

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

In Senate Chamber
Thursday
February 15, 2024

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

Prayer by Reverend Amanda Gerken-Nelson of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Yarmouth.

REVEREND AMANDA GERKEN-NELSON: Good morning. Let us pray. Oh, holy mystery, throughout the ages you have provided leaders for your people; servants who offer their time and their gifts, their hearts and their minds to the betterment and safety of our communities. Bless those leaders who have this sense of calling in their lives and who are gathered here this morning. May the inspiration of your love and justice be the motivation of their actions and the spirit of their speeches. We remember the Wabanaki leaders and people on whose territory we now gather, and we offer our greeting and gratitude to the sacred creation on which we all reside. May peace be our purpose and may patience and forgiveness be our guides. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

National Anthem Performed by South Portland High School Chamber Singers.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Jill C. Duson of Cumberland County.

Reading of the Journal of Tuesday, February 13, 2024.

Off Record Remarks

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, on motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Joint Order: S.P. 946

Ordered, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 10:00 in the morning, or until the call of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, respectively.

READ and PASSED.

Ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: S.C. 911

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

February 12, 2024
The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME. 04333

RE: Appointment of the Honorable Chandler Woodcock to the Maine State Harness Racing Commission

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate The Honorable Chandler E. Woodcock of Farmington for reappointment to the Maine State Harness Racing Commission.

Pursuant to Title 8 M.R.S.A §261-A this appointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 930

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND
FORESTRY**

February 14, 2024

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry has had under consideration the nomination of Thomas DuBois of Salem Township, for appointment to the Maine Land Use Planning 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	2	Ingwersen, H. of York, Black, R. of Franklin
	Representatives	10	Pluecker, B. of Warren, Costain, D. of Plymouth, Cray, D. of Palmyra, Guerrette, T. of Caribou, Hall, R. of Wilton, Hepler, A. of Woolwich, Jackson, C. of Oxford, Jauch, R. of Topsham, Osher, L. of Orono, Shaw, K. of Auburn
NAYS	0		
ABSENT	1		Sen. Hickman, C. of Kennebec

Twelve 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 DuBois of Salem Township, for appointment to the Maine Land Use Planning Commission be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Henry Ingwersen S/Bill Pluecker
Senate Chair House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** be overridden?"

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Oxford, Senator **BENNETT**, and the Senator from Franklin, Senator **BLACK**, and the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator **BRAKEY**, and the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **BRENNER**, and the Senator from York, Senator **INGWERSEN**, and the Senator from

Kennebec, Senator **LAFOUNTAIN**, and the Senator from Lincoln, Senator **RENY**, and further excused the same Senators from today's Roll Call votes.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#521)

YEAS: Senators: HICKMAN, NANGLE

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RENY

2 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 26 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 Senators being excused, and 2 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 DuBois** of Salem Township for appointment to the Maine Land Use Planning Commission was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 929

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

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources has had under consideration the nomination of Samantha D. Horn of Readfield, for reappointment to the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund 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	Brenner, S. of Cumberland, Lyford, P. of Penobscot
	Representatives	8	Bell, A. of Yarmouth, Bridgeo, W. of Augusta, Campbell, D. of Orrington, Doudera, V. of Camden, Hobbs, D. of Wells, O'Neil, M. of Saco, Schmersal-Burgess, T. of Mexico, Woodsome, D. of Waterboro

NAYS 0

ABSENT	3	Sen. Carney, A. of Cumberland, Rep. Gramlich, L. of Old Orchard Beach, Rep. Soboleski, M. of Phillips
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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 Samantha D. Horn of Readfield, for reappointment to the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Stacy Fielding Brenner
Senate Chair

S/Lori K. Gramlich
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** be overridden?"

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#522)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER,
CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY,
DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN,

GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON,
HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY,
LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE,
POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO,
STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING,
VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER,
INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 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 **Samantha D. Horn** of Readfield for reappointment to the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 928

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

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources has had under consideration the nomination of Steven Tatko of Willimantic, for reappointment to the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund 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	Brenner, S. of Cumberland, Lyford, P. of Penobscot
	Representatives	8	Bell, A. of Yarmouth, Bridgeo, W. of Augusta, Campbell, D. of Orrington, Doudera, V. of Camden, Hobbs, D. of Wells, O'Neil, M. of Saco, Schmersal-Burgess, T. of Mexico, Woodsome, D. of Waterboro

NAYS 0

ABSENT 3 Sen. Carney, A. of
Cumberland, Rep. Gramlich,
L. of Old Orchard Beach,
Rep. Soboleski, M. of Phillips

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Steven Tatko of Willimantic, for reappointment to the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Stacy Fielding Brenner S/Lori K. Gramlich
Senate Chair House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** be overridden?"

