properties that had previously received a homestead exemption rather than to properties that had merely been eligible for the exemption. This part of the amendment helps clarify, for the municipal leaders, who qualifies for this program. So that's the gist of this amendment and we offer that up today. Thank you, Mr. President.

On motion by Senator **DOW** of Lincoln, Senate Amendment "D" (S-551) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-771) **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-771) as Amended by Senate Amendment "D" (S-551) thereto **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Under suspension of the Rules, Bill **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-771) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "D" (S-551)** thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, this concludes a lot of the work that we have to do and it's maybe an appropriate time for folks to address the Senate, to address our colleagues, as we wrap up the work of the 128th Maine Legislature. I want to say that today is really a bitter sweet day. Today we're finally going to adjourn the 128th Maine Legislature, a Legislature that, for many of us, will represent a lot of mixed emotions, a Legislature that will long be remembered but not entirely for the right reasons. Our State, our nation, we're experiencing some alarming political discourse and turmoil that we've not seen in generations, if ever. There's been 222 years since President George Washington said - he cautioned this nation about the potential dangers of political parties. Sadly, some of his reservations have been coming true and it has had a devastating impact. Respect for our valued democratic institutions of government are at an all time low. Elected officials are seemingly paralyzed to work together to solve challenges. The nation that once accomplished the unthinkable, like declaring its independence from the world's strongest monarchy, defeating tyranny and bringing peace and freedom to millions around the world, and putting a man on the moon, now cannot agree on the simplest of reforms together. Political gridlock is the new norm. It is unacceptable and it is crippling our future, our children's future, and our grandchildren's future. Even just a few short years ago I used to proudly say that that political dysfunction that we see in Washington D.C. was not how we operate here in Augusta. In fact, in 2016 I was very proud that the Legislature was honored as the State "Most Committed to Civil Governance," something I was very proud of, by the National Institute of Civil Discourse. I proudly displayed that plaque, award, to the 127th Legislature in my office for the past two years. But, sadly, even the hallowed halls of this beautiful building could not completely resist the infection of partisan gridlock and dysfunction. Together, we know these facts are true and I'm proud to say that in an incredibly tough environment the Maine Senate, time after time, stood together to try to do our best for the people of the State of Maine. Together we've accomplished some pretty amazing things, stuff that I'll be proud of for the rest of my life, and I understand that many of these accomplishments some of us are more proud of than others. But while there was a lot of pressure on each and every one of us, we stood tall and did what we thought, collectively, was right and in the process we did help to improve our State and we did this for our citizens. We honored the spirit of what voters passed by referendums during the 2016 election, yet we worked together to try to manage the harmful, and sometimes unintended, consequences of those who approved the referendums. We fully repealed the 3% income tax surcharge, a new tax that was threatening all aspects of Maine's economy and made it impossible to attract highly trained professionals we need for our hospitals and our universities and to the thousands of jobs that could have been lost had the tax remained in place. At the same time that we repealed the tax, we made the largest investment in K-12 public education in our State's history. I hope every member of this Chamber is proud of that. We did that together. I know that not everybody agrees but I believe that at the time we passed that budget we had finally met our obligation. For the first time in our State's history, we met that threshold of 55%. After much convincing, my friend and colleague, Speaker Gideon, and I were able to bring together a committee to deal with marijuana legalization. While I'm deeply concerned and troubled by the path that our State is going down with legalization, I am confident in the good work that this Committee has done to

put in place the necessary regulations and laws to help ensure public safety. Again, we did that together. I'm pleased that we came together to pass a correction to a new minimum wage law that removed the important tip credit for servers and wait staff in restaurants. It was so encouraging to see literally hundreds of servers that were here, that thought that they would be negatively impacted by the voter approved minimum wage referendum, and they showed up to the Committee. They testified in favor of reinstating the tip credit and, again, together we did that. I'm also very proud that just a couple of weeks ago we finally passed the tax conformity bill for the people of the State of Maine. I only wish that Senator Libby was here because I was very proud and really enjoyed having an opportunity to work with Senator Libby, Senator Dow, and House Chair, Representative Tipping, in my office on Election Day, Primary Election Day, when we came together as a group and found a way to accomplish what most people thought we never could, tax conformity. We didn't do it as a partisan organization, we did it together, and we all passed it, we all voted for it, and our constituents are going to benefit from our ability to come together and accomplish that. Then, of course, there was the brief government shutdown in early July last year. What really bothers me about that shutdown was that it was completely 100% avoidable. It was unnecessary and the final agreement to that resulted in a historic increase in public education with no new taxes to the people of the State of Maine and it almost, it nearly, mirrored a proposal that had come from the Majority in this Body weeks, dare I say a month, before the shutdown. Yet when the inevitable happened, it was the Senate that stood nearly united to bring that shutdown to an end as quickly as possible. It was just one of the many examples of this Body rising to the occasion. Many tests came before us, tests of political courage, tests that we will, as a group, find solutions, and even tests of personal character. I'm proud to say that each test that we found we also passed with flying colors, sometimes as a group and sometimes as individual members.

