

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Ninety-Eighth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

VOLUME I

1957

DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE

Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Cumberland Water District" (H. P. 383) (L. D. 512)

Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Mexico Sewer District" (H. P. 387) (L. D. 518)

Bill "An Act relating to Proration of Registration Fees of Motor Buses in Interstate Commerce" (H. P. 984) (L. D. 1408)

Bill "An Act relating to Appointment of Deputy Commissioner of Institutional Service and Member of Parole Board" (H. P. 1006) (L. D. 1432)

Resolve Opening Pineo Pond, Town of Deblois, Washington County, to Fly Fishing Only (S. P. 298) (L. D. 795)

Were reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, Bills read the third time, Resolve read the second time, all passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" and sent to the Senate.

Passed to Be Enacted

An Act relating to Enlarging Public Cemeteries (S. P. 238) (L. D. 639)

An Act relating to Persons Qualified to Serve as Jurors (S. P. 369) (L. D. 992)

An Act relating to Membership in Maine School Building Authority (S. P. 384) (L. D. 1080)

An Act relating to Mortgage Loans by Savings Banks (S. P. 406) (L. D. 1139)

Were 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.

Enactor

Tabled and Assigned

An Act relating to Legal Length of Lobsters (S. P. 422) (L. D. 1181)

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

(On motion of Mr. Andrews of Jonesboro, tabled pending passage to be enacted and specially assigned for Thursday, May 9.)

An Act Prohibiting the Pauperizing of Families of Veterans (S. P. 494) (L. D. 1388)

An Act relating to Weight Tolerances for Motor Vehicles Carrying

Firewood, Pulpwood, Logs or Bolts (S. P. 529) (L. D. 1496)

An Act Increasing Salary of Selectmen of Town of Mount Desert (H. P. 169) (L. D. 216)

An Act relating to Signs on School Buses (H. P. 734) (L. D. 1038)

An Act relating to Special Town Meetings in Town of Winslow (H. P. 915) (L. D. 1276)

An Act relating to Burial Expenses for Honorably Discharged Soldiers and Sailors (H. P. 926) (L. D. 1315)

An Act relating to Date of State Convention (H. P. 945) (L. D. 1338)

An Act Providing for Single Tax Assessor and Board of Assessment Review for City of Waterville (H. P. 946) (L. D. 1339)

An Act to Create a Public Body in the City of Bangor to be Known as the Urban Renewal Authority (H. P. 1003) (L. D. 1437)

An Act relating to Certain Penalties for Motor Vehicle Violations (H. P. 1067) (L. D. 1527)

An Act relating to Reciprocal Agreements with New Hampshire Concerning Zonal Operation of Commercial Vehicles in Intrastate Commerce (H. P. 1068) (L. D. 1528)

Finally Passed

Resolve Authorizing the Forest Commissioner to Convey Loon Island to Mrs. Anna Fowler and Julius Peterson (H. P. 140) (L. D. 178)

Resolve in favor of Procuring Testimonials for the Purpose of Marking the Unmarked Graves of the Soldiers of the Revolutionary War (H. P. 302) (L. D. 397)

Were reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed, Bills passed to be enacted, Resolves finally passed, all signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

An Act relating to Educational Aid and Reorganization of School Administrative Units (S. P. 515) (L. D. 1478)

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lubec, Mr. Denbow.

Mr. DENBOW: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: If I am not

out of order I would like to talk on this bill briefly.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. DENBOW: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: As a matter of record only, I want to say that I am opposed to this bill and for these reasons. First, I think that every Member of this House when they came here knew in their own mind that it is necessary and very necessary to appropriate more money for teachers and schools. Therefore, it is my personal feeling, my own belief, that this should be done before attaching anything else to it except the appropriation money.

In regard to the administrative unit, I don't think it is necessary as under the present law we can already form such districts. I also think that it is very poor public relationship to attempt to pass such important legislation without the people having any knowledge of it. I feel that it works a definite hardship on many small towns because of their isolated location and lack of funds. These are my own reasons for which I will vote against it,—which I have voted against it.

In addition to this over the weekend there has been quite a few letters come in and a few telegrams and several telephone calls and they simply follow quite a bit the things I have mentioned. But there was one thing here which was not my own idea, there are plenty of others here in the House who perhaps can identify it. This comes from a reasonably brilliant attorney, and he says—a note on it says: In his opinion it should be checked on constitutionality, with regard to Section 54 on Page 22, paragraph 8, and I don't care to argue this because I don't know anything about it. However, this is his statement. The item reads: "The Commission or District Commissioner shall determine what description of scholars shall attend each school, classify them and transfer them from school to school where more than one school is kept at the same time." This does not say classify or describe and it leaves the opportunity for the directors to do as they see fit choosing from any classification that they so wish. It also puts them

in the position which they shouldn't have I believe where they could easily charge anything they wanted to, it would be possible under that existing paragraph, to even allow segregation, which the Supreme Court has already ruled can't be done. They could discriminate in races, religions, creeds or anything else, and it is giving them too much authority. These are my reasons and I simply want them on record.

Thereupon, the Bill was passed to be engrossed as amended, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

(Off Record Remarks)

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bath, Mr. Ross.

Mr. ROSS: Mr. Speaker, is the Clerk in possession of L. D. 204, Resolve changing the tenure of Office of Governor from two to four years?

The SPEAKER: The House is in possession of that document.

Mr. ROSS: Mr. Speaker, I am going to ask reconsideration of our action whereby we passed it to be engrossed for the purpose of presenting an amendment. The bill as passed to be engrossed with the amendment that was put on stipulated that anyone serving two elective terms could not be eligible to succeed himself. As you may or may not see now, that would preclude Governor Muskie from running again. Although there are many persons who would like to preclude that, I don't think it was the intention of the majority of persons who are in favor of this bill, and so I would now ask that we reconsider our action whereby we passed the bill to be engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Bath, Mr. Ross, requests or moves that the House reconsider its action whereby it passed to be engrossed Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Changing the Tenure of Office of the Governor to Four-Year Terms. The engrossing of this bill took place on Friday, May 3. Is it the pleasure of the House that it reconsider its action whereby it passed this resolve to be engrossed, as amended by Committee Amendment "B"?

The motion prevailed.