

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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out of order I would like to talk on this bill briefly.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. DENBOW: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: As a matter of record only, I want to say that I am opposed to this bill and for these reasons. First, I think that every Member of this House when they came here knew in their own mind that it is necessary and very necessary to appropriate more money for teachers and schools. Therefore, it is my personal feeling, my own belief, that this should be done before attaching anything else to it except the appropriation money.

In regard to the administrative unit, I don't think it is necessary as under the present law we can already form such districts. I also think that it is very poor public relationship to attempt to pass such important legislation without the people having any knowledge of it. I feel that it works a definite hardship on many small towns because of their isolated location and lack of funds. These are my own reasons for which I will vote against it,—which I have voted against it.

In addition to this over the weekend there has been quite a few letters come in and a few telegrams and several telephone calls and they simply follow quite a bit the things I have mentioned. But there was one thing here which was not my own idea, there are plenty of others here in the House who perhaps can identify it. This comes from a reasonably brilliant attorney, and he says—a note on it says: In his opinion it should be checked on constitutionality, with regard to Section 54 on Page 22, paragraph 8, and I don't care to argue this because I don't know anything about it. However, this is his statement. The item reads: "The Commission or District Commissioner shall determine what description of scholars shall attend each school, classify them and transfer them from school to school where more than one school is kept at the same time." This does not say classify or describe and it leaves the opportunity for the directors to do as they see fit choosing from any classification that they so wish. It also puts them

in the position which they shouldn't have I believe where they could easily charge anything they wanted to, it would be possible under that existing paragraph, to even allow segregation, which the Supreme Court has already ruled can't be done. They could discriminate in races, religions, creeds or anything else, and it is giving them too much authority. These are my reasons and I simply want them on record.

Thereupon, the Bill was passed to be engrossed as amended, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

(Off Record Remarks)

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bath, Mr. Ross.

Mr. ROSS: Mr. Speaker, is the Clerk in possession of L. D. 204, Resolve changing the tenure of Office of Governor from two to four years?

The SPEAKER: The House is in possession of that document.

Mr. ROSS: Mr. Speaker, I am going to ask reconsideration of our action whereby we passed it to be engrossed for the purpose of presenting an amendment. The bill as passed to be engrossed with the amendment that was put on stipulated that anyone serving two elective terms could not be eligible to succeed himself. As you may or may not see now, that would preclude Governor Muskie from running again. Although there are many persons who would like to preclude that, I don't think it was the intention of the majority of persons who are in favor of this bill, and so I would now ask that we reconsider our action whereby we passed the bill to be engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Bath, Mr. Ross, requests or moves that the House reconsider its action whereby it passed to be engrossed Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Changing the Tenure of Office of the Governor to Four-Year Terms. The engrossing of this bill took place on Friday, May 3. Is it the pleasure of the House that it reconsider its action whereby it passed this resolve to be engrossed, as amended by Committee Amendment "B"?

The motion prevailed.

### House at Ease

Called to order by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair understands the gentleman from Bath, Mr. Ross, now moves that under suspension of the rules the House reconsider its action whereby on May 2 it adopted Committee Amendment "B".

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Ross of Bath offered House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "B" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk as follows:

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H. P. 157, L. D. 204, Resolve, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Changing the Tenure of Office of the Governor to Four-Year Terms.

Amend said Amendment by inserting in the 5th line after the underlined word "elective" the underlined words 'four-year'

House Amendment "A" was adopted.

Committee Amendment "B" as amended by House Amendment "A" was adopted and the Resolve passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "B" as amended by House Amendment "A" and sent to the Senate.

### House at Ease

Called to order by the Speaker.

#### Orders of the Day

The SPEAKER: Under Orders of the Day the Chair lays before the House the first item under unfinished business, Bill "An Act relating to Time Limitations for Filing Petitions Under Workmen's Compensation Act," Senate Paper 259, Legislative Document 697, tabled on April 26 by the gentleman from Perham, Mr. Bragdon, pending third reading. The Chair recognizes that gentleman.

Mr. BRAGDON: Mr. Speaker, I tabled this matter for the gentleman from Houlton, Mr. Ervin, who I believe was asked by another member of this House to table. I have no interest in it.

Thereupon, the Bill was given its third reading, passed to be en-

grossed, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

The SPEAKER: The Chair now lays before the House item number two under unfinished business, Bill "An Act to Revise Certain Motor Vehicle Laws", House Paper 403, Legislative Document 533, tabled on April 26 by the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Tevanian, pending third reading.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Dexter, Mr. Roberts.

Mr. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: This amendment would require every motor vehicle to be equipped with lights. Now there are hundreds of commercial and home-built tractors on the farms and in the woods that are not licensed to drive on the highways, and they are used only in daylight. Many of them are not equipped with lights and do not need them. It would be an injustice and quite unnecessary for the owners of these vehicles to equip them with lights. I move the indefinite postponement of the amendment.

The SPEAKER: The Chair understands the gentleman from Dexter, Mr. Roberts, moves that under suspension of the rules the House reconsider its action whereby on April 25 it adopted Committee Amendment "A". The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bangor, Mr. Totman.

Mr. TOTMAN: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: Regarding the motion of the gentleman from Dexter, Mr. Roberts, I am in sympathy with the point he has made, but I would like to point out the chief reason for this amendment being made to the bill was to enable the new automobiles being manufactured with four headlights to operate legally. However, I repeat, the gentleman from Dexter, Mr. Roberts, has an excellent point I think on tractors, and rather than see the entire amendment killed, I would like to move it be specifically assigned for tomorrow in order that we may perhaps amend Committee Amendment "A".

The SPEAKER: The motion now before the House is the motion of the gentleman from Bangor, Mr. Totman, that item two under unfinished business, Bill "An Act to Re-