

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*One Hundred and Sixth
Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

Volume III

June 6, 1973 to July 3, 1973

Index

KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE

Which report was Read and Accepted and the Bill Read Once. Committee Amendment "A" was Read and Adopted and the Bill, as Amended, Tomorrow Assigned for Second Reading.

Ought to Pass in New Draft

Mr. Speers for the Committee on State Government on Bill, "An Act to Reestablish the Maine Commission on Drug Abuse." (S. P. 230) (L. D. 665)

Reported that the same Ought to Pass in New Draft under New Title: "An Act Reconstituting and More Effectively Coordinating the Maine Commission on Drug Abuse and the Division of Alcoholism and Providing on Alternative Sentencing for Violators of Drug Laws." (S. P. 635) (L. D. 2008)

Which report was Read.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Speers.

Mr. SPEERS: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: I feel that this particular piece of legislation should not go by without calling the Senate's attention to what I think is one of the more major pieces of legislation that will be coming before this body this year.

Senator Tanous introduced a bill which would have re-established the Commission on Drug Abuse. Senator Brennan from Cumberland introduced a bill which dealt with alternative sentencing for drug abuse offenders. The Committee on State Government, working through the staff which the legislature, in its great wisdom, saw fit at the beginning of this session to provide for itself, put these two bills together and came out with a new draft which would combine the Maine Commission on Drug Abuse and the Division of Alcoholism Services, which is now a part of the Department of Health and Welfare, the Bureau of Rehabilitation. By so doing, we are creating a new office of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention within the Department of Health and Welfare.

By putting these two similar problems together, we are merging three citizen panels, with a total membership of 56 people, into one

advisory council with a membership of 17. We are abolishing the titles of Director of the Division of Alcoholism and Executive Director in the Maine Commission on Drug Abuse, and replacing both of these with one director for the new office.

It is contemplated that by putting these two together and combining the efforts under one office at a high level within the Department of Health and Welfare that the potential for federal funds to attack these two problems will be greatly increased.

As I mentioned, we have included within this new draft the provisions by the good Senator from Cumberland, Senator Brennan, for alternative sentencing for violators of drug laws. By that, we mean that at the discretion of the court these individuals may be sentenced to drug abuse treatment centers instead of to long jail sentences.

These are the primary provisions of this particular bill and, Mr. President, I could not speak highly enough of the legislative staff that worked on this new draft. It demonstrates once again the great worth to the legislature, and ultimately to the people of the State of Maine, that the legislature has brought about by hiring the staff members who are able to spend their full time working on matters such as this.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Tanous.

Mr. TANOUS: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: I wish to commend Senator Speers from Kennebec and the Committee on State Government for coming out with such a comprehensive bill which, in my opinion, certainly is an answer to the problems that we presently have in the area of trying to solve the problem of drugs and alcoholism. They certainly should be commended for the tremendous amount of effort put into this bill. Thank you.

The PRESIDENT: Is it now the pleasure of the Senate to accept the Ought to Pass in New Draft Report of the Committee?

Thereupon, the Ought to Pass in New Draft Report of the Committee was Accepted, the Bill in New Draft Read Once and Tomorrow Assigned for Second Reading.

Mr. Cianchette for the Committee on Transportation on Bill, "An Act Relating to Town's Matching Funds for Resurfacing State Aid Highways." (S. P. 370) (L. D. 1096)

Reported that the same Ought to Pass in New Draft under Same Title (S. P. 656) (L. D. 2009)

Mr. Cianchette for the Committee on Transportation on Bill, "An Act to Make Allocations from the Highway Fund for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1974 and June 30, 1975." (S. P. 160) (L. D. 415)

Reported that the same Ought to Pass in New Draft under Same Title (S. P. 657) (L. D. 2010)

Which reports were Read and Accepted, the Bills in New Draft Read Once and Tomorrow Assigned for Second Reading.

Second Readers

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

House

Bill, "An Act Expanding and Clarifying the Functions and Purposes of the Panel of Mediators." (H. P. 1562) (L. D. 1996)

Bill, "An Act to Provide for Municipal Rent Control." (H. P. 1378) (L. D. 1834)

Bill, "An Act to Provide for Reduction of Sentence for Inmates of State Correctional Facilities who Donate Blood." (H. P. 1343) (L. D. 1777)

Which were Read a Second Time and Passed to be Engrossed in concurrence.

House — As Amended

Bill, "An Act Extending Regulation of Fishing Methods and Quantity and Types of Gear Used." (H. P. 1376) (L. D. 1832)

Bill, "An Act Exempting Gas for Cooking and Heating in Homes from Sales Tax." (H. P. 379) (L. D. 508)

(On motion by Mr. Wyman of Washington, tabled until later in today's session, pending Passage to be Engrossed.)

Resolve, Authorizing the Forest Commissioner to Convey by Sale the Interest of the State in Certain Land in Piscataquis County. (H. P. 33) (L. D. 40)

Bill, "An Act Creating Androscoggin County Commissioner Districts." (H. P. 271) (L. D. 378)

Which were Read a Second Time and, except for the tabled matter, Passed to be Engrossed, as Amended, in concurrence.

Senate

Bill, "An Act Creating Definite Sentencing Limitation in Juvenile Offenses." (S. P. 495) (L. D. 1582)

Which was Read a Second Time and Passed to be Engrossed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Enactors

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

An Act Relating to Books for Recording in Office of Register of Deeds. (S. P. 63) (L. D. 166)

An Act to Authorize Issuance of Warrants for Administrative Searches. (S. P. 344) (L. D. 1043)

An Act to Correct Errors and Inconsistencies in the Maine Business Corporation Act. (S. P. 403) (L. D. 1231)

An Act Relating to Legislative Service Under State Retirement System. (H. P. 49) (L. D. 56)

(On motion by Mr. Sewall of Penobscot, placed on the Special Appropriations Table.)

An Act to Authorize Oxford County to Raise Money for the Development of an Airport in the Rumford-Mexico Area. (H. P. 464) (L. D. 612)

An Act to Establish Privileged Communication for School Counselors. (H. P. 533) (L. D. 715)

An Act Relating to Winter Maintenance of State Aid Highways and Town Ways by Municipalities. (H. P. 549) (L. D. 730)

(On motion by Mr. Greeley of Waldo, placed on the Special Highways Appropriations Table.)

An Act Establishing Privilege to Refuse Disclosure in a Patient-Psychiatrist Relationship. (H. P. 881) (L. D. 1168)

An Act Relating to Contributions by Participating Local Districts