

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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House of Representatives
One Hundred and Twenty-First Legislature
State of Maine

Volume I

First Regular Session

December 4, 2002 – May 23, 2003

Pages 1-776

Stone, Sukeforth, Sykes, Tardy, Tobin D, Tobin J, Trahan, Treadwell, Vaughan, Young.

ABSENT - Bliss, Dugay, Duprey G, Gerzofsky, Goodwin, Hutton, Landry, Mailhot, Marraché, McGlocklin, Mills J, Muse, Piotti, Twomey.

Yes, 70; No, 67; Absent, 14; Excused, 0.

70 having voted in the affirmative and 67 voted in the negative, with 14 being absent, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

The following items were taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The following matters, in the consideration of which the House was engaged at the time of adjournment Friday, May 9, 2003, had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

Resolve, To Establish a Task Force on the Planning and Development of Marine Aquaculture in Maine (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1112) (L.D. 1519)

TABLED - May 9, 2003 (Till Later Today) by Representative BULL of Freeport.

PENDING - **ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-281)**.

Representative BULL of Freeport **PRESENTED House Amendment "A" (H-327) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-281)**, which was **READ** by the Clerk.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Freeport, Representative Bull.

Representative **BULL**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. This is simply a technical drafting error to correct a drafting error from the committee. A word got switched. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Subsequently, **House Amendment "A" (H-327) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-281)** was **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-281) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-327) thereto was **ADOPTED**.

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

Under further suspension of the rules, the Resolve was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-281) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-327)** thereto and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Increase Parental Responsibility for Restitution"

(H.P. 842) (L.D. 1139)

(C. "A" H-132)

TABLED - April 29, 2003 (Till Later Today) by Representative BUNKER of Kossuth Township.

PENDING - **PASSAGE TO BE ENGROSSED**.

On motion of Representative BUNKER of Kossuth Township, the Bill and all accompanying papers were **COMMITTED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

The following items were taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act To Provide Affordable Health Insurance to Small Businesses and Individuals and To Control Health Care Costs" (H.P. 1187) (L.D. 1611)

Sponsored by Representative O'NEIL of Saco. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

Cosponsored by Senator TREAT of Kennebec and Representatives: Speaker COLWELL of Gardiner, DAVIS of Falmouth, MILLS of Cornville, RICHARDSON of Brunswick, Senators: President DAGGETT of Kennebec, GAGNON of Kennebec, MAYO of Sagadahoc, TURNER of Cumberland.

Joint Select Committee on **HEALTH CARE REFORM** suggested and ordered printed.

On motion of Representative MILLS of Cornville, was **SET ASIDE**.

Representative MILLS of Cornville **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **REFER** this Bill to the Joint Select Committee on **HEALTH CARE REFORM**.

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 Cornville, Representative Mills.

Representative **MILLS**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I have reservations about the mode of reference to these two bills and would ask that we consider abiding by the Joint Rules and consider an alternative mode of reference so that they might get fuller consideration before the committees that have a deep seeded jurisdictional concern. These two bills taken together may be the most important reform legislation that are considered by this Legislature. I think it is highly important that the members of the Health and Human Services Committee, all 13 of them, and the members of the Insurance and Financial Regulation Committee, all 13 of them, have the full opportunity to participate in the public hearings and work sessions over these bills. The way that the reference order is presently framed, over half of them are, frankly, disenfranchised from participating in the deliberations over this bill. I know that there are members of the Health and Human Services Committee and the Insurance and Financial Services Committee who were not on the select committee who have a deep and abiding concern for the issues that are raised by this extremely significant piece of legislation. The Governor's bill will seek to achieve some thing that has not been done before in the United States or by any state of the United States. It confronts an issue that is a deep concern for all of my constituents and I am sure all of yours.

As I was going door to door, this was the issue that cropped up more frequently than any other, the concern for access to health care. It is not my purpose in rising this morning to delay in any way the consideration of this important issue. It is simply my concern that we enfranchise all of the members of the two relevant committees to participate in the public hearing and the workings of this really crucial issue. For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I with great hesitance ask for a roll call on the matter of reference to the Select Committee.

On motion of Representative RICHARDSON of Brunswick, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned. (Roll Call Ordered)