

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Majority Report of the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act To Ensure the Right To Work without Payment of Dues or Fees to a Labor Union as a Condition of Employment" (H.P. 52) (L.D. 65)

Signed:
Senator:
BELLOWS of Kennebec

Representatives:
FECTEAU of Biddeford
BATES of Westbrook
DUNPHY of Old Town
HANDY of Lewiston
MASTRACCIO of Sanford
SYLVESTER of Portland

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-466)** on same Bill.

Signed:
Senators:
VOLK of Cumberland
LANGLEY of Hancock

Representatives:
AUSTIN of Gray
LOCKMAN of Amherst
STETKIS of Canaan
VACHON of Scarborough

READ.

On motion of Representative FECTEAU of Biddeford, **TABLED** pending **ACCEPTANCE** of either Report and later today assigned.

Six Members of the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** report in Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-473)** on Bill "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, 2018 and June 30, 2019" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 281) (L.D. 390)

Signed:
Senator:
BREEN of Cumberland

Representatives:
GATTINE of Westbrook
FREY of Bangor
HUBBELL of Bar Harbor
JORGENSEN of Portland
TEPLER of Topsham

Four Members of the same Committee report in Report "B" **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-474)** on same Bill.

Signed:
Representatives:
SEAVEY of Kennebunkport

SIROCKI of Scarborough
TIMBERLAKE of Turner
WINSOR of Norway

Two Members of the same Committee report in Report "C" **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "C" (H-475)** on same Bill.

Signed:
Senators:
HAMPER of Oxford
KATZ of Kennebec

One Member of the same Committee reports in Report "D" **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:
Representative:
MARTIN of Eagle Lake

READ.

Representative GATTINE of Westbrook moved that the House **ACCEPT** Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended.**

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Westbrook, Representative Gattine.

Representative **GATTINE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Women and Men of the House. Today I rise to speak in support of Committee Amendment "A" to LD 390, and make no mistake, how we move forward on this piece of legislation is the most important business we have been sent here to do this session, and I don't say that with any hyperbole. The budget, LD 390, has far-reaching consequences. This legislation, and how we end this session, will affect every department in State Government, every public school classroom, our hospitals, nursing home residents, our transportation system, our state employees, our teachers, our community colleges, all of it. When all is said and done, the state budget will impact every single person here in Maine. Bearing that in mind, Committee Amendment "A" is a responsible budget that strengthens Maine's economy, while working within existing resources. Today, we offer this chamber the chance to support a budget that reflects the opportunities Mainers have demanded. With these opportunities in mind, and our constituents' voices in our ears, this budget protects property tax relief for working families, fully funds the state share of K-12 public education, and rejects a number of harmful and unnecessary cuts. It was built with the idea that a strong and thriving economy is the key to prosperity for every Mainer, and with investment in our communities, in excellent schools, in lower property taxes, and in quality health care, that we can build a better Maine for our children. This budget honors the intention made twice by the voters to fully fund the state share of K-12 public education, so that every kid, regardless of their zip code, receives the excellent education that prepares them for success in today's world, and with the understanding that every new dollar goes directly into the classrooms for our teachers and our students. This budget delivers the property tax relief needed so desperately by so many. For years, homeowners have seen their property tax rates skyrocket to cover the state's share of education, and essential services have been ignored. Seniors on fixed incomes, and struggling families, risk losing their homes as they try to keep up. We have the duty and the responsibility to address this issue right here and right now. We cannot kick the can down the road any longer. This report in front of you rejects destructive and disastrous cuts. All Mainers should be provided the opportunity to succeed in our great state, from our youngest to our eldest. We have not and

do not believe in blindly slashing valuable programs. We have come together time and time again in this chamber to reject these types of cuts, and we need to do so again. And while most of our public discussion so far is centered around public education and how to pay for it, there is much more that this one budget and Committee Amendment "A" does. We support an investment in higher education, we support innovative job training efforts, we improve our disability services, we strengthen consumer protections. We cannot be single minded and we must produce a budget that recognizes our state's challenges as well as our state's strengths. Over the past five months, members of the Appropriations Committee have been hard at work. We've tried over and over again to find compromise, to hear each other out, to recognize and craft a document that meets our state's needs, but frankly, we have not found that consensus; and so that is why we find ourselves here today with this Committee Amendment being offered. I can tell you quite honestly that I wish we were in a different situation. I respect and honor the work of the Committee that I serve on, and every single member of that Committee. But we could not in good conscience ignore the results of the referendum. We could not shortchange our students and our property taxpayers again. We must continue to fight for those Mainers who cannot be here to fight for themselves. In order to continue to do our work to serve the people of Maine, and to close the budget, we have to move this process forward. Today's vote is another step in that process. We're about to enter uncharted territory, but we must do so with purpose, with transparency, with accountability, and with the voice of Maine people ringing in our ears. But this process must and will come to an end. We must fulfill our obligation to Maine people. We must perform our service to the state, and we must enact a budget before June 30th. We must continue our legacy of leadership, and we must close this budget. So, with all this in mind, Madam Speaker and Men and Women of the House, I ask that you move this process forward, and to join me in voting in favor of Committee Amendment "A." Madam Speaker, I request a roll call.

