

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
JOURNAL OF THE SENATE**

In Senate Chamber
Tuesday
March 21, 2017

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

Prayer by Pastor Paula Norbert, First Congregational Church of
Kennebunk.

PASTOR NORBERT: Thank you. Let us pray. O Holy One of all
seasons, with artistic splendor You have given us the hope of this
season as we move from the cold and snow to new life and
spring. With joy may we greet the coming of flowers and the
return of birds. Remove from our hearts on this day anything that
keeps us frozen in separation from one another. We ask Your
blessing on all of us gathered here and help us to be mindful
always of the great responsibility we share in caring for all of the
citizens of our state. Make us one with all creation as we give
thanks for this season of hope and joy in our beautiful State of
Maine as springtime arrives once again. Amen.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Dana L. Dow of Lincoln
County.

Reading of the Journal of Thursday, March 16, 2017.

Doctor of the day, Julie Grosvenor, M.D. of East Waterboro.

Off Record Remarks

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act Regarding Workers' Compensation Insurance Rates
for Small Businesses"

H.P. 641 L.D. 913

In Senate, March 14, 2017, on motion by Senator **WHITTEMORE**
of Somerset, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INSURANCE
AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Comes from the House, that Body having **INSISTED** on its former
action whereby the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on
**LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **VOLK** of Cumberland, the Senate
RECEDED and **CONCURRED**.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act To Separate the Authorities under the Licenses for
Property and Casualty Insurance Adjusters and Workers'
Compensation Insurance Adjusters"

S.P. 323 L.D. 984

In Senate, March 14, 2017, **REFERRED** to the Committee on
INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on
**LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion by Senator **WHITTEMORE** of Somerset, **TABLED**
until Later in Today's Session, pending **FURTHER
CONSIDERATION**.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act To Protect a Homeowner's Equity of Redemption in a
Foreclosure Action"

S.P. 280 L.D. 880

In Senate, March 14, 2017, on motion by Senator **WHITTEMORE**
of Somerset, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INSURANCE
AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on
JUDICIARY, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion by Senator **WHITTEMORE** of Somerset, **TABLED**
until Later in Today's Session, pending **FURTHER
CONSIDERATION**.

House Papers

Resolve, To Expand Research To Fight Lyme Disease
H.P. 737 L.D. 1054

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

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

Bill "An Act To Protect Homeowners from Workers' Compensation Claims"

H.P. 739 L.D. 1056

Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** suggested and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**.

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

Bill "An Act To Promote Life with Dignity"

H.P. 749 L.D. 1066

Committee on **JUDICIARY** suggested and ordered printed.

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: S.C. 206

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

March 16, 2017

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 Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development has had under consideration the nomination of Thomas R. Davis of Winslow, for appointment to the Workers' Compensation Board.

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

YEAS Senators 2 Volk of Cumberland, Bellows of Kennebec

Representatives 8 Fecteau of Biddeford, Austin of Gray, Handy of Lewiston, Lockman of Amherst, Mastraccio of Sanford, Stetkis of Canaan, Sylvester of Portland, Vachon of Scarborough

NAYS 0

ABSENT 3 Sen. Langley of Hancock, Rep. Bates of Westbrook, Rep. Doore of Augusta

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Thomas R. Davis of Winslow, for appointment to the Workers' Compensation Board be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Amy F. Volk
Senate Chair

S/Ryan M. Fecteau
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** 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 (#40)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 35 Senators having voted in the negative, 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 **Thomas R. Davis** of Winslow for appointment to the Workers' Compensation Board was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 207

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

March 16, 2017

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 Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development has had under consideration the nomination of Ronald P. Green, Jr. of Plymouth, for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board.

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

YEAS	Senators	2	Volk of Cumberland, Bellows of Kennebec
	Representatives	8	Fecteau of Biddeford, Austin of Gray, Handy of Lewiston, Lockman of Amherst, Mastraccio of Sanford, Stetkis of Canaan, Sylvester of Portland, Vachon of Scarborough
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Langley of Hancock, Rep. Bates of Westbrook, Rep. Doore of Augusta

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Ronald P. Green, Jr. of Plymouth, for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Amy F. Volk
Senate Chair

S/Ryan M. Fecteau
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** 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 (#41)

YEAS: Senator: SAVIELLO

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

1 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 34 Senators having voted in the negative, and 1 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 **Ronald P. Green, Jr.** of Plymouth for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 208

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

March 16, 2017

The Following Communication: S.C. 211

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

March 16, 2017

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

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Amber M. Oakes of Milford for appointment to the School Board of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

Pursuant to Title 20-A, MRSA §7406, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 213

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

March 16, 2017

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

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Jason R. White of Rockland for reappointment to the School Board of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

Pursuant to Title 20-A, MRSA §7406, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 212

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

March 16, 2017

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

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Deborah L. Camire of Biddeford for reappointment to the School Board of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

Pursuant to Title 20-A, MRSA §7406, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 214

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

March 16, 2017

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

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Robin L. Foster of Orrington for appointment to the School Board of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

Pursuant to Title 20-A, MRSA §7406, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 215

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

March 16, 2017

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

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Dr. Robert G. Hasson, Jr. of South Portland for appointment as Commissioner of the Department of Education.

