

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senate Legislative Record
One Hundred and Twenty-Second Legislature

State of Maine

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act To Modify the Calculation and Implementation Date of Savings Offset Payments under the Dirigo Health Act"
S.P. 555 L.D. 1577
(C "A" S-359)

In Senate, June 10, 2005, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-359)**.

Comes from the House, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-359) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "B" (H-687)** thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion by Senator **SULLIVAN** of York, the Senate **RECEDED** and **CONCURRED**.

On motion by Senator **PLOWMAN** of Penobscot, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby it **RECEDED** and **CONCURRED**.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECEDED** from whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-359)**.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECEDED** from whereby it **ADOPTED COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-359)**.

House Amendment "B" (H-687) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-359) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

On motion by Senator **PLOWMAN** of Penobscot, Senate Amendment "A" (S-370) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-359) **READ**.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Plowman.

Senator **PLOWMAN:** Thank you, Madame President, men and women of the Senate. I'm offering an amendment as we consider L.D. 1577, a bill to modify the calculation and implementation date of savings offset payments under the Dirigo Health Act. As we discussed in quite length the other day, we were discussing how we would arrive at a figure for savings. The more I checked into what we actually owe the hospitals, I thought that while we're calculating bad debt that we ought to be taking into account the payments that we have not made that due from the State of Maine and have been owed to the hospitals since 2003. They actually come to about \$190 million. I would say that we are actually in the bad debt category with our state hospitals. What I am offering is an amendment to say that when the adjudicatory process starts to decide when and how we will determine savings offsets and how our hospitals have benefited from insured patients under Dirigo we consider that we owe them \$190 million and have for some years and that should be considered as part of their bad debt until we actually pay them.

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

On motion by Senator **SULLIVAN** of York, Senate Amendment "A" (S-370) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-359) **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED**.

On motion by Senator **MARTIN** of Aroostook, the Senate **CONCURRED**.

All matters thus acted upon were ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Paper

Bill "An Act To Authorize, Subject to State Referendum, a Tribal Commercial Track and Slot Machines in Washington County"
H.P. 1197 L.D. 1690

Committee on **LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS** suggested and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, under suspension of the Rules, **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**, without reference to a Committee.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ TWICE**, without reference to a Committee.

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

Senator **RAYE:** Thank you, Madame President. May I ask where we are in the Parliamentary process at the moment?

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question is passage to be engrossed.

Senator **RAYE:** Thank you, Madame President, men and women of the Senate. I rise in support of the pending motion. Just days ago we debated this topic at length before our vote to enact L.D. 1573 and the people of Washington County are enormously grateful to all those in this body who helped ensure its historic passage. Now, with L.D. 1573 having been vetoed by the Chief Executive, we have before us a bill that is identical in every respect but one, it would give the citizens of Maine the right to determine whether or not Maine's Native Americans and the people of Washington County will have the right to share fully in the promise and the potential of the state's racino law. As I noted during our previous debate, this issue is the culmination of an historic partnership between Maine's First People, our Native Americans, and the people of Washington County. Ironically,