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#523)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER,
CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY,
DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN,
GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON,
HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY,
LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE,
POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO,
STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING,
VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER,
INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 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 **Steven Tatko** of Willimantic for reappointment to the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 919

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

February 13, 2024

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Jenni Tilton-Flood of Clinton, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits 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	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Daughtry, M. of Cumberland
	Representatives	7	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Russell, R. of Verona Island, Skold, C. of Portland, Soboleski, M. of Phillips

NAYS 0

ABSENT	4	Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Geiger, V. of Rockland, Rep. Gere, T. of Kennebunkport
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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 Jenni Tilton-Flood of Clinton, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping Senate Chair	S/Amy Jean Roeder House Chair
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READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#524)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 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 **Jenni Tilton-Flood** of Clinton for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 920

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

February 13, 2024

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Dr. Jay Naliboff, M.D. of Chesterville, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits 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	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Daughtry, M. of Cumberland
	Representatives	6	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Russell, R. of Verona Island, Soboleski, M. of Phillips
NAYS		0	
ABSENT	5		Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Geiger, V. of Rockland, Rep. Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Rep. Skold, C. of Portland

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 Dr. Jay Naliboff, M.D. of Chesterville, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#525)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 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 **Dr. Jay Naliboff**, M.D. of Chesterville for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 921

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

February 13, 2024

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Michelle Corry of Scarborough, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits 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	Tipping, M. of Penobscot,
	Representatives	6	Daughtry, M. of Cumberland
			Roeder, A. of Bangor,
			Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro,
			Drinkwater, G. of Milford,

Malon, M. of Biddeford,
Russell, R. of Verona Island,
Soboleski, M. of Phillips

NAYS 0

ABSENT 5 Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep.
Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep.
Geiger, V. of Rockland, Rep.
Gere, T. of Kennebunkport,
Rep. Skold, C. of Portland

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 Michelle Corry of Scarborough, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#526)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 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 **Michelle Corry** of Scarborough for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 922

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

February 13, 2024

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Christopher K. Washburn of Windham, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits 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	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Daughtry, M. of Cumberland
	Representatives	6	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Russell, R. of Verona Island, Soboleski, M. of Phillips

NAYS 0

ABSENT	5	Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Geiger, V. of Rockland, Rep. Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Rep. Skold, C. of Portland
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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 Christopher K. Washburn of Windham, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#527)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER,
CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY,
DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN,
GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON,
HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY,
LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE,
POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO,
STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING,
VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER,
INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 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 **Christopher K. Washburn** of Windham for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 923

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

February 13, 2024

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Samuel J. Hight of Skowhegan, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits 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	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Daughtry, M. of Cumberland
	Representatives	5	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Russell, R. of Verona Island

NAYS 0

ABSENT	6	Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Geiger, V. of Rockland, Rep. Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Rep. Skold, C. of Portland, Rep. Soboleski, M. of Phillips
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Seven 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 Samuel J. Hight of Skowhegan, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#528)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER,
CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY,
DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN,

GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON,
HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY,
LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE,
POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO,
STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING,
VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER,
INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 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 **Samuel J. Hight** of Skowhegan for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 925

STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING

February 13, 2024

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Benjamin K. Grant of Portland, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits 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	1	Tipping, M. of Penobscot
	Representatives	7	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Geiger, V. of Rockland, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Russell, R. of Verona Island, Soboleski, M. of Phillips

NAYS 0

ABSENT 5 Sen. Daughtry, M. of Cumberland, Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Rep. Skold, C. of Portland

The Following Communication: S.C. 918

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

February 13, 2024

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Sarah Conroy of Lewiston, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits 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	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Daughtry, M. of Cumberland
	Representatives	7	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Russell, R. of Verona Island, Skold, C. of Portland, Soboleski, M. of Phillips
NAYS		0	
ABSENT	4		Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Geiger, V. of Rockland, Rep. Gere, T. of Kennebunkport

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 Sarah Conroy of Lewiston, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

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 Benjamin K. Grant of Portland, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#529)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 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 **Benjamin K. Grant** of Portland for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#530)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 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 **Sarah Conroy** of Lewiston for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 917

