MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Daily Edition

Second Regular Session

January 4, 2012 – May 31, 2012 pages 1084 - 1604 Representative EVES of North Berwick **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **INDEFINITELY POSTPONE House Amendment "B" (H-702)**.

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 Hallowell, Representative Treat.

Representative TREAT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Speaker, Men and Women of the House, I stand in strong support of this amendment and I want to specifically comment on the remarks of the Chair of the Appropriations Committee concerning structural change has been made in this budget and therefore we should not vote for this amendment. Structural change is not throwing people off of health care actually. That's not structural change. Structural change is precisely what is in the amendment that is before us, which very carefully looks at the people who need the most care and figures out how to give that care to them in a most efficient way. Structural change like that actually improves care and reduces the costs to Maine taxpayers. and I'd like to just give you a couple examples. Maine is really missing the boat on this. Other states around the country are engaging in this kind of managed care, medical home projects, accountability, structuring payments so that they actually address structural change.

For example, in North Carolina, a recent study commissioned by their Legislature found that they had saved \$984 million in approved health outcomes over a period of three years by doing precisely what is in this amendment for their Medicaid population. Similar programs are in place in Oklahoma, Colorado, Rhode Island, and Vermont. A recent study by the Commonwealth Fund reported that these programs all report cost savings largely because of fewer hospitalizations and other acute treatment costs. The Colorado program saw a 21.5% reduction in median annual costs for children in this program and the Oklahoma per capita expenses declined \$29 per patient, per year, from 2008 to 2010. This is structural change. This is medical reform, health care reform that we need to be doing now and I urge your support of this amendment.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Indefinite Postponement of House Amendment "B" (H-702). All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 229

YEA - Ayotte, Beaulieu, Bennett, Bickford, Black, Burns DC, Cain, Casavant, Cebra, Chase, Clark T, Cotta, Crafts, Cray, Crockett, Curtis, Cushing, Damon, Davis, Dow, Duchesne, Dunphy, Edgecomb, Espling, Fitts, Fitzpatrick, Flood, Fossel, Foster, Fredette, Gifford, Gillway, Guerin, Hamper, Hanley, Harmon, Harvell, Haskell, Hayes, Herbig, Johnson D, Johnson P, Kaenrath, Keschl, Knapp, Knight, Lajoie, Libby, Long, Maker, Malaby, Martin, Mazurek, McClellan, McFadden, McKane, Morissette, Moulton, Nass, Newendyke, O'Connor, Olsen, Parry, Picchiotti, Plummer, Parker. Prescott. Rankin, Richardson W. Richardson D, Rioux, Rosen, Rotundo. Sanderson, Sarty, Shaw, Sirocki, Stevens, Strang Burgess, Tilton, Timberlake, Turner, Wallace, Waterhouse, Weaver, Webster, Willette A, Willette M, Winsor, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Beaudoin, Beavers, Beck, Beliveau, Berry, Blodgett, Boland, Bolduc, Briggs, Bryant, Carey, Chapman, Chipman, Clark H, Clarke, Cornell du Houx, Dill J, Dion, Driscoll, Eberle, Eves, Flemings, Gilbert, Goode, Graham, Harlow, Hinck, Hogan, Hunt, Innes Walsh, Kent, Kruger, Kumiega, Longstaff, Lovejoy, Luchini, MacDonald, Maloney, McCabe, Monaghan-Derrig, Morrison, Nelson, O'Brien, Peoples, Pilon, Priest, Rochelo,

Russell, Sanborn, Stuckey, Theriault, Treat, Tuttle, Valentino, Wagner R. Welsh.

ABSENT - Celli, Peterson, Volk, Wood.

Yes, 90; No, 56; Absent, 4; Vacant, 1; Excused, 0.

90 having voted in the affirmative and 56 voted in the negative, 1 vacancy with 4 being absent, and accordingly **House Amendment "B" (H-702)** was **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED**.

The SPEAKER: A roll call having been previously ordered, the pending question before the House is Passage to be Engrossed as Amended by House Amendment "D" (H-707). All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 230

YEA - Ayotte, Beaudoin, Beaulieu, Beavers, Beck, Beliveau, Bennett, Bickford, Black, Bolduc, Briggs, Burns DC, Cain, Carey, Cebra, Chase, Clark H, Clark T, Cornell du Houx, Cotta, Crafts, Cray, Crockett, Curtis, Cushing, Damon, Davis, Dion, Dow, Driscoll, Duchesne, Dunphy, Eberle, Edgecomb, Eves, Fitts, Fitzpatrick, Flemings, Flood, Fossel, Foster, Fredette, Gifford, Gilbert, Gillway, Graham, Guerin, Hamper, Hanley, Harmon, Harvell, Haskell, Hayes, Herbig, Hogan, Hunt, Johnson D, Johnson P, Kaenrath, Keschl, Knapp, Knight, Kruger, Kumiega, Lajoie, Libby, Longstaff, Lovejoy, Luchini, MacDonald, Maker, Malaby, Maloney, Martin, Mazurek, McCabe, McFadden, McKane, Monaghan-Derrig, Morissette, Morrison, Moulton, Nass, Nelson, Newendyke, Olsen, Parry, Peoples, Picchiotti, Pilon, Plummer, Prescott, Priest, Rankin, Richardson D. Richardson W. Rioux, Rosen. Sanderson, Sarty, Shaw, Stevens, Strang Burgess, Tilton, Timberlake, Turner, Tuttle, Valentino, Wagner R, Wallace, Waterhouse, Weaver, Webster, Welsh, Willette A, Willette M. Winsor, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Berry, Blodgett, Boland, Bryant, Chapman, Chipman, Dill J, Espling, Goode, Harlow, Hinck, Innes Walsh, Kent, Long, McClellan, O'Brien, O'Connor, Parker, Rochelo, Russell, Sanborn, Sirocki, Stuckey, Theriault, Treat.