The same Representative **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended**.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Waterboro, Representative Prescott.

Representative **PRESCOTT**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. May I ask a question through the Chair?

The **SPEAKER**: The member may proceed.

Representative **PRESCOTT**: Committee Amendment "A," is the spending more or less than the money we take in? And, are there any new taxes that are projected for this income?

The **SPEAKER**: The Representative from Waterboro, Representative Prescott, has posed a question through the Chair, if there is anyone who wishes to answer. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lewiston, Representative Golden.

Representative **GOLDEN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. There has been a lot of talk around the building that there could potentially be a Committee of Conference for this budget, and some members have had some questions about the process today talking to me, and so, I was hoping that perhaps you may be able to shed some light on the process for that, and also who can be chosen.

The **SPEAKER**: The Representative from Lewiston, Representative Golden, has posed a question to the Chair. The Chair would draw members' attention the Joint Rule 352.

When the chambers do not agree on an action and call for a Committee of Conference, should they call for a Committee of Conference, then the Committee of Conference would be in order. Committee of Conference would consist of three members from each chamber who voted on the prevailing side of acceptance of the initial report offered in the chamber. A Committee of Conference would have to meet and submit a report within 10 legislative days, to the chamber asking for the conference. The Report must be agreed to by a majority of members from each chamber. The Committee Report may be that it is unable to agree, and if that should happen, should a Committee of Conference take place in the first place, the Committee Report may be either accepted or rejected, but no other action may be had except through another Committee of Conference. And if that were the case, and it were necessary, a new Committee of Conference could then be ordered. That is looking down the line. I hope I have answered the Representative's question.

A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of Report "A" Ought to Pass as Amended. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 293

YEA - Ackley, Alley, Austin B, Babbidge, Bailey, Bates, Battle, Beebe-Center, Berry, Blume, Brooks, Bryant, Cardone, Casas, Chapman, Collings, Cooper, Daughtry, DeChant, Denno, Doore, Duchesne, Dunphy, Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau, Frey, Fuller, Gattine, Golden, Grant, Grohman, Hamann, Handy, Harlow, Herbig, Hickman, Hogan, Hubbell, Hymanson, Jorgensen, Kornfield, Kumiega, Lawrence, Longstaff, Luchini, Madigan C, Madigan J, Martin J, Martin R, Mastraccio, McCrea, McCreight, McLean, Melaragno, Monaghan, Moonen, Nadeau, O'Neil, Parker, Pierce T, Reckitt, Riley, Rykerson, Sanborn, Schneck, Sheats, Spear, Stanley, Stearns, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Timberlake, Tipping, Tucker, Warren, Winsor, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Austin S, Bickford, Black, Bradstreet, Campbell, Cebra, Chace, Corey, Craig, Dillingham, Espling, Farrin, Foley, Fredette, Gerrish, Gillway, Ginzler, Guerin, Haggan, Hanley, Harrington, Harvell, Hawke, Head, Herrick, Higgins, Hilliard, Johansen, Kinney J, Kinney M, Lockman, Lyford, Malaby, Mason, McElwee, O'Connor, Parry, Perkins, Picchiotti, Pickett, Pierce J, Pouliot, Prescott, Reed, Sampson, Sanderson, Seavey, Sherman, Simmons, Sirocki, Skolfield, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Sutton, Theriault, Tuell, Turner, Vachon, Wadsworth, Wallace, Ward, White, Wood.

ABSENT - Grignon, Hanington, Marean, Ordway, Perry.

Yes, 81; No, 64; Absent, 5; Excused, 1.

81 having voted in the affirmative and 64 voted in the negative, with 5 being absent and 1 excused, and accordingly Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended** was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-473)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-473)** and sent for concurrence.