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

February 13, 2024

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Ranae L'Italien of Sidney, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits 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	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Daughtry, M. of Cumberland Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Geiger, V. of Rockland, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Russell, R. of Verona Island, Skold, C. of Portland, Soboleski, M. of Phillips
	Representatives	8	

NAYS 0

ABSENT 3 Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep.
Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep.
Gere, T. of Kennebunkport

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 Ranae L'Italien of Sidney, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#531)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 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 **Ranae L'Italien** of Sidney for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 924

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

February 13, 2024

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of David Barber of Cape Elizabeth, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits 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	1	Tipping, M. of Penobscot
	Representatives	7	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Geiger, V. of Rockland, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Russell, R. of Verona Island, Soboleski, M. of Phillips

NAYS 0

ABSENT	5	Sen. Daughtry, M. of Cumberland, Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Rep. Skold, C. of Portland
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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 David Barber of Cape Elizabeth, for appointment of

the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#532)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 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 **David Barber** of Cape Elizabeth for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 916

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

February 13, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson

President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Maria Fox, Esq. of Portland, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits 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	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Daughtry, M. of Cumberland
	Representatives	8	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Geiger, V. of Rockland, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Russell, R. of Verona Island, Skold, C. of Portland, Soboleski, M. of Phillips

NAYS 0

ABSENT 3 Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep.
Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep.
Gere, T. of Kennebunkport

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 Maria Fox, Esq. of Portland, for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority be confirmed.
Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#533)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER,
CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY,
DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN,
GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON,
HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY,
LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE,
POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO,
STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING,
VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER,
INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 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 **Maria Fox**, Esq. of Portland for appointment of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 914

STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

February 12, 2024

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 1996 An Act to Regulate Synthetic Hemp-derived Cannabinoids

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Henry Ingwersen
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Bill Pluecker
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 926

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

February 12, 2024

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 1217 Resolve, to Create a Pilot Program for
Alternative Teacher Certification

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph E. Rafferty S/Rep. Michael F. Brennan
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 915

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

February 12, 2024

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 2122 An Act to Create Parity in the Licensing of
Emergency Medical Services Professionals and
Other Health Care Professionals Who Enter
Private Residences

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Donna Bailey S/Rep. Anne C. Perry
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 927

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

February 12, 2024

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 1865 An Act Establishing the Maine Sentencing
Guidelines Commission

L.D. 1904 An Act to Enact the Maine Fair Chance
Housing Act

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Anne Carney S/Rep. Matt Moonen
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 910

MAINE CONNECTIVITY AUTHORITY

February 7, 2024

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

Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Maine Connectivity Authority due by February 1, 2024.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

S/Andrew Butcher
President

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

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

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Support Veterans' Organizations and Other Nonprofit Organizations and Federally Recognized Indian Tribes by Updating Electronic Gambling Laws"
S.P. 947 L.D. 2213

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor and Senators: DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, HICKMAN of Kennebec, President JACKSON of Aroostook, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin, Representatives: BOYER of Poland, SUPICA of Bangor, TERRY of Gorham.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

On motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, **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.

ORDERS

Joint Resolution

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, under unanimous consent on behalf of President **JACKSON** of Aroostook, the following Joint Resolution:
S.P. 944

JOINT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE MAINE LEGISLATURE FOR KEEPING MAIL PROCESSING AT THE EASTERN MAINE PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION FACILITY

WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service is an essential service to the American public; and

WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service's report dated January 30th, 2024 recommends consolidating outgoing mail processing at the Eastern Maine Processing and Distribution Facility with the Southern Maine Processing and Distribution Center; and

WHEREAS, the Delivering For America plan devised by United States Postmaster General Louis DeJoy has already caused delays in mail delivery, lower service standards, reductions in workforce and lowered confidence in the United States Postal Service in general; and

WHEREAS, Maine, being a predominantly rural state, is reliant on the United States Postal Service for prompt and efficient delivery of the mail; and

WHEREAS, Maine has unique geographical and environmental challenges affecting transportation; and

WHEREAS, the shifting of mail processing operations currently proposed by the United States Postal Service away from the Eastern Maine Processing and Distribution Facility may further delay delivery service to the people of Maine; and

WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service has failed to address how these proposed changes may affect staffing and service standards for post offices served by the Eastern Maine Processing and Distribution Facility; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to express our support for keeping mail processing at the Eastern Maine Processing and Distribution Facility at its current status and express our belief that the proposed consolidation is not in the best interests of Maine people, that processing and transportation methods developed in other parts of the country are insufficient to address Maine's unique geography and climate and that the United States Postal Service should reverse its decision on consolidation of services at the Eastern Maine Processing and Distribution Facility; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to

Postmaster General Louis DeJoy, the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service and all members of Maine's Congressional Delegation.