ABSENT - Celli, Peterson, Volk, Wood.

Yes, 121; No, 25; Absent, 4; Vacant, 1; Excused, 0.

121 having voted in the affirmative and 25 voted in the negative, 1 vacancy with 4 being absent, and accordingly the Bill was PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by House Amendment "D" (H-707) and sent for concurrence.

House recessed until the Sound of	the Bell.	
(After Recess)		

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

ENACTORS Emergency Measure

An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Streamline and Prioritize Core Government Services Task Force for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2012 and June 30, 2013 and To Make Certain Other Allocations and Appropriations and

Changes to the Law Necessary to the Operation of State Government

(H.P. 1339) (L.D. 1816) (H. "D" H-707)

Reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Eagle Lake, Representative Martin.

Representative **MARTIN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Members of the House. I want to make sure that we have in the record the language which clearly lays out what is the intent of the Appropriations Committee, which deals specifically with expenditures, which deals with noncats. Expenditures will be maintained at the \$40 million and that the commissioner will continue the freeze on the program enrollment but will not eliminate coverage for those currently enrolled in the program, and this basically is in order to serve the maximum number of people that we can for that amount and that is the intent of the Appropriations Committee.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Portland, Representative Stuckey.

Representative **STUCKEY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I want to first of all thank our colleagues on the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee for their commitment to collaboration in the incredible effort it must have taken to arrive at their unanimous report. I want to personally and publicly thank Representative Flood and Representative Rotundo for their fortitude, their wisdom and the leadership they bring every day to this process. However, I didn't vote for the original biennial budget last year and I won't be voting for this streamlining and supplemental amendment for that budget before us today. Here is why.

This proposal reintroduces much of what we rejected last year and more, allegedly because we can no longer afford to care for, or about, thousands of Maine's most vulnerable and disenfranchised men, women and children, and their families. The bill before us today is bad. Many of the cuts are ill-advised. They don't solve problems, they don't save money. They'll just shift the service venue and the payer and may wind up costing us much more. They eliminate thousands of jobs. They will hurt lots of people and scare a lot more. Completely de-funding the evidence-based and highly successful High Fidelity Wraparound program is a huge step backwards in our efforts to support effective and efficient community-based programs for highly atrisk children and their families. Do we really want to go back to sending these troubled youth to out of state and out of mind facilities with six figure annual fees?

Reducing the funding to the Maine Youth Action Network and the Alternative Response program means reducing proven frontline community services that reach out to young people and strengthen community infrastructure and family supports for atrisk and disenfranchised children and youth that keep them out of much more expensive parts of our child welfare system. I don't really believe that capping the noncats will actually produce by attrition the book savings, leaving the commissioner of Health and Human Services free to further dismantle this program. There are already 16,000 people on a frozen waiting list and, in the end, we'll pay more and get less. Reducing income eligibility will remove 14,000 parents from MaineCare and will lead to poorer and more expensive outcomes for them and for their children and, again, we'll pay more and get less.

It's not rocket science. We should be bringing more people into the health care system, not kicking them out. Increased access to affordable primary care and a well managed medical home will produce better health outcomes and lower overall

health care costs. Men and Women of the House, let's be very clear. Many of us are struggling in today's economy, but a few of us most certainly are not. The real crisis we face in Maine today is one of vision and priorities. This budget isn't about money, it's about ideology. There are far smarter and more fair and balanced ways to approach our state's budget and our future. Please join me in voting no on this bill and forcing us to find another way to balance our budget, a way that more accurately reflects our shared values, our commitment to social and economic justice, and the way life should be here in Maine. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lewiston, Representative Rotundo.

Representative **ROTUNDO**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I would like to add to the language that the Representative from Eagle Lake, Representative Martin, shared in connection with the legislative intent of the Appropriations Committee regarding the noncategoricals. I would like to add a couple of sentences for the record.

"Program expenditures must be maintained at \$40 M dollars in order to serve the maximum number of people that we can for that amount."

"Expenditures will be maintained at \$40 M. To maintain expenditures at \$40 M the Commissioner will continue the freeze on program enrollment, but will not eliminate coverage for those currently enrolled in the program.

If after October 1, 2012 it is estimated that annual expenditures for state fiscal year '13 will exceed that amount the commissioner is charged with achieving the needed savings through benefit redesign as the next course of action after consulting with the Committees on Health and Human Services and Appropriations and Financial Affairs instead of cutting enrollment or eligibility."

Thank you.

This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 109 voted in favor of the same and 27 against, 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**.

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 633)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, February 21, 2012, at 10:00 in the morning.

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **PASSED**. **READ** and **PASSED** in concurrence.

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

On motion of Representative FREDETTE of Newport, the House adjourned at 9:15 p.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 21, 2012 pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 633).