To the retiring members of the 128th Legislature, thank you for your service to our State. It has been an honor to serve with each of you, each and every one of you, and as you leave this Chamber I'm proud to not just call you my colleagues but, to a person, to call you my friends. Many of us have spent eight years together. We have done some stuff that we never thought we could do. Senator Hill and I have become really good friends. I think she hated me at first. Maybe I hated you a little - no. We've become good friends because we took the time to try to understand one another. So many of our failings as an institution happen because we don't take time to understand one another. Senator Mason, he was a young man when he came here. Now he's a married old guy. Got to go have some babies quick. He's my friend. We haven't always agreed but he's my friend and I've watched him grow. Senator Katz, amazing. The guy that I absolutely respected the first day I met him and that respect has only grown. When the world is coming down around your ears, you want Roger Katz standing by your side. Senator Langley, I don't know what the Education Department's going to do without you. The man worked tirelessly, day after day, and cared so much about education in this State. Senator Collins is not here. Senator Whittemore has done so much for the insurance industry and passing bills that many of us didn't think were possible. He kept talking about this bill, the Right to Shop. I think he talked to me about that 5,000 times and I kept thinking to myself, 'Rod, you're never going to get the Democrats to vote for that,' but he did. He was diligent in his efforts and he convinced this entire

Body that we needed to do that and, together, we did. Who are we missing? For eight years. I think that's the folks that are terming out. Oh, who could forget Senator Saviello? He is a special guy, a guy that you never, never, ever know where he stands. No, that's not true. Tom is very clear with you where he stands. He cares deeply about this State. He refuses to be a partisan. Good for him. Good for him. A guy that's here, whether you agree with him on an issue or not, he's here trying to do what he believes in his heart was the absolute right thing to do.

To the returning members who may serve - may? -you know, we get to have that may don't we? - who may serve in the 129th Legislature, I wish you the best of luck. Do you know why? First of all, I wish you the best of luck because myself, my family, and my grandchildren are counting and depending on your success; each and every one of you. Work hard, do what's right. Remember that so many people are back home cheering you on, wanting you to be successful. The 129th Legislature will be a critical turning point for this Body. Will we continue on a path that together we paved so well or will this Chamber slip into partisan gridlock and dysfunction? I can't answer that question. Only the members of the 129th Legislature will be able to answer that. But I would ask you to please continue to distinguish this Body with respectful and civil debate. Continue to treat each other with the respect that each one of you deserves as a member of this Body and continue to ask questions, find the facts, defend positions, and work with others, with the other side of the aisle, to advance your policy goals. It's amazing to me how well informed the members of the Senate can be on a broad range of issues. Continue to share your knowledge and help find a path forward for our State. Respect each other. No one of us, I think it's Cianbro that has the statement, 'No one of us is smarter than all of us.' How does that go? Something like that. It's absolutely true. We make better decisions together than any one of us would make alone.

We have an incredible staff here at the State House and I personally want to thank that staff. The Secretary's Office has been incredible. Secretary Priest, thank you for your leadership of that staff. Her and her staff do an amazing job and that job is far tougher than any one of us give credit for. The fact of the matter is, even today as I see each one of you in the hall and you ask me, 'Are we ready to go?', or Senator Davis will say, 'You run this place,' I want to remind everybody the job is much tougher than we think and the fact of the matter is it's folks like the Secretary's Office that really make this place happen. I should be more patient with them and so any of the times that I've come into the office, after being asked for the forty-seventh time if we're ready, I want to apologize for coming in and asking the same question, and maybe sometimes not as kindly as I should. They do a terrific job and our State is very, very fortunate to have each and every one of them. To the Senate President's Office: Rob Caverly, what a friend. What a terrific job that gentleman has done, often tempering what my reaction might be otherwise. I want to publicly thank Rob for the job that he's done over the past four years. He is a perfect match for me because he does temper my response and reminds me what we're here for and I want everybody in this Chamber to recognize that any success that I've had as President of the Senate in large part is a result of listening and having such a great staff and Rob led that staff. So thank you, Rob. The Senate Republican Office with Shawn Roderick. Shawn has done a terrific job trying to keep things going, and I'll assure you that as much as Rob has a calming effect on me

Shawn has the opposite. But I love him equally. They are two very, very wonderful men. I can remember, because I've been here too long, I can remember when I thought of these two men as boys. I don't any more. They are wonderful young men and our State is very, very blessed to have them. The Senate Democratic Office, Darek Grant. Darek has done a terrific job. He has represented your caucus well. He's professional even when it's not convenient. He's put up with rants from me and smiled at me and has been polite and professional. I think you guys are very fortunate to have a man like that on your staff. I didn't even know he was in the Chamber. I was just kidding, Darek. We all know about the non-partisan staff that work in this building and the special job that they've done and we've brought them up before and honored them, but I'd be remiss if I didn't remind this - the group in here of the tremendous job that they do and I often - people in this building we all know like to complain about the pace of what goes on and the lack of getting things done. Somehow, I think far too often, we think that we're actually the people that are doing the work in the building. The fact of the matter is there is a non-partisan staff in this building that is doing an awful lot of work, making us look far smarter than we really are, and they do it at terrible hours, at an incredible rate of speed, and make so few mistakes. We are very, very fortunate to work with such professionals.