Pursuant to Title 20-A, MRSA §251, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 205

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

March 15, 2017

Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau, Senate President
Honorable Sara Gideon, Speaker of the House
128th Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau and Speaker Gideon,

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

L.D. 909 An Act To Stimulate the Maine Economy and Alleviate Child Poverty by Indexing Certain Benefits to Inflation

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Eric L. Brakey
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Patricia Hymanson
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 216

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

March 13, 2017

Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau, Senate President
Honorable Sara Gideon, Speaker of the House
128th Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau and Speaker Gideon,

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

L.D. 641 Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study the Availability of Information Regarding Related Incidents in Domestic Violence Cases (EMERGENCY)

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Lisa Keim
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Matthew W. Moonen
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 209

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION
IMPLEMENTATION**

March 9, 2017

Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau, Senate President
Honorable Sara Gideon, Speaker of the House
128th Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau and Speaker Gideon,

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

L.D. 800 An Act To Prohibit Marijuana on the Campuses of Maine's Public Postsecondary Institutions (EMERGENCY)

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Roger J. Katz
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Teresa S. Pierce
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: H.P. 728

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0148**

March 7, 2017

Honorable Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Enclosed please find my official certification to the 128th Legislature of the citizen initiative petition entitled "An Act To Enhance Access to Affordable Health Care".

Sincerely,

S/Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State

**STATE OF MAINE
SECRETARY OF STATE**

I, Matthew Dunlap, Secretary of State, hereby certify that written petitions bearing valid signatures of 66,434 electors of this State were addressed to the Legislature of the State of Maine and were filed in the office of the Secretary of State on January 25 and 26, 2017, requesting that the Legislature consider an act entitled, "An Act To Enhance Access to Affordable Health Care".

I further certify that the number of signatures submitted is in excess of ten percent of the total votes cast in the last gubernatorial election preceding the filing of such petitions, as required by Article IV, Part Third, Section 18 of the Constitution of Maine, that number being 61,123.

I further certify this initiative petition to be valid and attach herewith the text of the legislation circulated on the petition's behalf.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State of Maine to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at Augusta on the seventh day of March in the year two thousand and seventeen.

S/Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State

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

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

The accompanying Bill:

Bill "An Act To Enhance Access to Affordable Health Care"
I.B. 2 L.D. 1039

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

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

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

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Off Record Remarks

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act To Amend the Rules Regulating Invasive Terrestrial Plant Species"

S.P. 368 L.D. 1114

Presented by Senator VOLK of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative VACHON of Scarborough.

On motion by Senator **DAVIS** of Piscataquis, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Eluding an Officer"

S.P. 361 L.D. 1090

Presented by Senator ROSEN of Hancock.
Cosponsored by Senators: CYRWAY of Kennebec, DAVIS of Piscataquis, Representatives: GERRISH of Lebanon, NADEAU of Winslow.

On motion by Senator **ROSEN** of Hancock, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Improve Antihunger Programs in Maine Schools"

S.P. 367 L.D. 1113

Presented by Senator BELLOWES of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative KORNFIELD of Bangor and Senators: BREEN of Cumberland, DOW of Lincoln, KATZ of Kennebec, LANGLEY of Hancock, MILLETT of Cumberland, Representatives: PIERCE of Falmouth, POULIOT of Augusta, TUELL of East Machias.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Restore Public Health Nursing Services" (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 362 L.D. 1108

Presented by Senator CARSON of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative PERRY of Calais and Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, KATZ of Kennebec, MAKER of Washington, WOODSOME of York, Representatives: MALABY of Hancock, SAMPSON of Alfred, TEPLER of Topsham, TUELL of East Machias.

Bill "An Act To Improve General Assistance Reimbursements"
S.P. 363 L.D. 1109

Presented by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative HAMANN of South Portland and Senator: LIBBY of Androscoggin, Representatives: DENNO of Cumberland, HYMANSON of York, JORGENSEN of Portland, MADIGAN of Waterville, PARKER of South Berwick, PERRY of Calais, TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

Bill "An Act Concerning Medicaid for Incarcerated Persons about To Be Released"

S.P. 364 L.D. 1110

Presented by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative TUCKER of Brunswick and Senators: BREEN of Cumberland, DILL of Penobscot, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives: CARDONE of Bangor, DENNO of Cumberland, DEVIN of Newcastle, LONGSTAFF of Waterville.

Resolve, To Establish a Task Force To Study the Causes of and Solutions to the Epidemic of Childhood Obesity in Maine (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 365 L.D. 1111

Presented by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative DENNO of Cumberland and Senators: DILL of Penobscot, LANGLEY of Hancock, LIBBY of Androscoggin, SAVIELLO of Franklin, Representatives: CARDONE of Bangor, DEVIN of Newcastle, FOLEY of Wells, TUCKER of Brunswick.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Maternal and Infant Death Review Panel"

S.P. 366 L.D. 1112

Presented by Senator KEIM of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Representative HAMANN of South Portland and Senators: BRAKEY of Androscoggin, MAKER of Washington, Representatives: HEAD of Bethel, MALABY of Hancock, SANDERSON of Chelsea.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Require That Employees Be Informed of Potential Eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit"

S.P. 359 L.D. 1088

Presented by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative POULIOT of Augusta and Senators: JACKSON of Aroostook, LIBBY of Androscoggin, MIRAMANT of Knox, SAVIELLO of Franklin, Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, BLUME of York, STANLEY of Medway, TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

On motion by Senator **VOLK** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Improve the Unemployment Compensation System"

S.P. 370 L.D. 1116

Presented by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook.

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

On motion by Senator **JACKSON** of Aroostook, Bill and accompanying papers **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study the Phase-out of Subminimum Wage

S.P. 371 L.D. 1117

Presented by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative PARKER of South Berwick and Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, BLUME of York, DEVIN of Newcastle, FAY of Raymond, GOLDEN of Lewiston, HAMANN of South Portland, PERRY of Calais.

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

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

Bill "An Act To Define When a Municipal Land Use Decision Is Considered Final for Purposes of an Appeal to Superior Court"

S.P. 358 L.D. 1087

Presented by Senator BREEN of Cumberland.

