

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senate Legislative Record
One Hundred and Twenty-Second Legislature

State of Maine

Daily Edition

Second Regular Session
January 4, 2006 to May 24, 2006

Pages 1382 - 2139

Committee Amendment "A" (S-575) as Amended by House Amendment "D" (H-1066) and Senate Amendment "B" (S-651) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-575) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "D" (H-1066) AND SENATE AMENDMENT "B" (S-651) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

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

ENACTORS

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

Act

An Act To Update Teachers' Minimum Salaries
S.P. 480 L.D. 1381
(S "A" S-620 to C "A" S-577)

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Waldo, Senator Weston.

Senator **WESTON:** Thank you, Madame President and men and women of the Senate. I actually intended to stand and ask a question, but I've already answered that question. I will leave the Body with this thought; we have not yet fulfilled that long awaited promise of 55% funding that was the intent of this legislature for many years. That promise is still unfulfilled. If you vote in favor of this motion tonight, that promise is still unfulfilled. If you will look at the amendment you will read, 'As amended this bill provides that it is the intention of this legislature to fund this in 2007 - 2008.' That is an echo of an unfulfilled promise. This legislature cannot bind the 123rd. We are creating an echo of an unfulfilled promise. I really do not want to be a part of that. Thank you.

Senator **RAYE** of Washington posed a parliamentary inquiry as to whether this Bill required a Mandate Preamble.

The Chair informed the Members that the bill, as engrossed, was determined by the Office of Fiscal and Policy Analysis to not require a Mandate Preamble.

Senate at Ease.

Senate called to order by the President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Washington, Senator Raye.

Senator **RAYE:** Thank you, Madame President. I'd like to address a question through the Chair to who ever would be able to answer it.

THE PRESIDENT: The Senator may pose his question.

Senator **RAYE:** Thank you, Madame President. If the bill before is not a mandate, is it fair to characterize it as really a suggestion?

THE PRESIDENT: The Senator from Washington, Senator Raye poses a question through the Chair to anyone who may wish to answer. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Mitchell.

Senator **MITCHELL:** Thank you, Madame President and colleagues of the Senate. I suppose one can characterize it however they wish. I would certainly say it is much more than a suggestion. It is the law. We're passing a law that says this is the minimum salary base for teachers. If the question then carries over into payment, there is money in the budget for this year's payment. There is expression of legislative intent that this money will carry forward just for this specific purpose for the next year. Obviously we cannot bind a future legislature and there will be others here next year to make sure that this happens, I hope. That's true of everything we're passing in this Body, whether it is EPS or your Boat Building School. With all of those things nothing is guaranteed into the next session. There is language in the bill, it is the intent that the money just for this narrow piece, whatever it requires to get a teacher from whatever the base is now to \$27,000 is paid for and the distance to \$30,000 is the legislative intent.

On motion by Senator **DAVIS** of Piscataquis, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#469)

YEAS: Senators: BARTLETT, BRENNAN, BRYANT, COWGER, DAMON, DIAMOND, GAGNON, HOBBS, MARTIN, MAYO, MITCHELL, NUTTING, PERRY, ROTUNDO, SCHNEIDER, STRIMLING, SULLIVAN, THE PRESIDENT - BETH G. EDMONDS

NAYS: Senators: ANDREWS, CLUKEY, COURTNEY, DAVIS, DOW, HASTINGS, MILLS, NASS, PLOWMAN, RAYE, ROSEN, SAVAGE, SNOWE-MELLO, TURNER, WESTON, WOODCOCK

ABSENT: Senator: BROMLEY

18 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 16 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being absent, was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** and having been signed by the President was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for his approval.