You know, it's often said that being a leader can be very lonely. I must admit, I've often felt alone during my service as Senate President. My best guess is that most of you, at one time or another, have felt alone as well. It's kind of similar to the theory that if being attacked by both the political left and the political right then you must be doing something good. But through it all I have to reaffirm that serving in this Body, serving as the leader for three terms and as Senate President for two of them terms, remains one of the greatest honors of my life. It is oddly fitting that the Legislature that was sworn in on Pearl Harbor Day - remember that? We had Pearl Harbor survivors that came to join us - the Legislature that was sworn in on Pearl Harbor Day will meet for the final time during the week of September 11th. It is fitting because it's a reminder that while we are - we all went through some tough times as a Legislature, there are always more to life outside this building than the challenges that we face here and just beyond these walls. When the members of the 128th Legislature gathered that day, before swearing in, I asked the entire Legislature to raise their hands - now that's not right, I did that when we had initiation - initiation, that's not the right term - when the new members came - orientation - I got to address that group. I did that twice. Both times, and I hope folks that were there remember this, I asked a pretty simple question of that group. The question was this: how many people in this Chamber - it was the House and Senate together - how many people in this Chamber love the State of Maine? Every hand was in the air. Then I asked them: now I believe that about you, do you believe that about the person that you're sitting next to? You know, of all those people, they didn't even know each other at that point, they didn't know if the person sitting next to them was a Republican or a Democrat. Every person nodded their head. If you believe that, if you truly believe that about your colleague, whether they are a Republican or a Democrat, that they do love the State just as much as you do, it is a whole lot easier to find some good in them, to give their ideas some value, some weight. It's a whole lot easier to work with somebody that you believe is there for the right reasons and I believe that about every member of this

Chamber. It doesn't mean I always agree with every member of this Chamber. It means I believe you're here for the right reason.

As former Senator John McCain said in his farewell letter to the nation: 'We have always had so much more in common with each other than in disagreement. If only we remember to give each other the benefit of presumption that we all love our country, we will get through these challenging times. We will come through them stronger than before and we always do.' Senator McCain wanted us to give one another the benefit of the doubt.

In leaving this Chamber, I challenge the next Senate not to be shy or shrink away from tackling the big issues. There will be plenty of them to take up next year. But always remember that when you are able to improve our State and the lives of our citizens, even just a little bit, just a little bit, you've really accomplished a big thing. Fight to defend your ideals and beliefs, but always remember the important role we play here for our democratic government. It was columnist Charles Krauthammer who put it best when he once wrote: 'For all the sublimity of art, physics, music, and mathematics, and all other manifestations of human genius, everything depends on the mundane, frustrating, often debased vocation known as politics. Because if you don't get your politics right, everything else risks extinction.' Don't be afraid to fight for what you believe. Don't be afraid to find value in one another's ideas.

It's incredible to me that this guy from a very humble beginning, who grew up in a gravel pit in Waldo County, had the honor to serve as the longest serving Senate President, Republican Senate President, in more than 36 years. I came to this position as a fiscal and social conservative, ready to work to get things done for the people in the State of Maine and I leave this position the same. Before I close, I think I should thank my family. As hard as it's been to be an elected official, it's often harder for the people we love. As bad as it hurts to be attacked by people that are supposed to be your friends, your colleagues; supposed to be on your side, as bad as it hurts you it hurts your family worse. I can't tell you how many times I've gone home to a wife that said, 'Mike, why are you doing this?' To a little girl that would cry because of the hateful, demeaning things that are said in the world of social media about you. I thank my family for enduring so much. You know, it's true about all of us. The time we spend here in Augusta is really time that we take away from our spouse, from our children, and our grandchildren, and I want to thank them for standing by me and enduring what hasn't always been fun and pleasant.

I would challenge each and every one of you, be bound by the truth. Be known as somebody that is bound by the truth. People don't have to agree with you and, even when you're completely honest with your colleagues, even when you're completely honest in your dealings, there will be times when people will question your sincerity, your honesty. But be bound by the truth because when you lay your head on your pillow at night if you know that you've called it the way you see it, that you've represented those 40,000 people that each one of us do in the very best way we could and used our very best judgement to make the decisions that were before us, you're going to sleep well. Be known as somebody that's bound by the truth. I know that outside this building there's an election going on. Can't deny it. Everybody knows it. Elections are about winning. But public service isn't about winning. Public service is about finding solutions for people that sent us here and I'm proud to say that I've worked with each and every one of you and I believe that you all are here for the right reason. If you're here simply to win, go

join a softball team. Too many people think it's about winning. It's about making our State a better place to live, to work, and to raise a family. Kindness is not weakness and crass is not conservative. I challenge each and every one of you returning members, find a way to debate and debate boldly. Hold firm to your positions but find solutions, and don't do so by being hateful. Politics has become too mean spirited. It hurts this institution. When we attack each other relentlessly it makes it just that much harder to get great people to come and engage in the political process that is so important to the future of our State. We do great harm to the institution that we all profess to care about when we do that. We need good people making great decisions on behalf of our State. Find a way to debate the issues but do it in kindness.

Ladies and gentlemen, I mean this when I say it, our best days as a State are in front of us. You see young people when you go to a public school and you see the hope and the way they see the world. You know that our future is bright. But we can't deny that we've gone through a rough time in political discourse. Be part of the solution, not part of the problem. Find a way to find good in one another. Find a way to work together and make sure that every decision you make isn't because you can but because you should. I appreciate the confidence that this Body has had in me and the way they have given me the opportunity to serve as President of the Senate. We haven't always agreed. Sometimes you guys could tell when I agreed with you and sometimes you couldn't. Most times you could. Isn't that true, Bill? That's true. My wife often tells me that I wear my emotions on my sleeve and I, you know, shouldn't play cards I've been told. I feel bad about that because I wish that I was the person that had the stone face, that you couldn't read me, that you didn't know what I was thinking. It's not who I am. I've done my best to try to be evenhanded and kind to the members of this Senate and I appreciate all of the kindness that each one of you has showed me in return and I will forever appreciate Senator Jackson and our ability to work through some of the tougher things. There's no question, we come from very different worlds. That's not true. Senator Jackson, we come from the same world. I don't know what happened to you. We have some very similar backgrounds. We have very different world views. But I do know he's here for the right reason. He wants our State to be a better place. I've enjoyed working with you, Troy. Thank you. Senator Mason as well. Maybe different backgrounds, maybe different but here for the right reason, trying to do the right thing, and they represent both these caucuses extremely well and both of them have done a terrific job to try and keep this institution headed in what I believe is the right direction.