On motion by Senator **DAVIS** of Piscataquis, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Prohibit the Use of Handheld Phones and Devices While Driving"

S.P. 360 L.D. 1089

Presented by Senator DIAMOND of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative PIERCE of Falmouth and Senators: BREEN of Cumberland, KATZ of Kennebec, ROSEN of Hancock, Representative: BRYANT of Windham.

Bill "An Act To Establish a Specialty License Plate for Female Veterans"

S.P. 369 L.D. 1115

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin. (BY REQUEST)

On motion by Senator **COLLINS** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

ORDERS

Joint Orders

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

Brad Smith, of Sidney, a senior at Temple Academy and a player on the boys basketball team, who recently scored his 1,000th career point. We extend to Brad our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 132

Sponsored by Senator KATZ of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Senator: CYRWAY of Kennebec,
Representative: PERKINS of Oakland.

READ.

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

Senator **KATZ:** Thank you, Mr. President. Men and women of the Senate, it's a real honor to get up and recognize one of my constituents who scored 1,000 points in his high school basketball career, something that those of us who played high school basketball, and fell far short of that number, can certainly appreciate. Brad Smith is from Sidney. He's here with his folks, Gary and Patty Smith. He led his team to the Regional Quarter Final game here not far back and he's taking those 1,000 points along with him to Thomas College, where he hopes to play basketball and major in business. So it's a real pleasure to recognize a terrific basketball player and someone who's going to use those lessons well and probably open up some business for us here in the State of Maine. Thank you, Mr. President.

PASSED.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Brad Smith, Gary and Patty Smith, Eric Smith, Pamela Keenan, Amy Keenan, Elizabeth Keenan, Kenneth Smith, Susan Oswald, and Bill Oswald. They are the guests of the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Katz. Would they please rise and accept the congratulations of the State Senate.

The Wells High School Wrestling Team, of Wells, which won the Class B State Championship, the first for the team since 1996. Members of the team include wrestlers Devin Bickford, Josh Burgess, Caleb Chase, Cullen Cummings, Nathan Curtis, Brendan Dean, Caden Gibson, Aaron Maynard, Sean McCormack-Kuhman, Ryan Norton, Ben Orozco, Drew Peters, Nolan Potter, Spencer Poulin and Michael Wrigley and coaches Scott Lewia and Jim Worthing. Nolan Potter won a state title in the 195-pound division, and Michael Wrigley took the runner-up spot in the 170-pound division. We extend to all the members of the team our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 133

Sponsored by Senator COLLINS of York.
Cosponsored by Representatives: FOLEY of Wells, HYMANSON of York.

READ.

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

Senator **COLLINS:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, we've been blessed with very good athletes in the Wells High School system. Not only did we win the wrestling Class B Championship, State Championship, but last fall we also won the Class C Football State Championship. We're blessed with a huge amount of talent in our school system and we're grateful for them being the next citizens to help us through our daily lives. I'd like to recognize the coaches of this team: Coach Scott Lewia and Jim Worthing. They consistently produce championship teams and I'd like to acknowledge Bob Walker. He's also contributed to the team. I also want to thank each and every one of the members of the team for a job well done. Thank you and you've really made Wells shine. Thank you very much.

PASSED.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the back of the Chamber the Wells High School Wrestling Team and Coaches Scott Lewia and Jim Worthing. Would they please rise and accept the congratulations of the State Senate.

Off Record Remarks

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

Senator **BELLOWS:** Thank you, Mr. President. I am thrilled to welcome the Monmouth Academy Girls Basketball Team who just brought home the first ever gold ball for Monmouth Academy, the first basketball team to win a State Championship. This is in Class C. I want to welcome their coach, Coach Scott Wing. They are upstairs in the balcony. He started in 2005 in Monmouth and built this program from the ground up. He reached out to the rec leagues that feed the program and actually worked with kindergarteners back in 2005 who became members of the junior class that helped lead this team to victory. I want to applaud all the members of the team. They showed great teamwork and determination. There was an early loss when the coach gave them a pep talk and said, "You have got to show that determination. You can come back. You need to be ready for every game." They have inspired us for the rest of the year and inspired us by winning the Class C State Championship. Thank you to the Monmouth Academy Girls Basketball Team.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the balcony Monmouth Academy Girls Basketball Team which won the Class C State Championship: Coach Scott Wing and his team. Would they all rise and accept the congratulations of the State Senate.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Change of Committee

The Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** on Bill "An Act To Protect Public Health through Septic Tank Inspections"

H.P. 278 L.D. 372

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**, in concurrence.

The Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** on Bill "An Act To Standardize the Law Concerning Property Transfers and To Protect Water Quality"

H.P. 401 L.D. 559

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**, in concurrence.

Ought to Pass

The Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act To Clarify the Tax Laws for Title to Real Estate by Releasing Inheritance Tax Liens"
H.P. 59 L.D. 72

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

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

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

The Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Resolve, To Name the Bridge over the Penobscot River in the Towns of Enfield and Howland King's Bridge (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 227 L.D. 294

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

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

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

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act To Incorporate Protections for Living Donors into Maine Law"

H.P. 13 L.D. 12

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-6)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-6)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-6) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act Concerning Notification after a Security Breach"

H.P. 217 L.D. 284

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

Signed:

Senators:

WHITTEMORE of Somerset
CARSON of Cumberland
DOW of Lincoln

Representatives:

LAWRENCE of South Berwick
BROOKS of Lewiston
COLLINGS of Portland
CRAIG of Brewer
FOLEY of Wells
PRESCOTT of Waterboro
SANBORN of Portland
WALLACE of Dexter

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-7)**.

