

Legislative Record

House of Representatives

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State of Maine

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The 126th Legislature of the State of Maine

State House Augusta, Maine

Dear Honorable Members of the 126th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 468, "An Act To Protect Public Health at Public Institutions of Higher Education."

Our various public colleges and universities can make their own decisions on whether or not to permit smoking on their campuses. As the testimony from the schools indicated, many of them have already made this decision, in whole or in part. This bill is duplicative of those efforts and therefore unnecessary.

I firmly believe Maine people are responsible enough to make their own decisions concerning tobacco. However, for those who oppose its use, they should bring a bill forward to simply outlaw tobacco altogether. It would be simpler and more consistent than passing more and more legislation, creating a patchwork of laws and locations where tobacco can and cannot be used. We should have that honest debate, but I believe universities, colleges, and Maine people can make their own decisions.

For these reasons, I return LD 468 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage

Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The accompanying item An Act To Protect Public Health at Public Institutions of Higher Education

On motion of Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham, **TABLED** pending **RECONSIDERATION** and later today assigned.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from York, Representative McGowan, who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **McGOWAN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. In reference to Roll Call No. 97, on HP 1112, had I been present I would have voted yes. In reference to Roll Call No. 98, on LD 262, had I been present I would have voted yes. In reference to Roll Call No. 99, on LD 1025, had I been present I would have voted yes. In reference to Roll Call No. 100, on LD 90, had I been present I would have voted yes. In reference to Roll Call No. 101, on LD 172, had I been present I would have voted yes. In reference to Roll Call No. 102, on LD 667, had I been present I would have voted yes. In reference to Roll Call No. 103, on LD 985, had I been present I would have voted yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Fairfield, Representative Kusiak, who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **KUSIAK**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stepped out briefly this morning. Concerning Roll Call No. 112, had I been present on LD 47 I would have voted nay.

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

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act To Support Maine Businesses by Authorizing Certain Brewing Partnerships"

(S.P. 590) (L.D. 1548) Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** in concurrence.

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

The House recessed until 5:30 p.m.

(After Recess)

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE Divided Report

Majority Report of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass pursuant to Joint Order 2013, S.P. 496** on Bill "An Act To Strengthen Maine's Hospitals, Increase Access to Health Care and Provide for a New Spirits Contract" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 589) (L.D. 1546)

Signed: Senators: TUTTLE of York PATRICK of Oxford

Representatives: RUSSELL of Portland LONGSTAFF of Waterville SAUCIER of Presque Isle LUCHINI of Ellsworth SCHNECK of Bangor FOWLE of Vassalboro

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-96) pursuant to Joint Order 2013, S.P. 496** on same Bill.

Signed: Senator: MASON of Androscoggin

Representatives: JOHNSON of Eddington BEAULIEU of Auburn GIFFORD of Lincoln KINNEY of Limington

Came from the Senate with the Majority OUGHT TO PASS PURSUANT TO JOINT ORDER 2013, S.P. 496 Report READ and ACCEPTED and the Bill PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "C" (S-108). READ.

⁽H.P. 318) (L.D. 468) (C. "A" H-77)