I was recently asked by a group, and I want to wrap this up, but I was recently asked at a group that I was speaking at if I had any advice for whoever the next Senate President was. I said this: there will be a different cast of characters. There will be a different group of challenges, and I have no advice for the incoming President at all. But I know this, they'll do the right thing and together the Maine Senate will make good decisions on behalf of the people of the State of Maine. So thank you. Thank you for that opportunity.

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

Senator **KATZ**: Thank you, Mr. President. I request unanimous consent to address the Body on the Record.

THE PRESIDENT: The Senator may proceed.

Senator **KATZ**: Colleagues, as a boy I used to come here and watch my father here in the Senate. As a boy I was so proud of him and what he did and the way he did it. I'm not sure if I ever said it at the time but I knew that I hoped that someday I would have a chance to serve here as well. The years have flown by and now I find myself in the last minutes of my time here wondering where the time has gone and realizing what a lucky person I am. It's hard to find the words to express what an honor it has been to represent my community and to serve with so many incredible people and to try with all of you, individually and collectively, to do everything we can so that every person in this State has the best possible chance to achieve their potential. My mind goes around this Chamber in time to each one of you, but also the dozens of others I've had the privilege to serve with over the last eight years in this Chamber. Going back to the day when the role models were people like Kevin Raye, Jon Courtney, and Joe Brannigan, who were role models for me and others about how to behave in this institution. But as others have said many times, it's really about the people who are here and long after I forget the specifics of the debates over tax conformity or MaineCare expansion, I'll remember talking baseball with Senator Carpenter. I'll remember swapping lawyer-cop jokes with Senator Davis. I'll remember a constant stream of bad jokes from Senator Hamper. And I will remember betting on the Cony-Biddeford football game with Senator Deschambault. By the way, Mr. President, that's De-cham-bow not de-chambow. You may notice that Senator Deschambault today is wearing the red and white colors of Cony High School because of the football game the other day. Thank you. Because Senator Mason is so good at reminding all of us, this is a family and as he's told us, and reminded us, sometimes a dysfunctional family but usually a wonderful family, a family that I know that we have each other's backs and when we see each other in the future we will always have each other's backs. I'm sure each of us will look back on individual things we did that we are proud of in our legislative career. For me, it's this, and I take full and complete credit, for the fact that John Seed has worked here for the last eight years. Sorry John's not with us this afternoon. But John and I have been very close friends since 1977. I helped him get the job with President Raye. So to all of you, you're welcome. John, we love you. One of the great mysteries of life is how John Seed's British accent seems to get worse and worse with each passing year and we wish he would learn how to speak English. I echo the President's comments about the staff here, both in the Chamber. I mention my Dad. My Dad - he had the honor of nominating Heather Priest's mother to be Secretary of the Senate and I had the honor of nominating her here. The rest of the staff in the Senate and our non-partisan staff, let's put it this way, Mr. President, there are a lot of very bright people here in this building and not many of them necessarily in this Chamber, but there are a lot of very bright people in this building.

I did have three closing thoughts, Mr. President. First, I remember when I was a kid, as all you do. I certainly looked up to my parents but there were other role models. Some of them were political. I'll show my age, but I got to watch Presidents like Eisenhower and Kennedy and how they behaved in office, and Governors like Muskie and Reed. I think they all implicitly

understood their responsibilities as role models, not just for legislators but for other people and for children. Sadly, Mr. President, I don't think we've experienced that in the last eight years and I hope that is a blip on the screen and that the next Chief Executive, no matter who it is, will understand what a real responsibility that is. Second, Mr. President, I wonder - excuse me, I worry about what I would call the neutering of the Legislature. I fear that, collectively, we have ceded too much of authority to the Executive Branch. Democracy works best when the separation of powers is in the elegant balance that the framers of our Maine Constitution intended. I worry that now we are somewhat out of balance. When we have passed a law and the Chief Executive ignores it and refuses to execute it, too often we have said, 'Oh, well.' When Maine voters have overwhelmingly passed a bond issue and the Chief Executive refuses to honor the will of the people by selling the bonds, too often I think our collective response has been to say, 'Oh, well.' And when our standing committees seek information and testimony from members of the Executive Department so we can make the good public policy we were sent here to do and the Chief Executive says to his people, 'Thou shall not appear,' too often our collective response has been to say, 'Oh, well.' So I hope the next Legislature will do a better job of reestablishing the right balance for this Legislature.