Signed:

Representatives:

MELARAGNO of Auburn
PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **WHITTEMORE** of Somerset, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act To Reduce Penalties for Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Laws"

H.P. 30 L.D. 29

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

Signed:

Senators:

COLLINS of York
ROSEN of Hancock

Representatives:

McLEAN of Gorham
AUSTIN of Skowhegan
BRYANT of Windham
GILLWAY of Searsport
GRANT of Gardiner
PARRY of Arundel
PERKINS of Oakland
SCHNECK of Bangor
SHEATS of Auburn

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-8)**.

Signed:

Senator:

MIRAMANT of Knox

Representative:

CEBRA of Naples

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **COLLINS** of York, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Off Record Remarks

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act To Reform Maine's Motor Vehicle Inspection Guidelines" H.P. 112 L.D. 154

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

Signed:

Senators:

COLLINS of York
ROSEN of Hancock

Representatives:

McLEAN of Gorham
AUSTIN of Skowhegan
BRYANT of Windham
GILLWAY of Searsport
GRANT of Gardiner
PARRY of Arundel
PERKINS of Oakland
SHEATS of Auburn

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:

MIRAMANT of Knox

Representatives:

CEBRA of Naples
SCHNECK of Bangor

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **COLLINS** of York, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Senate

Ought to Pass

Senator **WHITTEMORE** for the Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act To Enable the Maine Employers' Mutual Insurance Company To Better Serve Maine Employers by Eliminating the High-risk Program" S.P. 207 L.D. 592

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

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Senator VOLK for the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** on Bill "An Act To Authorize Podiatrists To Perform Certain Routine Procedures" S.P. 51 L.D. 132

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

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

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

SECOND READERS

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

House

Bill "An Act To Allow Conveyance of Land Previously Conveyed by the State to the Town of Bridgton" H.P. 8 L.D. 7

Bill "An Act Concerning the Law Governing the Posting of Newspaper Legal Notices and the Statewide Repository for Legal Notices" H.P. 243 L.D. 329

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

House As Amended

Bill "An Act To Change the Name of Township 17, Range 4, WELS, in the Unorganized Territory to Sinclair" (EMERGENCY) H.P. 25 L.D. 24 (C "A" H-5)

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Unfinished Business

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

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (3/9/17) matter:

HOUSE REPORTS - from the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act To Remove the Legislative Council from the Capitol Area Development Approval Process"

H.P. 26 L.D. 25

Majority - **Ought Not to Pass** (7 members)

Minority - **Ought to Pass** (5 members)

Tabled - March 9, 2017, by Senator **DAVIS** of Piscataquis

Pending - motion by same Senator to **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**

(In House, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.)

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

Senator **DESCHAMBAULT:** Thank you, Mr. President. President Thibodeau and ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I rise to speak in opposition of the motion to pass L.D. 25, An Act to Remove the Legislative Council from the Capitol Area Development Approval Process. This L.D. does exactly what the bill suggests. It's to remove from the process the Legislative Council comprised of our leaders in the Senate and the House. A bit of history. The statute outlining the procedures in Title V is the Capitol Planning Commission, which was passed in 1967, 50 years ago. There had been only four amendments to this statute in the first seven years and then one more amendment 36 years later. Not bad for an all-encumbering statute. The statute clearly defines the Capitol Area. There is no mistaking this. Also it states in part a construction project may not be initiated in the Capitol Area for the development of State buildings without the approval of the Legislative Council, the Bureau of General Services, and the Commission of the proposals and plans for a project. You note, the Legislative Council is the first entity mentioned and to be considered. The committee heard testimony that there had been a number of projects completed without first needing to seek Legislative approval. The 30 projects listed in the sponsor's testimony were not new construction. For the most part, they were renovations. Windows were replaced, parking lots were repaved, retaining walls were replaced. They were not new construction or expanded projects. One exception, of course, we all know was the new construction of the Riverview Psychiatric Center, which was completed in 2004. This did not need Legislative Council approval because the project was approved by the entire Legislature. This was not so for the latest Riverview plan to expand. The one project mentioned in the sponsor's testimony that did get Legislative approval in 2007 was the greenspace improvement in front of the Cultural Building. It did so because the project was paid for from a sub-account of the

Legislator's own account called General Account. You guessed it. It needed approval by the Legislative Council. There are many more exceptions, and I should say examples, however L.D. 24 was borne from the frustration by some Legislators to comply with the process to initially seek the approval of our Legislative leaders. The majority of the State and Local Government Committee believes that it is in the public's best interest to continue to have Legislative oversight and approval by the Legislative Council for construction projects within the so-called Capitol Area. This transparency in State government has served us well. Therefore, I urge you to vote nay on the motion Ought to Pass.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Piscataquis, Senator Davis.

Senator **DAVIS:** Thank you very much, Mr. President. I rise in support of this motion. Just to compliment my colleague, Senator Deschambault, she certainly outlined things quite well. I do have a little more history of it though. I remember quite clearly during my early days here coming down here one morning and there were two trucks here in the middle of Capitol Park and they had an 8-bottom plow hooked to each one of them and they were plowing up the park. You see, the Capitol Building was under construction and we needed more space for the offices for the Legislative staff and what all. So the Council approved doing that. Well, they quickly rescinded their approval. The City was very upset, to say the very least, and they didn't, to my knowledge, ever attempt to approve a project of that magnitude again. After that there wasn't much happening with the Legislative Council until recently. We know the issue that took place earlier this year, or late last year. If, in fact, we remove the Council from this there are still plenty of protections for the Capitol Park. The matter is referred to the General Services Bureau. They go over it with a fine-tooth comb, make sure that everything's in place, and then it goes to the City of Augusta for all the permits and their approval, and probably the worthiness, of whatever projects are coming forward. With all that in mind, Mr. President, I would ask that the Body would follow my light. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#43)

