

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senate Legislative Record
One Hundred and Twenty-Second Legislature

State of Maine

Daily Edition

First Special Session
April 4, 2005 to June 17, 2005

Pages 411 - 1350

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2005

The Committee on **Engrossed Bills** reported as truly and strictly engrossed the following:

Resolve

Resolve, To Reestablish the Health Care System and Health Security Board

H.P. 35 L.D. 32
(S "A" S-380; S "C" S-405
to C "A" H-513)

FINALLY PASSED and having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for his approval.

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, the Senate considered the following:

ORDERS

On motion by Senator **BRENNAN** of Cumberland, the following Senate Order:

S.O. 21

ORDERED, that a message be sent to Governor John E. Baldacci informing him that the Senate had transacted all business which had come before it and was ready to Adjourn Without Day, and invite him to attend and make such communications as pleases him.

READ and PASSED.

The Chair appointed the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **BRENNAN** to deliver the message to the Governor. The Sergeant-At-Arms escorted the Senator to the Governor's Office.

Subsequently, the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **BRENNAN** reported that he had delivered the message with which he was charged.

On motion by Senator **GAGNON** of Kennebec, the following Senate Order:

S.O. 22

ORDERED, that a message be sent to the House of Representatives informing that Body that the Senate had transacted all business which had come before it and was ready to Adjourn Without Day.

READ and PASSED.

The Chair appointed the Senator from Kennebec, Senator **GAGNON** to deliver the message to the House of Representatives. The Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms escorted the Senator to the House of Representatives.

Subsequently, the Senator from Kennebec, Senator **GAGNON** reported that he had delivered the message with which he was charged.

Senate at Ease.

Senate called to order by the President.

The Honorable John E. Baldacci, Governor of the State of Maine, entered and addressed the Senate.

GOVERNOR BALDACCI: Very nice job. I should have brought Murphy with me. She's actually been waiting for this morning.

First of all, Madame President, I just want you to know how much I have enjoyed working with you. It has been a session where I have really enjoyed working with you and your team; Senator Brennan, the Majority Leader, and Assistant Majority Leader Senator Ken Gagnon. You have shown the leadership that the citizens of Maine have wanted and your accomplishments are many. We appreciate working with Minority Leader, Senator Paul Davis, and Assistant Minority Leader, Senator Carol Weston, and working together this session to accomplish many good things for the citizens of Maine. You can be very proud of what you have accomplished with your leadership, hard work, and dedication. The citizens owe you a debt of gratitude. As you return to your families, friends, and work and leave for a time your colleagues here in Augusta, please know that from your actions, deliberations, and tough decisions Maine will be a better place, a place where we protect our working families, our communities, and small businesses.

We are continuing to put Maine's fiscal house in order. In the budgets we've passed this year we have remained within the new state spending cap. The rate of growth for the new biennial budgets is 3%, well under the rate of personal income growth and less than any other administration and legislature for the last 30 years. Collectively, the budgets we've passed this year have cut state spending by more than \$600 million. In going forward, we have reduced the structural gap by almost 50%. We have funded historic settlements on hospitals, going back as far as 1993, representing over \$108 million to Maine hospitals. Most importantly, we have repealed the \$450 million in borrowing and citizens throughout the State of Maine greatly appreciate your hard work and dedication.

We've also passed L.D. 1, a landmark historic legislation providing property tax relief for Maine families, including a historic increase in funding for local education. We've enhanced our economic plan by creating a bio-medical research triangle, investing in research and development for new jobs in the 21st century, and in strengthening the Pine Tree Zones, yielding almost 3,000 new jobs. We've provided renewable energy incentives for solar energy and cleaner burning vehicles and we've passed legislation to insure civil rights for all Maine people. Maine is a place of technology, talent, and tolerance. Collectively, we did many other things on behalf of the public from the working waterfront to drug disclosure laws.

On behalf of the people of Maine, I say thank you once again. I wish you well and a job well done. Have an enjoyable summer and enjoyable times with your families and friends. It is well deserved. Good job and good night. Congratulations.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2005

The Governor withdrew from the Senate Chamber. (Amid applause, the Members rising.)

On motion by Senator **CLUKEY** of Aroostook, the Honorable **BETH G. EDMONDS**, President of the Senate, declared the First Special Session of the 122nd Legislature, **ADJOURNED SINE DIE** at 3:10 in the morning.