But it is in this Senate, Mr. President, that I believe the Maine people have been served so well. So much of it has to do with leadership. I don't know that we have a Senate President Hall of Fame, but if we did, Mr. President, for the way you have exhibited extraordinary leadership, always insisting on the integrity of this Body and focusing whenever necessary, and that was too often, on the defense of the Senate, as an institution, you belong there. I know you have the scars to show for it but, Mr. President, you are a statesman. To Minority Leader Jackson, the title has a nice ring to it. You have fought policy battles with passion and energy, but always with respect to everyone here no matter what side of the issue they were on, and your party's been well served. Last, Mr. President, I'd like to share a story with you. I think I might have told this story two years ago or four years ago. For those of you who have heard it before, I apologize. But I'm reminded of it - of my time when I worked as a law clerk to a judge. Right after I got out of law school I moved to Maryland and I clerked for a Superior Court Judge, a trial court judge in Maryland. I sat for many, many hours in a court room, usually while jury trials were going on. I'll never forget because the jury would sit over there, behind where Senator Carpenter and Senator Dill are. They would sit on that wall. The row of chairs of the jury room was right back up against the wall and people would lean their heads, the jurors would lean their heads in the back row on the wall. Over years there became kind of indentations, of the oils of their hair were there, and you could see where the jurors had sit. It was almost like the ghosts of jurors by seeing the indentations on the wall. I always thought that that is really something because when juries sit on a case, and another jury sits in it, they set precedence for how juries handle cases in the future. And I think that that's been so true here. So for those of us who leave here today, I hope that the people look back on us, who occupy those seats now, on our ghosts, on what we did and how we did it and say, 'You know what? You guys did okay.' Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator **JACKSON:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I definitely wanted to rise and certainly thank the Senate Secretary's Office. Much like you said, Senate President, they've done a great job. Extremely respectful. Hard, very hard job to do. All the reasons you laid out. People don't, I think, quite understand. So I certainly wanted to thank them. I certainly wanted to thank your staff. Much like you said, extremely respectful. Again, a very tough job making all of us look so much better, and certainly Darek Grant and all the staff in the Minority Office. We have a lot less, unfortunately, but they work extremely hard for all of us. So before I start - this is certainly an emotional time. You know, a sad time, obviously. Mr. President, you spoke so eloquently, so heartfully about your beliefs and goals for not only this Legislature but the next, and I honestly do really appreciate that. I appreciate the work that the entire Legislature has been able to do under your leadership. I did certainly want to say that, you know, for the members that are terming out that you've talked about, you know, we're losing Senator Maker, Senator Cushing, Senator Brakey, Senator Hill, and Senator Dion also. You know, that obviously - we don't know who's coming back next time. But, you know, it's the last time, unless for some odd reason we get hauled back in here again, but it's the last time that we all, as this Legislature, will be together and that means a lot. You know, because it really has been an honor, I mean a true honor, to serve with all of you over these last two years. You know, a long, long two years but certainly not because of any one of you. You know, this is really a great, great thing, to be able to come together, people from all around the State, different backgrounds, and to be together as long as we are and work together on issues that we all know are so important. You know, times have certainly been tense in this Chamber. No doubt about it. And, you know, that being said, you know, I still can thank each and every one of you for, you know, working together and everything that we have accomplished because while there are many things that I wish we'd been able to do, things that maybe we didn't do enough of, we certainly have had bi-partisan accomplishments together. That I feel very strongly about. You know, we passed legislation to try and lower prescription drugs in this State, hopefully in this country, together. We definitely done property tax relief for people all around the State together. We did the tax conformity bill together, again, that did property tax relief. So for all those things, you know, I am extremely, sincerely grateful to each and every one of you. I did want to say, you know, at the end of the day it's our job to look out for all the people in Maine and each and every one of us come at that from a different perspective but, as the Senate President said, I think I can say wholeheartedly that everyone did that in the best possible way that they believed that they had to. You know, throughout this Legislature we definitely had the opportunity to laugh together and I know for a fact that I definitely cried with some of you. That is something that means a lot, when you actually share those emotions with people that you never had the opportunity to know before but, you know, you come together, like it's been said, to work on things that you truly believe in and you share those moments and, you know, you build a bond. You may have all kinds of days that you fight tooth and nail for issues that you believe in but, you know, after today whenever I see any one of you I will make an extra effort to go across the street to say hello or wave or whatever it is. I mean, I'm just a little bit remiss

that Senator Saviello isn't here today because he's someone that I certainly would have liked to have shaken his hand. You know, when the Legislature started at the beginning of this session, I'm still unsure why it is, the Senator from Franklin always goes to stoke the fire and I still have Senator Saviello's piece of wood from that day. So, you know, there's been days that I thought he was going to come and take it away from me because he was mad at me, but he left it here and, you know, that's, I mean, just a little bit of why I do love this place and love each and every one of you because we do share things that I never ever would have expected but for being here. So with that, members of my caucus that up until this session I didn't know and got to know, thank you for the last few years, and certainly to members of the Republican caucus the same. Many of you I didn't know and got to know better because of it. Thank you for allowing that to happen. You know, I live completely at the other end of the state. Having the ability to share moments, hardships, laughs is truly, truly - and I think most people would think that I'm relatively sincere - is truly the biggest honor that I'll ever have professionally. So more than anything, I just want to thank all of you for what we've done together in these last two years and want to wish the best to everyone in here. So thank you.