YEAS: Senators: BRAKEY, COLLINS, CUSHING, CYRWAY, DAVIS, DOW, HAMPER, KATZ, KEIM, LANGLEY, MAKER, MASON, ROSEN, SAVIELLO, VOLK, WHITTEMORE, WOODSOME, PRESIDENT THIBODEAU

NAYS: Senators: BELLOWS, BREEN, CARPENTER, CARSON, CHENETTE, CHIPMAN, DESCHAMBAULT, DIAMOND, DILL, DION, GRATWICK, HILL, JACKSON, LIBBY, MILLETT, MIRAMANT, VITELLI

18 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 17 Senators having voted in the negative, the motion by Senator **DAVIS** of Piscataquis to **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report, in **NON-CONCURRENCE, PREVAILED.**

Bill **READ ONCE.**

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Expression of Legislative Sentiment Recognizing:

Seth A. Townsend, of Hampden, a member of Boy Scout Troop No. 41, who has attained the high rank and distinction of Eagle Scout. This is the highest award in Boy Scouting and is given for excellence in skills development, leadership, personal growth and community service. For his Eagle Scout project, Seth improved a trail system for Regional School Unit No. 87 by removing dead trees, placing signs, removing rocks and covering roots, as well as building 3 benches and 3 signs. We extend our congratulations to him on this achievement;
SLS 117

READ.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Cushing.

Senator **CUSHING:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I'm honored today to stand before you and share some information about this young man who we are recognizing for achieving his Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout, as many of you know, is the highest award that Boy Scouting bestows on those who have earned that right. It is not based on longevity. It is based upon accomplishment of more than 21 merit badges and the understanding of some characteristics that serve us very well in life. Seth is the second youngest member of the Katahdin Counsel to have achieved this rank, so it is very impressive, for those of you who have participated at some level in Scouting, to recognize the commitment of he to his studies and his understanding of these issues and to his family, the commitment. His Dad, Allen, is here, as is his Mom, Janet. They are here today as very proud parents and supporters of Seth and his effort and I am delighted that we could take a moment to honor him and recognize this very significant life accomplishment. Thank you, Mr. President.

PASSED.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Seth Townsend and his parents. Would they please rise and accept the congratulations of the State Senate.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (3/14/17) matter:

Bill "An Act Regarding State Investments and the Dakota Access Pipeline"

S.P. 320 L.D. 981

Tabled - March 14, 2017, by Senator **DAVIS** of Piscataquis

Pending - **REFERENCE**

(Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** suggested and ordered printed.)

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

Sent down for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (3/14/17) matter:

SENATE REPORTS - from the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Install a Caution Light in New Sweden
S.P. 60 L.D. 168

Majority - **Ought Not to Pass** (11 members)

Minority - **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-5)** (2 members)

Tabled - March 14, 2017, by Senator **MASON** of Androscoggin

Pending - motion by Senator **ROSEN** of Hancock to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report

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

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

Senator **JACKSON:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I introduced this legislation because of the small town in Aroostook County, New Sweden, just north of Caribou, a place that certainly I've driven either with my parents or after I received my license for all my 48 years. For a long time there was a caution light at a four-way intersection on Route 161 that announced, especially for anyone traveling southbound, that there was a blind intersection in an area where one business on one side of the road and the only convenience store in this region on the other side of the road. Somewhere along the line the Department of Transportation, even though the highway had never been changed, had never been modified, somewhere along the line they decided to take down the caution light. Since that time the residents of that area have been asking for the Department of Transportation to reinstall it. I have represented

that area all the time that the light has been taken down, but since then they've asked Congressman Michaud. Received letters with the Congressman asking the Department to reinstall the light. Numerous times they've asked for the DOT to reinstall it and during this past election many of the doors that I knocked on it actually was a topic that came up. Within six days of the hearing the Northstar Variety, that's the convenience store, put forward a petition asking the Legislature to enact this law asking the DOT to put the caution light back up. Within six days' time that small community received over 200 residents that actually signed on asking for that caution light to be reinstalled. I think that's pretty significant. I've never seen a petition drive in small community get that many signatures in that short of a time. So the Committee heard testimony. I know that the Department was asked to do another study on the area, and I appreciate that from the Transportation Committee. I am concerned that, for all this time having U.S. Congresspeople asking, nothing has been done. I'm concerned that another look at it by the Department isn't enough. The community has asked to have it put back up. They certainly believe that there is a safety issue very much at stake and I can't understand if 30 years ago that highway was deemed to be unsafe for the sight distance and if the Department of Transportation has never changed the highway since then why all of a sudden, magically, it's presumed to be safe now. It clearly has a blind spot when you're heading southbound. I actually had one time going along the campaigns placed the 4 x 8 sign alongside the road there. The Sergeant of the Maine State Police of that area, Darrel Ouellette, called me and said, "Your sign is perfectly legal," he said, "but we've had many accidents in that area, many near misses." He said, "Would you consider moving the sign?" Whenever I looked at it and thought about it, I, without a doubt, understood what his concern was. So it's an area that, you know, I certainly hope, regardless of what happens to this bill today, that the DOT is very sincere and serious about making sure that, you know, no further bad issues happens in that area. That's why I put the bill forward. That's why I'm asking for the roll call today, because I think it's something that has been, you know, pushed aside, probably for no real good issue, but pushed aside for too long and the people in that area are asking, sincerely, to make sure that safety of that area is taken into consideration. So with that, I'd appreciate your support today.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Knox, Senator Miramant.

