

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*One-Hundredth Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

VOLUME II

MAY 12 - JUNE 17, 1961

and

SPECIAL SESSION

NOV. 27 - DEC. 2, 1961

DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL

AUGUSTA, MAINE

Mr. DAVIS: Mr. President, I would be happy to explain to the Senator that there is a salary of \$1600 plus \$200 travel.

The PRESIDENT: Does that answer the Senator from Washington, Senator Wyman?

Mr. WYMAN: Mr. President, it does and if it is not too much to ask I just wonder who gets the salary?

Mr. STANLEY: Mr. President, that decision will be made by the voters of Penobscot County.

Thereupon, the resolve was finally passed.

On motion by Mr. Davis of Cumberland, the Senate voted to take from the table "An Act Appropriating Funds for Ferry Service for Long Island Plantation" (H. P. 1186) (L. D. 1633); and on further motion by the same Senator, the bill was passed to be enacted.

On motion by Mr. Davis of Cumberland, the Senate voted to take from the table, "An Act to Authorize the Construction of Self Liquidating Student Housing for the State Teachers Colleges and the Issuance of Not Exceeding \$2,-600,000 Bonds of the State of Maine for the Financing Thereof" (S. P. 585) (L. D. 1637); and that Senator moved enactment.

This being a bond issue a division of the Senate was had.

Twenty-three having voted in the affirmative and none opposed, the bill was passed to be enacted.

On motion by Mr. Davis of Cumberland, the Senate voted to take from the table (S. P. 173) (L. D. 419), "An Act to Amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, tabled by that Senator earlier in today's session; and that Senator yielded to the Senator from Oxford, Senator Ferguson.

Mr. FERGUSON: Mr. President and members of the Senate as you notice on this L. D. 419 it has a price tag of \$7,750 the first year of the biennium and \$7,450 the second year. At the time that we introduced this bill, I did not think there was any money involved but when it came from the Appropriations table I understand that the leaders did want to knock this bill

out on account of the price tag. Therefore, I have prepared an amendment that strikes out the objectionable Section 6. I have an amendment here and I now move that the Senate reconsider its action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed.

The motion prevailed, and on further motion by the same Senator, Senate Amendment A was read and adopted and the bill as amended was passed to be engrossed.

On motion by Mr. Davis of Cumberland, the Senate voted to reconsider its former action whereby it indefinitely postponed (H. P. 850) (L. D. 1164) "An Act Exempting Certain Aircraft from Sales Tax"; and on further motion by the same Senator the bill (previously engrossed) was passed to be enacted.

On motion by Mr. Jacques of Androscoggin, the Senate voted to take from the table (H. P. 1116) (L. D. 1538), "An Act Continuing the Committee on Aging", tabled by that Senator earlier in today's session pending enactment.

This being an emergency measure, a division of the Senate was had.

Twenty-eight having voted in the affirmative and none opposed, the bill was passed to be enacted.

On motion by Mr. Davis of Cumberland, the Senate voted to take from the table (S. P. 396) (L. D. 1343) "An Act Creating an Administrative Code for State of Maine", tabled by that Senator earlier in today's session pending enactment; and that Senator yielded to the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Farris.

Mr. FARRIS of Kennebec: Mr. President, this is the act which creates an administrative code for the State of Maine, and it represents nearly two years work by the staff in the Attorney General's office and other people interested in codifying a system of administrative appeals and procedures. The document does carry an appropriation and it would be much better for the operation of the bill if the appropriation could remain, but we

understand that the Appropriations Committee does not have the money and we realize it must take its place behind the more meritorious measures which must be enacted for the welfare of the people of this state. Therefore an amendment has been prepared and at this time I would move that we reconsider our action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed.

The motion to reconsider engrossing prevailed.

Mr. FARRIS of Kennebec: Mr. President, this amendment is very simple in that it strikes out the appropriation provisions, one being the salary of the hearing examiner and the amendment provides that his salary and expenses shall be paid on a per diem basis from the department which has requested the hearing. The office of Secretary of State is so much interested in having such a uniform proceeding that that department is willing to take on the additional work without any additional staffing. I might also add that this is a part of the Governor's program in a major address before the Maine State Bar Association. I now present Senate Amendment B and move it adoption.

Thereupon, Senate Amendment B was read and adopted and the bill as amended passed to be engrossed.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Noyes of Franklin, the Senate voted to take from the table, H. P. 1179, L. D. 1625, "An Act Redefining the Financial Responsibility of Children and Certain Relatives in Public Assistance; and on further motion by the same Senator, the bill was passed to be engrossed as amended.

On motion by Mr. Edmunds of Aroostook, the Senate voted to take from the table, (H. P. 1175) (L. D. 1621) "An Act Relating to Harness Racing Purses," which was tabled by that Senator earlier in today's session pending motion of Mr. Davis of Cumberland to indefinitely postpone.

Mr. EDMUNDS: Mr. President, I rise to speak in opposition to the motion that this bill be indefinitely

postponed and I would like to make a few brief remarks as to why I feel this is a very valid piece of legislation.

I point out to the Senators that this is not a question of appropriating new funds, it is just a question of the loss of revenue should this legislation be passed. The figures furnished to us are an estimated loss of revenue of \$60,000 each year. I would submit that estimates of revenue are always very rough and I certainly have reason to feel that the increase in betting, if the trend of the last ten years were to continue would make up some of this loss of revenue in the next two years of this coming biennium.

I feel this is a bill of extreme importance because it vitally affects the future of our county agricultural fairs which we have all attended. Harness racing all over the United States is growing very rapidly and the good horses are going to go where there are good purses. Tracks all over the United States are increasing their purses and we are in competition with tracks all over the United States. I feel very strongly that unless our purses are increased and better horses are retained in the State of Maine for the benefit of the people of the State of Maine who are interested in going to watch this sport that it will not be a question of the loss of \$60,000 of revenue to the state but the loss will undoubtedly be very far in excess of \$60,000.

I certainly hope that the motion to indefinitely postpone does not prevail.

Mr. NOYES of Franklin: Mr. President, as you know, in Franklin County we have a very fine county fair, but as a member of the leadership I must arise to ask for a division on the motion to indefinitely postpone.

Mr. PORTEOUS of Cumberland: Mr. President, as a member of the Taxation Committee I will say that there was a unanimous "Ought to pass" report or a 9 to 1 "Ought to pass" report, and we were pretty thoroughly convinced that not only would there be no loss of revenue but that this move would be of great benefit to the fairs and would