

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record
House of Representatives
One Hundred and Twenty-Third Legislature
State of Maine

Volume III

First Special Session

April 1, 2008 - April 18, 2008

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House Legislative Sentiments
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Pages 1358-2163

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Somerville, Representative Miller who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **MILLER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Had I been present in voting on Roll Call No. 406, regarding economic development evaluation, I would have voted yea.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Rumford, Representative Patrick who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **PATRICK**: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I rise to ask your forgiveness for breach of House Rule 401.12. Mr. Speaker, Roll Call No. 410, I was sitting in my seat getting ready to vote when you hit the button too quick, and I did not vote, so I want to apologize to you, Mr. Speaker, and all the members of the body. I take that very seriously, so I want to apologize to you and to all the members of the House. Unlike others, who don't mind standing behind the glass during a roll call, I take it seriously, and I want to apologize, once again, to each and every one of you. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Waterboro, Representative Jacobsen who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **JACOBSEN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I was in my seat, on LD 2247, I would have voted nay.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Rumford, Representative Patrick who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **PATRICK**: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. Had I been able to push my button on Roll Call No. 410, I would have voted yea.

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act To Validate Certain Proceedings Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds and Notes by Maine School Administrative District No. 29" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1683) (L.D. 2321)

Sponsored by Representative BARSTOW of Gorham.

Cosponsored by Senator SHERMAN of Aroostook and Representatives: CLEARY of Houlton, JOY of Crystal, SUTHERLAND of Chapman, Senator: SCHNEIDER of Penobscot.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** suggested.

Under suspension of the rules, the Bill was given its **FIRST READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a committee.

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

Under further suspension of the rules, the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** and sent for concurrence. **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

SENATE PAPERS

Non-Concurrent Matter

An Act To Amend Motor Vehicle Laws

(H.P. 1459) (L.D. 2075)

(C. "A" H-913)

PASSED TO BE ENACTED in the House on April 11, 2008.

Came from the Senate **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-913) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-633)** thereto in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion of Representative MARLEY of Portland, the House voted to **INSIST** and **ASK** for a **COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE**. Sent for concurrence.

ENACTORS

Acts

An Act To Ensure Fair Wages

(S.P. 604) (L.D. 1697)

(S. "A" S-570 and S. "C" S-628 to C. "A" S-452; S. "A" S-587)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

The Chair laid before the House the following item which was **TABLED** earlier in today's session:

HOUSE DIVIDED REPORT - Majority (8) **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-451)** - Minority (5) **Ought Not to Pass** - Committee on **LABOR** on Bill "An Act To Restore Equity to the Maine State Retirement System"

(S.P. 600) (L.D. 1693)

Which was **TABLED** by Representative TUTTLE of Sanford pending his motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended Report**.

Representative TARDY of Newport **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended Report**.

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 Hampden, Representative Duprey.

Representative **DUPREY**: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. What we are voting here is a \$200 million expansion of pension benefits for retirees. At a time when heating oil is a record high and seniors can't heat their homes, we are talking about expanding pension benefits by \$200 million. How are we going to fund it, by using fuzzy math, by taking some excess earnings from the pension system that really is a paper earning, it really doesn't even exist. If the stock market starts to decline, which it has, the Maine State Retirement System has lost a billion dollars in the last nine months. If it continues on that downward trend, we are actually going to be losing money; we are going to be cutting into that fund that we are trying to use for this \$200 million expansion. How do you justify to your constituents that you are expanding retiree benefits by \$200 million? That is an awful lot of money. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Sanford, Representative Tuttle.

Representative **TUTTLE**: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. LD 1693 is "An Act to Restore Equity to the Maine State Retirement System." The bill