Senator **MIRAMANT:** Thank you, Mr. President. Men and women of the Senate, just briefly. This is one of those hearings where it didn't fit the rules exactly, but in listening to the testimony and realizing that we have an intersection in Camden and a couple of other communities in my district were it doesn't have an accident every day but it has several near accidents every day, people missing by inches or a foot, yelling at each other, gesticulating, and so forth. This is one of those things that doesn't get picked up in the DOT surveys, well-meaning as they are. That's what came out with the 200 people signing on so quickly. It became evident that, even with the best intentions of the DOT doing another survey, with their rules not being met exactly, this really is time for this light to be back up. It was there. It can't be explained why it was taken down exactly. It's time to put it back up and protect these folks in that area, and the locals know best in this case. Thank you.

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

Senator **COLLINS:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, as most of you know, I've been involved in the Transportation Committee going on - this is my 15th year in that committee. The Department has been very responsive to this bill. As a matter of fact, we've sent a letter to the Commissioner directing him and his Department to do a study on this and come back with recommendations. Now, not every intersection requires lights of some sort or another, but that's what we've got to find out. When the Committee voted 11 members Ought Not to Pass they weren't voting against this region getting a light, they were voting to move it along, have a study done by the professionals who understand traffic flow, that being our own Department of Transportation. Nobody is saying no to this. All we're saying is let's do it professionally, let's get an accurate report from the people who know what they're doing as far as moving traffic along point A to point B. I would recommend to the Senate Chamber that we move the Ought Not to Pass Report, let the Department do their work, come back with a recommendation, and, believe me, I'll be the first one to hold their feet to the fire, so to speak, to make sure this passes and it's done professionally and will be waiting to hear what their thoughts are on this and what their recommendations will be. Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is the motion by the Senator from Hancock, Senator Rosen, to Accept the Majority Ought Not to Pass Report. A Roll Call has been ordered. Is the Senate ready for the question?

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#44)

YEAS: Senators: BRAKEY, COLLINS, CUSHING, CYRWAY, DAVIS, DOW, HAMPER, KATZ, KEIM, LANGLEY, MAKER, MASON, ROSEN, SAVIELLO, VOLK, WHITTEMORE, WOODSOME, PRESIDENT THIBODEAU

NAYS: Senators: BELLOWS, BREEN, CARPENTER, CARSON, CHENETTE, CHIPMAN, DESCHAMBAULT, DIAMOND, DILL, DION, GRATWICK, HILL, JACKSON, LIBBY, MILLETT, MIRAMANT, VITELLI

18 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 17 Senators having voted in the negative, the motion by Senator **ROSEN** of Hancock to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **PREVAILED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Off Record Remarks

Senator **KATZ** of Kennebec was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate on the Record.

Senator **KATZ:** Thank you very much, Mr. President. Men and women of the Senate, in the gallery is the Cony Girls Swim Team. They have, for the first time ever in the school's history, won the State Class A High School Championship recently and I'm really pleased to have them here, Mr. President. These girls, every morning now for the rest of their lives, will wake up as State Champions. Not everybody can say that. I hope they will take that with them and just really proud to have them here, even though they didn't have to come very far to join us. Thank you, Mr. President.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (3/16/17) matter:

SENATE REPORTS - from the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act To Increase the Size of Grants under the Maine State Grant Program"
S.P. 11 L.D. 32

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

Minority - **Ought Not to Pass** (6 members)

Tabled - March 16, 2017, by Senator **LANGLEY** of Hancock

Pending - motion by same Senator to **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report

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

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

Senator **MILLETT:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, across the nation our economic viability greatly hinges on its ability to increase the proportion of our population with high quality college degrees, certificates, and other credentials. Two-thirds of all jobs created in this decade will require some form of post-secondary education according to a report issued by the Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce. Too many in our state choose not to pursue higher education or fail to complete their programs due to an inability to afford the price tags or because of financial pressures once enrolled. Maine's Chief Executive has shown an interest in addressing affordability of post-secondary education by appropriating last session another \$2 million to raise the grant by an additional \$200 per student. This bill before us, amended, would keep us from rolling back the State Grant and

acknowledges that a \$1,000 grant today doesn't nearly have the same meaningful impact as \$1,000 back in 1992, 25 years ago, when the program began. The Maine State Grant is an important tool for helping Maine's families afford higher education as it is portable to Maine's post-secondary institutions. A student can use the grant to attend Husson or St. Joseph's College, Maine Community College or the University of Maine System. It is a critical partner to the State's funding of our State's higher education institutions. If we are committed to keeping Maine competitive and ensuring an educated and trained workforce to meet the needs of our current and future businesses than it's time to commit to the State Grants being no less than \$1,500 and firmly commit ourselves to investing in higher education affordability and in our workforce. So I ask that you vote to defeat the pending motion and we can consider the Majority Report and invest in our students, workforce, and Maine's future. 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, first of all I'd like to go publically on record to commend FAME for the work that they do for our students in this state. They run a terrific program and I don't know if this kind of organization exists in other states, but I would say that it's one of our diamonds here in this state. This program is incredibly well run and one of the programs, among many that they run, is the Maine State Grant Program. As you heard from my good colleague, Senator Millett, in statute we have a \$1,000 floor, but currently it's funded at \$1,500. There was an additional allocation last year that made it at \$1,700. The floor that's there allows some flexibility for FAME to be able to work. Whatever allocation comes to them they divvy out and they make it go as far as they can. They really appreciate that flexibility. What they're worried about is if you put in statute a floor that's higher and sometime in the future there's an allocation, we run into more problems with budgets, and if they lower that allocation that comes to them than they will only be able to help a smaller number of students. So I put my trust in them and how they operate, and I would also like to point out that this Administration has seen the value of them and has continually funded them at above the \$1,000. They're at \$1,500. So I would say that they recognize their value. I'd also like to point out that from this single pot of money that we have here they've also sent money over to the University in the Supplemental Budget to help freeze their tuition. I would argue that that money, freezing the tuition for a sixth straight year in the University System, has helped all Maine students, regardless of whether they got the grant or not. It's not just a single item issue so we're helping more students. Then there's a \$2.5 million allocation in each of the years in this legislation and I would argue that we're working really, really hard and committed to trying to fund education GPA at 55% and will be looking for every dollar we can to go towards that. So my support for the Ought Not to Pass is based on those things and would ask that, while this is not going against FAME or the work that they do, you just recognize the situation that we're in. Thank you very much.

