

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*One Hundred and Fourth
Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

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into the merits of the amendment or its germaneness, but this could be done.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker, I am wondering whether or not, in order to simplify the matter, would be for the gentleman from Bridgewater, Mr. Finemore, to withdraw his motion so that a motion could be made to insist and ask for a Committee of Conference, and then both parties could get together and come up with a proper bill.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Ross of Bath, the matter was tabled pending the motion of Mr. Finemore of Bridgewater that the House recede and concur and specially assigned for Tuesday, April 15.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Providing for Annual Legislative Sessions (S. P. 1) (L. D. 15) which failed final passage in the House on April 1, and on which a motion to recede and concur in final passage was lost on April 8 and the Resolve was ordered placed on file.

Came from the Senate with that body voting to insist on its former action whereby the Resolve was finally passed and asking for a Committee of Conference.

In the House: On motion of Mr. Dennett of Kittery, the House voted to insist and join in a Committee of Conference.

Non-Concurrent Matter Tabled and Assigned

Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Repealing the Provisions which Establish the Treasurer of State as a Constitutional Officer (H. P. 14) (L. D. 14) which was finally passed in the House on March 25 and passed to be engrossed on February 29.

Came from the Senate indefinitely postponed in non-concurrence.

In the House:

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Belgrade, Mr. Sahagian.

Mr. SAHAGIAN: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the

House: This morning I am at a loss to understand the action taken yesterday by the other branch, whereby they reversed their previous action to enact the bill which would have allowed the State Treasury office to be incorporated into the Accounts and Control Department.

I can tell you that, as a member of the Appropriations Committee, the whole committee has worked hard and long to effect efficiency in the state budget and provide savings.

We all know the great and very real problems that we face in financing state government this session, we full well know the feeling of the people of Maine when they are now more than ever before demanding that we build more efficiency into our state government operations; make better use of all tax dollars. And yet, in my opinion, the action taken yesterday in regards to this bill seems to be directly opposite to the public demand. As I have said before, this bill is directed not against any individual, but rather toward savings and efficiency in state government.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am still convinced that this is a good bill and will accomplish just what I have described. However, we have got to have courage as legislators this session more than ever before, we have got to act responsibly, we cannot afford to continue practices of the past, instead, we have got to initiate improved practices and laws for the future.

Yes, it is hard to change tradition but what we must determine is, will this change benefit the operation of state government and the people rather than be allowed to continue because of tradition or politics.

Ladies and gentlemen, I need your help in reaffirming our previous vote and insisting on the passage of this bill. Let's keep faith with the people and give them a chance to decide this issue. Thank you.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Shaw of Chelsea, tabled pending the motion of Mr. Sahagian of Belgrade to insist and specially assigned for tomorrow.