READ and **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for 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:

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Ought to Pass Pursuant to Statute

The Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act Removing the Lobster Advisory Council from the State Government Evaluation Act Review Requirements"
H.P. 1415 L.D. 2208

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass**, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 955, subsection 4.

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.

Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act Regarding Responsibility for Activities Intended to Increase the Use of Refillable and Reusable Beverage Containers"
H.P. 1358 L.D. 2134

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-745)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-745)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-745) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

The Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act Regarding Monhegan Plantation"
H.P. 231 L.D. 380

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-744)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-744)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-744) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

The Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Resolve, Designating Route 127 in Arrowsic the Private Merwin A. Delano, Jr. Memorial Highway
H.P. 1318 L.D. 2056

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-742)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-742)**.

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

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-742) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Establish Minimum Pay for Educational Technicians and Other School Support Staff"
H.P. 621 L.D. 974

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-674)**.

Signed:

Senators:

RAFFERTY of York
LIBBY of Cumberland
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:

BRENNAN of Portland
BAGSHAW of Windham
DODGE of Belfast
LYMAN of Livermore Falls
MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth
MURPHY of Scarborough
SAMPSON of Alfred
SARGENT of York
WORTH of Ellsworth

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-675)**.

Signed:

Representative:

POLEWARCZYK of Wiscasset

Comes from the House with the Reports **READ** and the Bill and accompanying papers **COMMITTED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York, the Bill and accompanying papers **COMMITTED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**, in concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act Requiring Climate Impact Notes on Proposed Transportation Legislation and Agency Rules" H.P. 579 L.D. 932

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

Signed:

Senator:

FARRIN of Somerset

Representatives:

CRAFTS of Newcastle
ALBERT of Madawaska
ANKELES of Brunswick

EATON of Deer Isle
MASON of Lisbon
PARRY of Arundel
THERIAULT of Fort Kent
WHITE of Waterville
WHITE of Guilford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-743)**.

Signed:

Senator:

CHIPMAN of Cumberland

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

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **CHIPMAN** of Cumberland, Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Senate

Divided Report

The Majority of the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** on Bill "An Act to Create Transitional Housing Communities for Homeless Populations in the State" S.P. 684 L.D. 1721

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-522)**.

Signed:

Senators:

PIERCE of Cumberland
VITELLI of Sagadahoc

Representatives:

GERE of Kennebunkport
GATTINE of Westbrook
GOLEK of Harpswell
LOOKNER of Portland
RANA of Bangor

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

Signed:

Representatives:

BLIER of Buxton
BRADSTREET of Vassalboro
CAMPBELL of Orrington
MORRIS of Turner

Reports **READ**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-522) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

SECOND READERS

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

House

Bill "An Act Regarding the Duties of Bail Commissioners"
H.P. 1313 L.D. 2051

Bill "An Act to Exclude Certain Operating Under the Influence Crimes from the Immunity Provisions That Are Triggered When Law Enforcement Is Called for a Suspected Overdose"
H.P. 1316 L.D. 2054

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

House As Amended

Bill "An Act to Require Broadband Internet Access Service Providers to Prorate Customer Bills"
H.P. 1240 L.D. 1932
(H "A" H-737 to C "A" H-734)

Bill "An Act to Restore the Board of Dental Practice's Authority to Issue Letters of Guidance" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1302 L.D. 2040
(C "A" H-741)

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

Senate

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

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senate As Amended

Bill "An Act to Prevent Closures and Ensure Sustainability of Nursing Facilities, Private Nonmedical Institutions and Residential Care Facilities by Removing So-called Budget Neutrality"
S.P. 743 L.D. 1827
(C "A" S-521)

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

Sent down for concurrence.