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

Senator **BELLOWS:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I graduated from Ellsworth High School in 1993. As a low income college student, or as a low income high school student, college would not have been possible for me but for a combination of Maine State Grants and student loans. At that time the recently created Maine State Grant program awarded grants in the amount of \$1,000 annually to students in need. A thousand dollars is a big deal in 1993 but it's not now. A report to the Legislature in 2014, the final report of the Commission to Study College Affordability and College Completion, stated clearly that the Maine State Grant Program individual grants should be at least \$2,500 in 2014 to have the same buying power as they did in 1992 and in 1993 when I graduated from high school. Nearly two-thirds of Maine's students in 2015 graduated with college debt averaging about \$30,000 per student. The State of Maine is one of the smallest need-based grants awarded nationwide and Maine's total state spending is one of the lowest nationwide. I encourage you to consider defeating this motion. We should increase the floor from \$1,000 to \$1,500 to hold us and future Legislators accountable for sufficient funds to support the same or more grants to be awarded. It's time to work in a bi-partisan way to provide meaningful support to increase college affordability and support our young people. I hope you will join me in voting no on the pending motion.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would remind the Body that we are debating the acceptance of an Ought Not to Pass Report. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Millett.

Senator **MILLETT:** Thank you, Mr. President. Just a short little response. I respectfully disagree with my colleague from the Education Committee. While I certainly appreciate all of the work that the University has done to keep their tuition frozen, in my view, it does not benefit all of Maine's students and it certainly benefits those students who desire to choose a four-year degree program. The Maine State Grant Program helps even more students. It helps those who choose alternate paths such as certificate programs and two-year programs. That is why the Commission on Affordability made funding the Grant Program its number one priority. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator **MAKER:** Thank you, Mr. President. As a former financial aid director, \$1,000 may not be too much to some people but to people in Washington County who gets financial aid from our institution when I worked there it was their books each semester. My concern about passing this bill and increasing it is that we're not going to reach those people that really need help. I know that there's a pressure now to get the Maine State Grant up so that with PELL and the Maine State Grant that will pay Maine's tuition, University of Maine's tuition, and that's a great goal. Where are the people, the middle income families, going to get their help because in my county, Washington County doesn't have a lot of funds for scholarships. I gave an award, a big award, for students there in middle income. They got a student loan, they got \$200 from me, and they got the Maine State Grant because then, at that time, they were allowed to have that \$1,000, and I'm going to tell you it paid for those books each semester. That's what I was looking for, something that would pay for their

books because that is something every student needs to start school. I'm very concerned. By raising this money that we'll never reach that goal of getting back into helping the middle income families. I know it will be said, I'm sure, that they raised the money and didn't reach the middle income families, but I think now, I've heard this from someone I respect, that with the goal of increasing it to reach the tuition for the University then we're never going to reach that goal of trying to help the middle income families who need it the most. So I will support Ought Not to Pass.

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

Senator **BREEN:** Thank you, Mr. President. I think we've all heard a lot about the exorbitant interest rates that student loan payers are being charged. That's something we cannot control. We all care deeply about college affordability and we all have constituents in our districts who are paying huge interest rates and are for decades trying to repay their student loans. Again, this Legislature has no control over that. One of the things we can control is putting more money in those kid's pockets so they have to borrow fewer dollars and pay less in interest. I urge the folks in this Body to vote against this motion. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is the motion by the Senator from Hancock, Senator Langley, to Accept the Minority Ought Not to Pass Report. A Roll Call has been ordered. Is the Senate ready for the question?

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#45)

YEAS: Senators: BRAKEY, COLLINS, CUSHING, CYRWAY, DAVIS, DOW, HAMPER, KATZ, KEIM, LANGLEY, MAKER, MASON, ROSEN, SAVIELLO, VOLK, WHITTEMORE, WOODSOME, PRESIDENT THIBODEAU

NAYS: Senators: BELLOWS, BREEN, CARPENTER, CARSON, CHENETTE, CHIPMAN, DESCHAMBAULT, DIAMOND, DILL, DION, GRATWICK, HILL, JACKSON, LIBBY, MILLETT, MIRAMANT, VITELLI

18 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 17 Senators having voted in the negative, the motion by Senator **LANGLEY** of Hancock to **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **PREVAILED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **HAMPER** of Oxford, the Senate removed from the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** the following:

Emergency Measure

An Act To Provide Funds for Access for Veterans Seeking Health Care

H.P. 169 L.D. 213
(C "A" H-10)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 14, 2017, by Senator **HAMPER** of Oxford

Pending - **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence

(In Senate, March 14, 2017, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-10)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, March 14, 2017, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**.)

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#46)

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

NAYS: Senators: None

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 35 Members of the Senate, with no Senator having voted in the negative, and 35 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.

