

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

One Hundred And Fifteenth Legislature

OF THE

State Of Maine

VOLUME II

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House of Representatives
May 20, 1991 to July 10, 1991

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH MAINE LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
71st Legislative Day
Saturday, July 6, 1991

PARADIS of Frenchville
CARROLL of Gray
RYDELL of Brunswick
CHONKO of Topsham

The House met according to adjournment and was called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer by Reverend Robert Hargreaves, Saint Mark's Episcopal Church, Augusta.

The Journal of Friday, July 5, 1991, was read and approved.

The following item appearing on Supplement No. 2 was taken up out of order by unanimous consent.

ORDERS

On motion of Representative MACOMBER of South Portland, the following Joint Order: (H.P. 1383)

Ordered, the Senate concurring, that Bill, "An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, Highway Fund, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1992 and June 30, 1993," H.P. 652, L.D. 926, and all its accompanying papers, be recalled from the legislative files to the House.

Was read and passed and sent up for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, was ordered sent forthwith to the Senate.

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Reform the Maine Workers' Compensation System" (S.P. 777) (L.D. 1972)

Came from the Senate, referred to the Committees on **Banking and Insurance and Labor** and Ordered Printed.

Was referred to the Committees on **Banking and Insurance and Labor** in concurrence.

Divided Report

(Later Today Assigned)

Majority Report of the Committee on **Appropriations and Financial Affairs** reporting **"Ought to Pass"** as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-418) on Bill "An Act to Provide the Legislature with Revenue Forecasting Capabilities" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 232) (L.D. 586)

Signed:

Senator: BRANNIGAN of Cumberland

Representatives: MICHAUD of East Millinocket
HICHBORN of Howland
POULIOT of Lewiston

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **"Ought Not to Pass"** on same Bill.

Signed:

Senator: FOSTER of Hancock

Representatives: FOSS of Yarmouth
REED of Falmouth
MacBRIDE of Presque Isle

Came from the Senate with the Majority **"Ought to Pass"** as amended Report read and accepted and the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-418)

Reports were read.

On motion of Representative Gwadosky of Fairfield, tabled pending acceptance of either report and later today assigned.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED

Emergency Measure

An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, General Fund and Other Funds, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1991, June 30, 1992 and June 30, 1993 (H.P. 1379) (L.D. 1967) (H. "A" H-738; H. "B" H-740; H. "C" H-741)

Was reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed.

On motion of Representative Chonko of Topsham, under suspension of the rules, the House reconsidered its action whereby L.D. 1967 was passed to be engrossed as amended.

On further motion of the same Representative, under suspension of the rules, the House reconsidered its action whereby House Amendment "A" (H-738) was adopted.

On further motion of the same Representative, House Amendment "A" (H-738) was indefinitely postponed.

On further motion of the same Representative, under suspension of the rules, the House reconsidered its action whereby House Amendment "B" (H-740) was adopted.

The same Representative offered House Amendment "A" (H-749) to House Amendment "B" (H-740) and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" (H-749) to House amendment "B" (H-740) was read by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Topsham, Representative Chonko.

Representative CHONKO: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: Just a brief explanation of what this amendment does.

This is the budget, it removes the video lottery which left a \$32 million hole. It changes the quarterly payment of the insurance company taxes from 25 percent each quarter to 35 percent in April, 35 percent in June and 15 percent in the remaining two quarters. The change would be sunsetted once the 1992-1993 budget has been completed. To make up the rest of the \$92 million, we have across-the-board one percent cut in the first year and two percent cut in the second year exempting the General Purpose Aid and all the entitlements, Maine Health Care, Foster Care and Rehab programs.

Subsequently, House Amendment "A" (H-749) to House Amendment "B" (H-740) was adopted.

Representative Chonko of Topsham offered House Amendment "B" (H-750) to House Amendment "B" (H-740) and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "B" (H-750) to House Amendment "B" (H-740) was read by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Topsham, Representative Chonko.

Representative CHONKO: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: A brief explanation of what this amendment does. This is Representative Manning's amendment and it puts a sunset provision on it ending on the first year of the biennium.

Subsequently, House Amendment "B" (H-750) to House Amendment "B" (H-740) was adopted.

House Amendment "B" (H-750) as amended by House Amendment "A" (H-749) & "B" (H-740) thereto was adopted.

Representative Chonko of Topsham offered House Amendment "E" (H-744) and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "E" (H-744) was read by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Topsham, Representative Chonko.

Representative CHONKO: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: A brief explanation as to what this amendment does — it is an errors bill for errors that were found in the Revisors Office and it corrects those errors.

Subsequently, House Amendment "E" (H-744) was adopted.

Representative Chonko of Topsham offered House Amendment "G" (H-748) and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "G" (H-748) was read by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Topsham, Representative Chonko.

Representative CHONKO: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: A brief explanation to House Amendment "G." The amendment offsets the appropriations and allocation made earlier this week from Cycle A and Cycle B state employees and to keep the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery open. If we are to enact a budget, L.D. 1967 before you, and it is signed into law by the Governor, this amendment is needed to keep the budget balanced. The amendment recognizes the passage of the 1992-93 budget and already includes funding for Cycle A and Cycle B and the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery.

Subsequently, House Amendment "G" (H-748) was adopted.

The Bill was passed to be engrossed as amended by House Amendment "B" (H-740) as amended by House Amendment "A" (H-749) and "B" (H-750) thereto and House Amendments "C" (H-741), "E" (H-744) and "G" (H-748) in non-concurrence and sent up for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, was ordered sent forthwith

to the Senate.

(At Ease)

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

The following item appearing on Supplement No. 1 was taken up out of order by unanimous consent.

SENATE PAPER

The following Communication:

Maine State Senate
Augusta, Maine 04333

July 6, 1991

Honorable Edwin H. Pert
Clerk of the House
State House Station 2
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Pert:

Please be advised that the Senate today Adhered to its former action whereby it Failed to Enact Bill "An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, Highway Fund, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1992 and June 30, 1993" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 652) (L.D. 926).

Sincerely,

S/Joy J. O'Brien
Secretary of the Senate

Was read and ordered placed on file.

The following item appearing on Supplement No. 3 was taken up out of order by unanimous consent.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BILL RECALLED FROM LEGISLATIVE FILES

(Pursuant to Joint Order - House Paper 1383)

An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, Highway Fund, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1992 and June 30, 1993 (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 652) (L.D. 926) (C. "B" H-735)

On motion of Representative Macomber of South Portland, under suspension of the rules, the House reconsidered its action whereby L.D. 926 was passed to be enacted.