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

Senator **MASON:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, so 25 year old Garrett Mason walks up to the State House the day after the election for a big rally that we're going to hold in the Hall of Flags. I'd never been here before except for one time to scope out my competition for the 125th Legislature. I sat right in that chair right over there where Nate is standing next to. I sat in here and thought there is no way that people are going to elect me to sit in one of these seats. I didn't know it but a couple of months later they would and I walked up to this building and I can tell you that I have not lost the awe that I have had from that first day. This is a very special place and in it contains very special people, people who are elected by their constituents as giants in their communities to represent the values and the culture of that very special place in Maine. Make no mistake, every place in this State is very, very special. Take it from somebody who just traveled all over the place trying to run for Governor - right Senator Dion. As I came up stairs for that rally I had two interactions that would really mark my time here in the Capitol. I remember that Senate Republicans were in the Minority Office at the time and we had come to celebrate our big victory of 20 seats. The first time in a very long time that that had happened. I walked in and this woman just jumped out of her seat, started crying, gave me a hug, and I said, 'I don't know who you are.' She goes, 'I know you don't. My name is Pam Cahill and I'm just so excited I can't even stand it.' Then I walked out in the hallway and a recently defeated Libby Mitchell was walking out of those doors. She looked at me and she said, 'Are you in the Legislature?' I said, 'Yes, I am.' She goes, 'Great, enjoy every second of it.' She said that with every bit of enthusiasm that she could muster after being up all night and just losing an election. Those two interactions marked the rest of my time here at the State House because, as Senator Katz said, I do truly believe that the 186 people, plus staff and everybody else, truly does become a family over time. I've

experienced this first hand. One of the people that I look up to the most in the Legislature, who I served with, was Deb Plowman, who now works in the Department of Education. She said, 'If you fall in love with the process you will fall in love with the people.' So I decided to do that. Over the course of my legislative tenure I think most of you can probably know that I love the process. I think it's kind of weird that the Legislative manual that we follow is Mason's Rule of Laws and Legislative Procedures because I really have read the book and I love it. I love to learn all the different intricacies of what we have to do and Heather can probably attest to that. But the way I fell in love with the process was by people teaching it to me. As I look back at the people who taught me things, my first two teachers were Anne Haskell and Stan Gerzofsky. I was on the Criminal Justice Committee and Gary Plummer and I had taken over as Chairs of the Committee and I didn't even know where the bathroom was, but I was really happy to Chair a Committee. Anne Haskell and Stan Gerzofsky put aside the fact that they'd been Chairs of that Committee for a very long time and taught the new 25 year old kid how to Chair a Committee. Now my first Committee hearing was confirming John Morris as Commissioner of Public Safety. I wish we had a transcript because I really wish people could read that. It was a doozie. But we got through it and I got through it because there were people there who were willing to help me even though I didn't hold their political ideology. As I went further through I learned the process from people like John Martin and Deb Plowman, Kevin Raye. I had wonderful teachers to teach me how this process worked and what the best way was to move the ball forward. I continued to fall in love with this process in the Minority and even further on being elected Republican Leader for two terms in a row. And that saying that Deb told me was true. When you do learn the process you fall in love with the people because the people are the process, and that's what we're here to do. We're here to serve the people of our State and the people of every little nook and cranny that we have in our districts.

You know, I do say that the Legislature is a family a lot and I perhaps am the only Senator in history that has been completely chaperoned by a member of my family the entire time that I've been here. I've had the very fortunate experience to serve with my Uncle. I have had the experience to serve with my Mom and, shock of all shocks, I've also been able to serve with my Dad. If you know my Dad, which many of you do now know him a little bit better now, he's not your typical Legislator. He's a guy that knows how to run an excavator. But so much of my legislative experience is merged with so many major things that have happened in my life. I met my wife here. I served with my family here. When my Mom passed away I think I got cards and notes from every single person in this room. When I got up to give a eulogy at my Mom's funeral half of the Legislature was there. There were Independents, Democrats, Republicans. I think even a Green was there. This place is special and, yes, we have had a rough couple of years and there's no doubt about it, this Body, in particular has been kicked around like a hacky-sack. But I'm proud of each and every one of you here that has maintained your integrity, that has maintained your honor, and has maintained your commitment to the people that you represent. So I want to thank you all for that.

We've already thanked all the staff and, Shawn, you've kept me together. Rob, Rob and I came in this work together and I can't think of two more people that have done a better job for the Republican caucus than Shawn and Rob. They continue to do that today. President's Office staff, Majority Office staff, all of the

interns that we've had filling in our office and there. You know the Democrat Office staff. Marcia's not in here but I think she can hear me. She probably has her squawk box on. One of my favorite people in this building is Marcia and she doesn't care who you are, what you believe in. She's always ready to give you a hug and make some sort of treat. I always looked forward to Christmas every year because Marcia would have a bowl of something and I hope I still get a chance to get some of those peanut butter chocolate things that she makes because those are really great.

