

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senate Legislative Record
One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Legislature

State of Maine

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beginning December 5, 2018

beginning at Page 1

An Act To Improve Rural Health Care

S.P. 418 L.D. 1350
(C "A" S-259)

On motion by Senator **BREEN** of Cumberland, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

An Act To Create and Sustain Jobs and Encourage Affordable Housing through Development of Cooperatives and Employee-owned Businesses

S.P. 469 L.D. 1520
(C "A" S-260)

On motion by Senator **BREEN** of Cumberland, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

An Act To Improve Geographic Information System Data Acquisition and Maintenance

S.P. 568 L.D. 1719
(C "A" S-261)

On motion by Senator **BREEN** of Cumberland, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

An Act To Prevent Discrimination in Public and Private Insurance Coverage for Pregnant Women in Maine

H.P. 594 L.D. 820
(S "A" S-275 to C "A" H-210)

On motion by Senator **TIMBERLAKE** 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 (#293)

YEAS: Senators: BELLOWS, BREEN, CARSON, CHENETTE, CHIPMAN, CLAXTON, DESCHAMBAULT, DILL, GRATWICK, HERBIG, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LUCHINI, MILLETT, MIRAMANT, SANBORN H, SANBORN L, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BLACK, CARPENTER, CYRWAY, DAVIS, DIAMOND, DOW, FARRIN, FOLEY, GUERIN, HAMPER, KEIM, MOORE, POULIOT, ROSEN, TIMBERLAKE, WOODSOME

19 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 16 Senators having voted in the negative, was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**.

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, 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 Penobscot, Senator Guerin.

Senator **GUERIN:** Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, the majority of Mainers do not support taxpayer funded abortion. Planned Parenthood and Maine Family Planning have been proclaiming that the majority of Mainers support L.D. 820. There are a number of problems with the poll they referenced. First, none of the questions in the survey directly asked Mainers if they approve their taxpayer dollars funding abortions. That question was not asked clearly. Second, the firm hired by the abortion industry was the number three donor to the Legislative Majority PAC which is committed to promoting Democrat majorities in State Legislatures, according to OpenSecrets.Org., bringing into question the subjectivity of Union Park's strategies. Third, the idea that Mainers support taxpayer funded abortions flies in the face of every national and local poll that have consistently showed the nation's lack of support for this concept, regardless of age, race, or geography. Citizens who value the lives of pre-born children should not be forced to pay for the ending of these children's lives.

Members of this Body may wonder why a strong-willed, independent woman like me would be Pro-Life. Well, it's a personal story. I had never given abortion much thought one way or the other. I had two healthy sons and was pregnant with my third son when I started bleeding. I lost that baby and had to have a DNC due to the complications. This procedure was done in the very next room to where I had many times joyfully listened to my baby's beating hearts. I asked the nurse if this is where they did abortions and she said yes it was. In weeks following my DNC, I had many times questioned the decision of having the procedure, agonizing over it actually. One day as I was pondering this and I thought of the women who had been in the same room who had heard a beating heart and had chosen to silence that heart. My heart broke for those women. If I had heartache for a post-miscarriage procedure, what silent torture were many of these women living with? Since then many medical advances have shown us the beauty of pre-born babies through pregnancy sonograms. These are real children, boys and girls, precious humans who can feel pain and deserve love and protection by society if they are not wanted by their parents. Please vote against the pending motion that will force unwilling Mainers to pay for abortions against their religious and moral convictions. Personally, I have lost many votes in this Chamber this session and I've had to live with that as a difference in policy. I am, however, horrified that those of you in this Chamber who vote for this retched bill tonight will be forcing me to pay for the murder of innocent children.

Senate at Ease.

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, **ADJOURNED** until Thursday, June 13, 2019 at 10:00 in the morning.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would like to remind members that it is not appropriate to impugn the motives of any other member of the Body. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Breen.

Senator **BREEN:** Thank you, Mr. President. I just want to be a little bit more explicit about what this amendment that I moved tonight does. It simply restores a small amount of General Fund to the original fiscal note on the bill. We have debated this bill in the past. I just want to remind folks of some of the basic fundamentals of this bill does. L.D. 820 prevents discrimination in insurance coverage for the full range of healthcare services available under Maine law. It ends discrimination in coverage for low income families in Maine. Lastly, it equalizes all insurance coverage with the coverage that all of us in this Body enjoy in the taxpayer funded State employee health plan. Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Enactment. Is the Senate ready for the question?

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#294)

YEAS: Senators: BELLOWS, BREEN, CARSON, CHENETTE, CHIPMAN, CLAXTON, DESCHAMBAULT, DILL, GRATWICK, HERBIG, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LUCHINI, MILLETT, MIRAMANT, SANBORN H, SANBORN L, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

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19 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 16 Senators having voted in the negative, was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** and, having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

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

Off Record Remarks
