

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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An Act To Establish Transparency in Primary Health Care Spending

S.P. 421 L.D. 1353
(C "A" S-156)

An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee Concerning Penalties for Violations of the Freedom of Access Act

H.P. 1027 L.D. 1414

An Act To Protect the Environment and Public Health by Further Reducing Toxic Chemicals in Packaging

H.P. 1043 L.D. 1433
(C "A" H-362)

An Act To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Permit the Public Advocate To Access Certain Information Related to a Management Audit

S.P. 494 L.D. 1559
(C "A" S-154)

An Act To Authorize Project Labor Agreements for Public Works Projects

S.P. 499 L.D. 1564
(C "A" S-158)

An Act To Amend and Clarify the Maine Uniform Securities Act and To Make a Technical Correction in the Law Concerning Financial Planners

S.P. 566 L.D. 1712

PASSED TO BE ENACTED and, having been signed by the President, were presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

An Act To Prevent Vitamin K Deficiency Bleeding and Eye Damage in Infants

S.P. 121 L.D. 443
(C "A" S-153)

On motion by Senator **BREEN** of Cumberland, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

An Act To Ensure the Availability of Community Integration Services

H.P. 568 L.D. 763
(S "A" S-162 to C "A" H-252)

On motion by Senator **BREEN** of Cumberland, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

An Act To Provide Property Tax Relief

H.P. 847 L.D. 1158
(C "A" H-382)

On motion by Senator **BREEN** of Cumberland, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

An Act To Update the Civil Animal Welfare Laws

H.P. 891 L.D. 1230
(C "A" H-380)

On motion by Senator **BREEN** of Cumberland, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

An Act To Enact the Maine Death with Dignity Act

H.P. 948 L.D. 1313
(C "A" H-305)

On motion by Senator **TIMBERLAKE** of Androscoggin, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Cyrway.

Senator **CYRWAY:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I believe it should have one more chance at this to do away with this bill because I think it's really harmful to our society to think that it's okay to say it's okay to take this pill and this is allowing 18 years of age or older, so it could be 18 year old and saying you've got six months and if he's depressed he could say I might as well end it. So, you know, I had an uncle just while I've been in the Senate. He lived two and a half years when he went into hospice when they told him he had about three to four months. He lived two and a half years. I had another family member who lived three years and had a child after being told he had six months to live. There are several instances like that where hope is everything. If we go and take this hope away, that's what we're doing when we push this button. I ask you, again, to reconsider and please vote against this bill. Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Washington, Senator Moore.

Senator **MOORE:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I rise before you again today in support of this bill. The Maine Death With Dignity Act contains twelve pages of very specific protections and procedures to make sure this law can be used only by the terminally ill, only by individuals who are competent, only after being evaluated by at least two physicians, and only after the passage of significant time and numerous opportunities to reconsider. The law honors the libertarian Maine tradition of individual rights and individual autonomy. Just as we accept without question the proposition a competent adult has the right to make medical decisions affecting

their own body, why should we take the most basic of right away when it comes to making end of life medical decisions? This is not suicide. This is not euthanasia. This is the way to allow a competent dying adult to dictate circumstances and timing of their own inevitable death. The law contains safeguards that have been shown to protect patients in other states. Over 40 years of combined data from Oregon, Washington, Vermont, California, and Colorado show the laws work as intended with no evidence of abuse, undue influence, or coercion. This may be among the most difficult decisions which each of you makes this session and one of the most important. I hope you will come down on the side of the terminally ill people who don't seem to be asking for too much, the right to choose their own end of life care. I ask for your support of the bill. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Cyrway.

Senator **CYRWAY:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I just want to say this one more time. If the doctor came up to you and said you have six months left to live, six months, and you've got a family that supports you, people want you to be around. You have hope. You're not going to give up. You don't want this to happen. If you're depressed that's not the time to do it, and there are times when I've seen people make turn-arounds. We are just limiting that and taking that away from them. Hope is what we're missing here. That's what God is all about, hope. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Enactment. Is the Senate ready for the question?

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#185)

YEAS: Senators: BELLOWS, BREEN, CARSON, CHENETTE, CHIPMAN, CLAXTON, DESCHAMBAULT, DILL, GRATWICK, HERBIG, LIBBY, LUCHINI, MILLETT, MIRAMANT, MOORE, SANBORN H, SANBORN L, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BLACK, CARPENTER, CYRWAY, DAVIS, DIAMOND, DOW, FARRIN, FOLEY, GUERIN, HAMPER, KEIM, LAWRENCE, POULIOT, ROSEN, TIMBERLAKE, WOODSOME

19 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 16 Senators having voted in the negative, was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** and, having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

Resolves

Resolve, To Coordinate a Plan To Expand Cellular Telephone Service

S.P. 509 L.D. 1603
(C "A" S-155)

FINALLY PASSED and, having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

Resolve, To Stabilize the Behavioral Health Workforce and Avert More Expensive Treatments

S.P. 180 L.D. 593
(S "A" S-161 to C "A" S-143)

On motion by Senator **BREEN** of Cumberland, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **FINAL PASSAGE**, in concurrence.

Resolve, To Establish the Committee To Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security

S.P. 412 L.D. 1324
(C "A" S-157)

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, placed on the **SPECIAL STUDY TABLE** pending **FINAL PASSAGE**, in concurrence.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, the Senate considered the following:

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Paper

Bill "An Act To Ensure Adequate Funding for the Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and Waste Discharge Licensing Program"

H.P. 1303 L.D. 1832

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.