But I'm very proud of the Senate. I'm proud to be able to be called a Senator. To the Republican caucus, you guys found in you to elect a 29 year old to be your leader and for the past four years I have tried to speak on your behalf. I have tried to keep the caucus in order and, for 18 to 20 people that have very different opinions, that's very hard to do. But I thank you for your trust in me. I thank you for allowing me to not do this just once but twice. To the President, thank you for letting me get behind the gavel every once in a while. I really, really enjoyed that. It was a lot of fun, and there is nothing more that can get some frustration out than whacking that gavel on the podium. When you get really mad, sometimes you miss and it doesn't sound so hot. But you know I am the Majority Leader so I want to talk about the Republican Party for a minute. I believe in our party. I believe in the ideals that our party promotes. I believe in the party of Reagan, the party of Lincoln, and I hope that we will continue towards making this country a great, shining city on the hill. America's day does begin here and I hope that we can be America's beacon for the years to come because I think that we're headed into some very stormy waters and I believe that. You know, when I go to these events like NCSL and CSG, these things, I still can truly say, you know, the politics of bitterness and revenge might happen in Augusta but it doesn't happen in this Chamber and, for the most part, across the hall. To the Democrat caucus, we don't always agree but I love each and every one of you and thank you for being my friends and thank you for always being here for me outside of this building and, when we can, in here. Senator Jackson and Senator Libby, you guys have been great to work with. Thank you very much. To both of my Assistant Leaders over the years, Senator Volk and Senator Cushing, thank you guys for giving me a tap on the shoulder if I'm not paying attention or just helping me out when I needed it. But with that, Mr. President, I would say thank you. Thank you for your leadership and I wish the 129th Legislature the best of luck in the world. For those of you returning, continue to do us proud and, as the President said, you have a whole bunch of people at home rooting for you. So thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator LANGLEY: Thank you, Mr. President. Men and women of the Senate, right now we're starting to feeling like we've been in a very long public hearing and it's kind of rough as a Chair of a committee when we get to this point in public hearings. If I said it's once, I've said it a thousand times. That is, if people before you have said what you're going to say, you know, try to summarize and kind of just add to their remarks. So, consider that this is my effort, to brevity, to do that. You know, first of all, I didn't think this day was ever going to come. I haven't had a day

off. I've worked every day since you last saw me in June. I run a seasonal business and I think my remarks are much different in April, you know, thinking we were going to be done. As now, you know, looking at the time and I have to get back to my other world, but this world I've cherished. It's been really an honor and a privilege. It's been the coolest job ever. Every day the news means something when you go home and you see something come on and you say, 'Nah, they didn't get that right. This is what really happened.' To have an inside seat to the inner workings of this has been the coolest thing. But the hardest part about this job hasn't been the people that call you up angry and say to you, you know, you're not voting the right way and you should do more and not, you know, the people that love everything you do. I'd say the hardest job has been, for me, - part of this is when somebody comes up and says, 'You know we voted for you and we trust you'll do the right thing for us.' That's their take on it. I always felt that pressure more than any other pressure, from the people that really trusted you to do the right thing and representing my district, all the people in my district, has been my goal from the very beginning, not just say my party. I said it more than one time that I don't think I ever should have made it here, shouldn't have been here. If you'd seen the fact that - probably when I was in high school, it wouldn't have been in anybody's radar - most likely to be a State Senator anywhere. Definitely that would not have been to that - it would not have been in anybody's horizon, not even my own. But really it's because of good teachers I had both then and teachers I've had in the now, as others have commented on, on mentors that have been here that helped groom you into being a good legislator; my friends and colleagues here and previous colleagues that took the time to tell me when I was doing well and when I was out of line. Special thanks to my seatmates who - we've spent a lot of years and we get to know each other really well in the middle of those long nights. Senator Collins, who isn't here because he's making sure that he wants to be married 51 years because I think his wife texted him and said it's time for you to come home. My classmates of the Class of 2010, you know you're subjected to many of us giving a farewell speech because there are so many. There are seven or eight of us, I think seven, that came in together and then spent all this time together. I really cherish your friendship and you can call me day or night and I'd come to help you. I do remember, specifically, candidate training, seeing Garrett there with his iPad. What is that thing that he's got and he's going to register thousands of people to, you know, do absentee ballots in his favor? So, you taught us a lot as the youngest member of our committee, of our caucus - I probably learned the most from. It really has been a ride. We came in - I served in the House one term. Total minority to total majority to then being in the minority again in the 126th and then to this Body, divided government, you know, for two terms. So we've kind of seen every kind of form of that and when divided government is at its best, and works, I think it does work its best because we, in order to pass anything, really had to work together. I do remember when we were in the minority and Senator Thibodeau would lean over and go, '20-15, we win.' We were the 15 and, you know, we were in the minority because we had a special Veto Table in our minority office over there. There was some of that. There's a few little hijinks along the way. So I cherish those friendships. Senator Thibodeau, we served together for 10 years. Started in the House and you've grown up quite a bit since then. He'd steal your pad of paper and your notes would show up in the House with your name on it. Those were probably really carefree

days when we look back in history. We've taken on a lot since then. I really do love my colleagues from the other side. Got some statesmen in your midst. You know, a lot of you, both Senators Hill and Diamond. Probably the nicest thing ever said about me was Senator Diamond saying, you know, that either party would gladly accept Senator Langley and that really meant a lot to me because of the work that I've tried to do here has not been partisan work. It's really been about the issues and I would like to think that my views, I would hold them the same regardless of what initials was after my name. Lastly, you know, for me, many thanks to my Senate colleagues on Education. We served six years together. Senator Maker is a mother bear when it comes to protecting kids. Don't ever get in her way, in between her and her kids. Our time, I will always cherish together many, many dinners at the Senator Inn over the years as we shared the same accommodations and inviting me to the Washington County Delegation. We meet on Wednesdays at Pat's Pizza and other places. So it was a great time. Then Senator Millett, many thanks to you for all your help in committee. Your attention to detail kept me honest. You caught a lot of details that made a difference. When we're on opposite sides of an issue, quite formidable, as your caucus has pointed out as well. But when we were on the same side, Senator Millett, we were truly unbeatable and I choose to remember those times when we were on the same side. With that, as I said, this has been the coolest job ever. I'll cherish all the memories and the fights and that really everyone here took the time to get up off the couch and go on and knock on all those doors and get yourself elected and take the abuse that comes with it, to try to make things better and that's what I tell people back home. You know, are you part of the problem or are you part of the solution? So with that, I'm glad to say that all of you here are part of the solution. Thank you very much for your time.

