

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Record**  
**House of Representatives**  
**One Hundred and Thirtieth Legislature**  
**State of Maine**

**Daily Edition**

**Second Regular Session**

beginning January 5, 2022

beginning at page H-1003

Signed:  
Representatives:  
LYMAN of Livermore Falls  
SAMPSON of Alfred

**READ.**

On motion of Representative BRENNAN of Portland, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED.**

The Bill was **READ ONCE. Committee Amendment "A" (H-972)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED.**

Under 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 as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-972)** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-970)** on Bill "An Act To Ensure the Continuation of Services to Maine Children and Families through the Alternative Response Program"

(H.P. 1371) (L.D. 1850)

Signed:  
Senators:

CLAXTON of Androscoggin  
BALDACCI of Penobscot  
MOORE of Washington

Representatives:

MEYER of Eliot  
CRAVEN of Lewiston  
MADIGAN of Waterville  
PERRY of Calais  
STOVER of Boothbay  
ZAGER of Portland

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representatives:

CONNOR of Lewiston  
GRIFFIN of Levant  
JAVNER of Chester  
LEMELIN of Chelsea

**READ.**

On motion of Representative MEYER of Eliot, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED.**

The Bill was **READ ONCE. Committee Amendment "A" (H-970)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED.**

Under 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 as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-970)** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-971)** on Bill "An Act Concerning Equity in Renewable Energy Projects and Workforce Development"

(H.P. 1464) (L.D. 1969)

Signed:

Senators:

DAUGHTRY of Cumberland  
HICKMAN of Kennebec

Representatives:

SYLVESTER of Portland  
CUDDY of Winterport  
GERE of Kennebunkport  
PEBWORTH of Blue Hill  
ROEDER of Bangor  
WARREN of Scarborough

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Senator:

GUERIN of Penobscot

Representatives:

BRADSTREET of Vassalboro  
DRINKWATER of Milford  
MORRIS of Turner

**READ.**

Representative SYLVESTER of Portland moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

Representative BRADSTREET of Vassalboro **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 Vassalboro, Representative Bradstreet.

Representative **BRADSTREET:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I rise in opposition to the pending motion. In this market, construction workers are already receiving more than competitive wages and we can all agree that's a good thing. But we need to look into the particulars of LD 1969. One of the bigger issues I have with this proposal is that the construction of certain renewable energy products that receive State assistance can only be awarded to contractors that will pay at least prevailing wages and benefits. That sounds good but that alone can drive up project costs significantly, good for a few workers but bad for Maine taxpayer. The bill also requires that the PUC must consider in determining benefits to the State's economy whether the contractor has secured a project labor agreement with the labor organization to supply construction workers. This sets the stage for excluding approximately 90% of Maine's construction workers who choose not to belong to a union. So, we'll be essentially awarding contracts to a small group of people. It also directs the PUC in conducting solicitation and selecting certain contracts to consider whether an entity is employee owned, which may include those offering employee stock ownership plans. We should ask what is the purpose of that if it's not intended to once more give favorable treatment to one type of business at the expense of all others. This is a

severe disservice to the people who pay the bills; the taxpayers of Maine. One of the unmentioned detriments of this bill is that its enactment will so drive up the cost of renewable energy projects in our State that we will be able to complete fewer such projects, thereby prolonging our dependence on fossil fuels. I thought we were all opposed to that. Fewer renewable energy projects will also have an unfortunate ripple effect throughout our economy. Fewer projects mean fewer subcontractors being employed and fewer workers receiving paychecks, bad for laborers. This bill clearly picks winners and losers instead of providing equal opportunity and fairness for all. It is bad public policy and we should all oppose it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On motion of Representative DUNPHY of Old Town, **TABLED** pending the motion of Representative SYLVESTER of Portland to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report and later today assigned. (Roll Call Ordered)

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

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Majority Report of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-977)** on Bill "An Act To Reclassify Certain Offenses under the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws and Motor Vehicle Laws and Increase the Efficiency of the Criminal Justice System"

(H.P. 1193) (L.D. 1604)

Signed:

Senator:

DESCHAMBAULT of York

Representatives:

WARREN of Hallowell  
LOOKNER of Portland  
MORALES of South Portland  
PLUECKER of Warren  
RECKITT of South Portland  
SHARPE of Durham

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-978)** on same Bill.

Signed:

Senator:

CYRWAY of Kennebec

Representatives:

COSTAIN of Plymouth  
NEWMAN of Belgrade  
PICKETT of Dixfield  
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

**READ.**

On motion of Representative WARREN of Hallowell, **TABLED** pending **ACCEPTANCE** of either Report and later today assigned.

Majority Report of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-983)** on Bill "An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Secretary of State Regarding Notarial Acts"

(H.P. 1503) (L.D. 2023)

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland  
SANBORN of Cumberland

Representatives:

HARNETT of Gardiner  
BABBIDGE of Kennebec  
EVANGELOS of Friendship  
MORIARTY of Cumberland  
RECKITT of South Portland  
SHEEHAN of Biddeford  
THORNE of Carmel

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representatives:

HAGGAN of Hampden  
LIBBY of Auburn  
POIRIER of Skowhegan

Representative NEWELL of the Passamaquoddy Tribe - of the House - supports the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-983)** Report.

**READ.**

Representative HARNETT of Gardiner moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

Representative LIBBY of Auburn **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 Auburn, Representative Libby.

Representative **LIBBY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I appreciate the diligence, hard work and strong support that our current Secretary of State has put into this bill; the Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts, or RULONA. As one testimony states, LD 2023 clarifies the law regarding notaries public their responsibilities and duties and provides a framework for performing notarial acts with respect to electronic records. It creates permanent law governing remote notarization, a concept that has grown in popularity during the pandemic. The problem with RULONA for me is that I don't believe that one size fits all; not in a shirt, not in education and not in notarial acts. Maine has unique needs and our laws should reflect that. The other and perhaps more pressing issue that RULONA presents is that of the potential to influence our elections in the future. The current bill as written does not allow for remote notarization of election-related materials such as absentee ballot requests, but that could be a simple legislative change in the future. That potential slippery slope could result in one central notary rubberstamping ballot request forms from all over our State, enabling ballot-harvesting schemes. That is a future I would like to avoid and I ask you to follow my light.