ENACTORS

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

Acts

An Act to Make Technical Updates to the Maine Uniform Securities Act
S.P. 848 L.D. 2020

An Act to Clarify the Laws Regarding Pharmaceutical Product Stewardship
S.P. 849 L.D. 2021

An Act to Address Identified Gaps in the Laws Governing Erosion Control and the Natural Resources Protection Act
S.P. 862 L.D. 2034

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

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, on motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, under unanimous consent on behalf of Senator **GUERIN** of Penobscot, the following Joint Resolution:
S.P. 945

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2024 AS BLEEDING DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, bleeding disorders, which are distinguished by the inability to form a proper blood clot, are characterized by extended bleeding after injury, surgery, trauma or menstruation and can lead to significant morbidity and can be fatal if not treated effectively; and

WHEREAS, many individuals with hemophilia became infected with HIV and hepatitis C in the 1980s due to the contamination of the blood supply and blood products; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will generate greater awareness and understanding of not only hemophilia but all inheritable bleeding disorders, including von Willebrand disease, which alone affects an estimated one percent of the United States population, or more than 3.2 million individuals; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will foster a greater sense of community and shared purpose among all individuals with inheritable bleeding disorders; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will elevate awareness of and engagement in the inheritable bleeding disorders journey for the general public, enabling the prevention of illness, unnecessary procedures and disability; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize March 2024 as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month.

READ and ADOPTED.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Bill "An Act to Establish a Civil Rights Unit and a Civil Rights Review Panel Within the Office of the Attorney General and Require Ongoing Enhanced Civil Rights Training for Civil Rights Officers"
H.P. 1417 L.D. 2210

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

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

Bill "An Act Regarding Quality of Care and the Board of Trustees at the Maine Veterans' Homes"
H.P. 1418 L.D. 2211

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

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

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

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

Senator **DUSON:** Today's black history spotlight is on David Driskell. David Driskell was a renowned artist and creative, an art historian, a scholar, a teacher, and a mentor, and an unparalleled curator of black American art, whose relationship with Maine began with a summer residency at the Skowhegan School of Arts in 1953 - my year of birth. He fell in love with summers in Maine. He and his wife purchased a home in Falmouth in the early 60s. He returned to the Skowhegan School many summers, both as an artist, as an instructor, and he developed an incredible home studio in Falmouth where he created and collected art over decades. Some of Mr. Driskell's most iconic paintings were composed from the trees and the natural landscape surrounding his home in Falmouth. I first became aware of David Driskell nearly 50 years ago, in 1976, when the groundbreaking exhibit Two Centuries of Black American Art opened at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. The exhibit both focused attention on African-American art and created a stir that was felt across the country, even at Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, where I was finishing up my senior year. While I never saw that curated display, I later found a copy of the catalog and narrative about the exhibit written by Mr. Driskell. Show and tell. I've read through it countless times, and the catalog came along when I relocated to Maine in 1983. It was some years later that I learned of Mr. Driskell's connection to my adopted state. In the years since then, I regularly visited several of his pieces on display and for sale at Greenhut Galleries in Portland. I have a quote from Mr. Driskell. When the indomitable human spirit rises above the chaos of violence, hunger, and pain, and soars to a heightened relief through the making of art, we are classless and raceless so long as we create the spiritual vision. As an artist of African ancestry, I have had to learn to live with racism, sexism, and all of the prejudices. I often find refuge and indeed solace in the creative process, in the quiet of my small studio, nestled in the majestic pines and white birches in Maine. Two worlds merge in my art, one of sight, the other of vision. The beauty of nature and the creative world of the imaginations together express the joyous vision I have as an artist, responding to the spiritual urge within to fulfill my earthly task of making and creating my own beautiful

world. David Driskell. These are the words of David Driskell quoted in the catalog for a recent exhibit of his art at the Portland Museum of Art. The exhibit, Icons of Nature and History, was created in consultation with Mr. Driskell, debuting in the High Museum in Atlanta in February of 2021 and on view at the PMA June 19th through September 12th in 1921. The exhibition included 60 selected works spanning Mr. Driskell's career from the 1950s through the 2010s. I visited with the Driskell works at PMA many, many times in the summer of 1921 -- excuse me, 2021 - that must've been my former life - and also brought home a copy of the exhibit catalog. I hope this spotlight will inspire your curiosity. Mr. Driskell, a part-time Mainer for over half a century, passed away in April of 2020, before the Icons exhibit was completed. He and his art live on in the hearts of many people whom he inspired. I do have the two catalogs from the exhibits, and I'll maybe drop them in the Senate President's office, where if you want to peruse and see some of the pieces that were featured, I'm happy to share it with you. So, thank you for listening, and thank you, Mr. President. Oh, I'm sorry. I did distribute to your desk an article - I think I selected the one -- I'm not sure which one I selected, but an article with great pictures from the -- about Mr. Driskell and his life. Thank you.

Off Record Remarks

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **ADJOURNED**, pursuant to the Joint Order, until Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 10:00 in the morning, or until the call of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House.