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

Senator **BRAKEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. You know, I will admit that I never imagined that I would be finishing my time in the Maine Senate at the ripe old age of 30 but, then again, seven years ago when I first got involved in this, a newbie in Maine politics, I could never have imagined that I would have had the opportunity to serve in this Body. Certainly there are members of this Body, like Senator Cushing, who only had nightmares of such a thing taking place. But it's been four years. Not termed out but not returning next year either. So since this is my last day of service in the Maine Senate, like many others here, at least my last day for the foreseeable future, it does seem prudent to share a few thoughts. First and foremost, it's been an honor to serve with everyone here. Like Senator Mason, I can remember coming up here at the age of 25, as a newly announced candidate for the Senate, and I'm sure many thought, 'Ya, right.' Thankfully I was too naive to know that I wasn't supposed to win, and so I did. But upon winning that first race I was given some wise advice. I was told - someone pulled me aside, had some experience in the Legislature, and said, 'Eric, the first day you arrive you're going to take a look around the institution of the Senate and you're going to look at your distinguished colleagues and then you're going to take a very hard look at yourself and you're going to ask yourself a question. You're going to ask

yourself: how in the world did I get here? But then a few weeks are going to pass and you'll take another look around the institution, you'll take another look at yourself, and having come to know your colleagues a lot better, you'll ask yourself another question, which is: how in the world did these people get here?' Something I think is often forgotten, as the people of Maine watch our activities, is that we're all human. We're all human beings. There's nothing exceptionally special about us. Each, as individuals, we're all capable of the same mistakes, the same errors in judgment as all people are prone to, except that the people of our districts entrusted us each to represent their interests the best that we possibly know how and I'm confident, having come to know each member of this Chamber, we each try the best we do know how to serve the different communities that elected us the best we know. I also echo some of the sentiments of the President. You know, when the stakes are high it's easy to lose respect, to lose civility. I have, even myself, fighting, you know, for what I believe in, the liberties of Maine people, the best that I know how. I've certainly, at times, I think like the rest of us, lost my temperament at times. I think this is understandable. In this Chamber and across Maine government we have many different ideas and philosophies of governance. But when we let the disagreements become personal, as happens at times, you know, I think that something is lost. I've always sought to keep my disagreements, of which people know there are often times many, but I've always tried to keep my disagreements to matters of principle and policy and never personality. Looking across the aisle, I know that there are members of this Chamber I may disagree with 90% of the time, but that just means that we have 10% common ground, and when disagreements become personal we risk burning those bridges that would allow us to work together on those areas of common ground. So whether it was working with Senator Bellows on issues like civil liberties or with Senator Dion on criminal justice reform or with Senator Chipman on medical cannabis, I've appreciated that our intense disagreements never stopped us from working together. That is doubly true for members of this Chamber on my own side of the aisle who proudly have found themselves frustrated many, many times when I went my own way. So I just want to say thank you all for serving, thank you for collaborating. I've always sought to do the best I know how to put the Constitution and the liberties of Maine people first. I, personally, hope to continue that fight in other places, but time will tell there. For those who plan to return next year, my parting thoughts for anyone who cares to listen to what this young buck has to say, know your principles and never surrender them, never compromise on what you believe in, but also never forget the possibility that other people may surprise you. You may find common ground in areas you never expected. Thank you very much for all of you who I have had a chance to serve with these last couple of years. Thank you.

Off Record Remarks

Senate at Ease until the sound of the Bell.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

At this point a message was received from the House of Representatives, borne by Representative HERBIG of Belfast, informing the Senate that the House had transacted all business before it and was ready to Adjourn Without Day.

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

ORDERS

Senate Order

On motion by Senator **MASON** of Androscoggin, the following Senate Order:

S.O. 35

Ordered, that a message be sent to Governor Paul R. LePage informing him that the Senate has transacted all business before it and is ready to Adjourn Without Day.

READ and PASSED.

The Chair appointed the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator **MASON**, and the Senator from Aroostook, Senator **JACKSON**, to deliver the message to the Governor. The Senators were escorted to the Governor's Office.

Subsequently, the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator **MASON**, reported that he had delivered the message with which he was charged.

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

ENACTORS

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

Act

An Act To Protect Homeowners Affected by Tax Lien Foreclosure
H.P. 1124 L.D. 1629
(S "D" S-551 to C "A" H-771)

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

Ordered sent down forthwith.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

On motion by Senator **MASON** of Androscoggin, the following
Senate Order:

S.O. 36

Ordered, that a message be sent to the House of Representatives
informing that Body that the Senate is ready to Adjourn Without
Day.

READ and **PASSED**.

The Chair appointed the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator
MASON, and the Senator from Aroostook, Senator **JACKSON**, to
deliver the message to the House. The Senators were escorted
to the House of Representatives.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Subsequently, the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator **MASON**,
reported that he had delivered the message with which he was
charged.

On motion by Senator **GRATWICK** of Penobscot, the Honorable
MICHAEL D. THIBODEAU, President of the Senate, declared the
Second Special Session of the 128th Legislature, **ADJOURNED**
SINE DIE at 6:45 in the evening.