

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*One Hundred and Seventh  
Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1975

KENNEBEC JOURNAL  
AUGUSTA, MAINE

Para professional Outreach, Referral and Counseling Services for York County." (H. P. 741) (L. D. 912)

Reported that the same be granted Leave to Withdraw.

The Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on, Bill, "An Act to Require the State to Pay Expenses Incurred by District Attorneys." (H. P. 774) (L. D. 945)

Reported that the same be granted Leave to Withdraw.

The Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on, Resolve, Providing Funds for the Maintenance of Ocean Beaches. (H. P. 787) (L. D. 975)

Reported that the same be granted Leave to Withdraw.

Come from the House, the reports Read and Accepted.

Which reports were Read and Accepted in concurrence.

#### Ought to Pass

The Committee on Public Utilities on, Bill, "An Act Amending the Charter of the Paris Utility District." (H. P. 587) (L. D. 726)

Reported that the same Ought to Pass.

Comes from the House, the Bill Passed to be Engrossed.

Which report was Read and Accepted in concurrence, the Bill Read Once and Tomorrow Assigned for Second Reading.

#### Ought to Pass in New Draft

The Committee on Election Laws on, Bill, "An Act to Provide Accessible Polling Places for the Physically Handicapped and the Elderly." (H. P. 96) (L. D. 107)

Reported that the same Ought to Pass in New Draft under Same Title (H. P. 1476) (L. D. 1566)

The Committee on Judiciary on, Bill, "An Act Relating to the Prohibition Against Hitchhiking." (H. P. 35) (L. D. 46)

Reported that the same Ought to Pass in New Draft under Same Title (H. P. 1474) (L. D. 1564)

The Committee on Election Laws on, Bill, "An Act to Clarify the Requirements for Voting in Municipal Elections." (H. P. 8) (L. D. 13)

Reported that the same Ought to Pass in New Draft under Same Title (H. P. 1475) (L. D. 1565)

Come from the House, the Bills in New Draft Passed to be Engrossed.

Which reports were Read and Accepted in concurrence, the Bills in New Draft Read Once and Tomorrow Assigned for Second Reading.

The Committee on Education on, Bill, "An Act to Correct Deficiencies in the School Funding Law." (H. P. 472) (L. D. 526)

Reported that the same Ought to Pass in New Draft under New Title: "An Act to Fund Public School Education" (H. P. 1437) (L. D. 1452).

Comes from the House, the Bill Passed to be Engrossed as amended by House Amendments "A" (H-135), "J" (H-144), "G" (H-141), "M" (H-147), and "N" (H-148).

Which was Read

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Speers.

Mr. SPEERS: Mr. President and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate: This bill obviously has created a great deal of comment and there may be any number of members of this body who may wish to offer amendments or comment on the exist-

ing amendments that have been placed on the bill in the House.

The ordinary procedure on a bill such as this, or on any bill, of course, is to accept the committee reports, debate the House amendments, and assign this for a second reading the next legislative day, at which time additional Senate amendments may then be in order for offering and adopting.

The leadership has discussed this bill this morning and we do feel that perhaps it would be wise to give the membership an opportunity over the weekend to discuss the bill in its present form and any possible amendments which may be coming along with school board or superintendents, or anyone else that you may wish to discuss the matter with.

Because of the timing in the appearance of the bill, and the necessity in many communities around the state to have some bill passed before the end of the month so that they then can adopt their school budgeting, we do hope that during the next week this matter can be debated, can be discussed fully, a decision can be reached, and that the bill will then have its decision made on it during the early part of next week.

What I am saying is that we do not wish to have this matter tabled repeatedly, unless there is some pressing reason for it, during next week. We would like to have the matter tabled today until Monday, at which time the report will be presented and, if accepted, the amendments in the House will then be presented and can be debated. It would then be assigned its second reading on Tuesday, at which point any Senate amendments which may be offered would be in order for offering. But unless there are pressing reasons, we would like to have a decision made on this bill during the early part of next week, Monday and Tuesday, and have it go along or rejected.

So I would like to have somebody table this now until next Monday, and I would hope that those of you who wish to give very careful consideration to this and talk with your constituents about it will avail yourselves of this weekend to do so.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Berry.

Mr. BERRY: Mr. President, I would agree with the Majority Leader, Senator Speers, that this should lie on the table until the early part of next week, and I would inquire of the Chair if it is possible, and I would like to explain why.

There is a meeting this weekend of Maine Municipal Association and Maine School Management Association people in the City of Rockland. Many of us will not be able to get a hold of our local representative until Monday, and we would like to have the opportunity to at least have Monday to go over the bill with these people before we come back to the Senate with our recommendations. So if it is at all possible, I would ask that the Senate not table it until Monday but to Tuesday next.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Clifford.

Mr. CLIFFORD: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: It is my understanding that three of the delegations are supposed to meet Monday night with the Committee on Local and County Government. It is also my understanding that the Lewiston delegation has scheduled a meeting on Tuesday night with the school officials and the city officials to discuss specifically this bill.

I agree with the good Senator from Ken-

nebec, Senator Speers, that it shouldn't be retabled an awful lot of times, but it seems to me it is kind of a complicated situation and we certainly would like to get the input from the municipal officials before we begin considering specific amendments because we really are not in a position to know the effect of the amendments on the respective communities. Certainly it would be better to take care of the amendments and then defeating amendments which are already put on, so I would hope that it could be until the middle of next week. Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Katz.

Mr. KATZ: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: I think we have got to walk a very middle line here. I keep looking at the calendar and knowing that the goal of the committee, of course, was to get an enactment by the 15th, but it is a flexible figure, and it is an important bill for every person here. And between the pressures of moving as quickly as possible to enactment there is a real need to accommodate the needs of the individual Senators.

Might I suggest that of the amendments that were accepted by the House, one of them is a committee amendment and the others, I think, unless I completely misread the significance of the other amendments, the others are of no overriding significance to the interests of the Senate, so might I suggest that a tabling motion until Monday might be in order.

I would hope that every delegation would do what it could to push the municipal officers, and they might very well be willing to accommodate an earlier time. Meanwhile, I would be very glad to offer to remain after the session to go over the specific House amendments with anybody who wants reassurance as to their meaning so that they can go home with some kind of an understanding of the actions which the House has taken.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Cummings.

Thereupon, on motion by Mrs. Cummings of Penobscot, tabled and Specially Assigned for April 15, 1975, pending Acceptance of the Committee Report.

#### Senate

The following Ought Not to Pass report shall be placed in the legislative files without further action pursuant to Rule 17-A of the Joint Rules:

Bill, "An Act to Require a Conventional Method for Taking Scallops from Coastal Waters." (S. P. 366) (L. D. 1169)

#### Leave to Withdraw

Mr. Thomas for the Committee on Business Legislation on, Bill, "An Act to Prohibit Insurance Companies from Requiring Applicants for Group Health Insurance to List other Insurance Policies on their Application." (S. P. 66) (L. D. 183)

Reported that the same be granted Leave to Withdraw.

Which report was Read and Accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

#### Ought to Pass

Mr. Gahagan for the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on, Bill, "An Act Appropriating Additional Funds to the Department of Health and Welfare for Medical Care Payments and General Assistance Payments for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1975." (S. P. 488) (L. D. 1673)