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

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Joint Resolution

The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 787

JOINT RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE MARCH 2017 AS SOCIAL WORK MONTH

WHEREAS, social workers have paved the way for change by enhancing the well-being of all people, especially the most vulnerable in society; and

WHEREAS, social workers have helped lead America's struggle for social justice and continue to advocate for positive social change and, more than the members of any other profession, social workers recognize that more must be done to address the persistent social problems that plague the State; and

WHEREAS, social workers support diverse families in every community and understand that individuals and communities together can bring about change; and

WHEREAS, social workers advocate for the rights of the disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, social workers advocate for children's rights to a safe environment and a good education; and

WHEREAS, social workers work to ensure good care is provided to older adults; and

WHEREAS, social workers help provide community support for veterans and their families after their service; and

WHEREAS, social workers strive to improve access to mental health treatment and health care services in order to save lives; and

WHEREAS, social workers effect change and put the ideals of citizenship into action every day through legislative, regulatory and social policy efforts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize March 2017 as Social Work Month; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Maine chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

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

READ and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act To Allow an Income Tax Deduction for Interest Paid on Student Loans"

S.P. 372 L.D. 1123

Presented by Senator DION of Cumberland. Cosponsored by Representative GRANT of Gardiner and Senators: BELLOWS of Kennebec, CARSON of Cumberland, CHENETTE of York, CHIPMAN of Cumberland, DESCHAMBAULT of York, DOW of Lincoln, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representative: POULIOT of Augusta.

On motion by Senator **DOW** of Lincoln, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Local Infrastructure"

H.P. 782 L.D. 1118

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **HAMPER** of Oxford, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Exempt from Criminal Liability Persons Reporting a Drug-related Medical Emergency"

H.P. 757 L.D. 1079

Bill "An Act To Exempt United States Military Recruiters from Paying Fees for Criminal History Record Checks"

H.P. 766 L.D. 1092

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **ROSEN** of Hancock, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Prevent Economic Hardship in Maine School Administrative District 44"

H.P. 758 L.D. 1080

Bill "An Act To Exempt School Resource Officers from Department of Education Background Check and Fingerprinting Requirements"

H.P. 778 L.D. 1104

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

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

Bill "An Act To Amend the Municipal Subdivision Laws Regarding the Exemption for Transfers to Owners of Abutting Land"

H.P. 759 L.D. 1081

Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Review of Subdivisions"

H.P. 768 L.D. 1094

Bill "An Act To Establish the Maine Coastal Risks and Hazards Commission"

H.P. 769 L.D. 1095

Bill "An Act To Improve Shoreland Zoning Rules and Enforcement To Support Municipalities"

H.P. 770 L.D. 1096

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

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

Bill "An Act To Develop and Distribute Work Training Pamphlets To Educate State Agencies, Private Businesses and Other Organizations about Dementia"

H.P. 771 L.D. 1097

Bill "An Act To Ensure Reasonable Accommodations for Children for Whom Medical Marijuana Has Been Recommended"

H.P. 772 L.D. 1098

Bill "An Act To Ensure Safe Drinking Water in Public Buildings"

H.P. 783 L.D. 1119

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

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

Bill "An Act To Increase the Penalties for Hunting Deer over Bait"

H.P. 761 L.D. 1083

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

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

Resolve, To Require the State To Bring Suit against the Federal Government for Failure To Comply with the Federal Refugee Act of 1980

H.P. 773 L.D. 1099

Resolve, Directing the Maine Commission on Domestic and Sexual Abuse To Study Economic Abuse

H.P. 784 L.D. 1120

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **KEIM** of Oxford, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Amend the Requirements for Licensure as an Independent Practice Dental Hygienist"

H.P. 763 L.D. 1085

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **LANGLEY** of Hancock, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Granting of a Variance from the Dimensional Standards of a Zoning Ordinance"

H.P. 760 L.D. 1082

Bill "An Act To Increase the Salaries of the Governor and Legislators"

H.P. 774 L.D. 1100

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

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

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Dedicate All Sales Taxes from All Vehicle Sales and Any Vehicle-related Sales to the Highway Fund for Roads and Bridge Capital Improvements

H.P. 780 L.D. 1106

Bill "An Act Regarding the Exclusive Use of Tax Exempt Property"
H.P. 785 L.D. 1121

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **DOW** of Lincoln, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Resolve, Directing the Secretary of State To Review and Recommend Updates to the Maine Motorcycle Driver Education Program

H.P. 775 L.D. 1101

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

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

Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws on the Conduct of Elections and To Establish a Nonpartisan Primary Election System for State and Federal Candidates"

H.P. 764 L.D. 1086

Bill "An Act To Discourage Tenants from Damaging Rental Property"

H.P. 776 L.D. 1102

Bill "An Act To Require Correction of False Information Distributed in a Campaign"

H.P. 777 L.D. 1103

Bill "An Act To Allow Municipalities To Adjust Times of Operation for Establishments That Serve Alcohol"

H.P. 781 L.D. 1107

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

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

**Pursuant to Statute
Criminal Law Advisory Commission**

The **Criminal Law Advisory Commission**, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 1354, subsection 2 asked leave to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act To Implement Certain Recommendations of the Criminal Law Advisory Commission Relative to the Maine Criminal Code and Related Statutes" (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 765 L.D. 1091

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

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

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

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

**Pursuant to Statute
Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices**

The **Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices**, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 1007 asked leave to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act To Amend the Campaign Reports and Finances Law and the Maine Clean Election Act"

H.P. 786 L.D. 1122

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218, in concurrence.

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

Off Record Remarks

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

On motion by Senator **COLLINS** of York, **ADJOURNED** until Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 10:00 in the morning in memory of and lasting tribute to Ryan Collins of Wells.