

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

**Volume III**

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March 23, 2000 – May 12, 2000

**Appendix**  
**House Legislative Sentiments**  
**Index**

called a quality existence in life. The employers are demanding more of workers today. There is no question about it. If someone has some other information to share against that, I would like to hear it.

Eighty hours in a two-week period. I think the question was asked of the opposition before, what would your ceiling be? As the good gentleman from Rome mentioned, when you work 100 hours a week, you cannot stand on the floor of this House and say that your coherence, your ability to perform the work, your safety concerns are not seriously impaired. It is a safety issue, ladies and gentlemen. We need to pass this bill as amended. Again, no employer would be prohibited from having employees voluntarily take more time if they can do so or bring in more workers to do those kinds of situations. There are exemptions in this bill that allows for an employer to seek that kind of emergency remediation if they are in that situation. We are here to protect working men and women, wage and hour laws, safety in the workplace and all the kinds of issues that at one point or the other Legislatures across the country have been asked to stand up to prohibit child labor, to make corrections that need to be taken. Time and time again we are being submitted information that workers are being asked to do more. When are we going to protect workingmen and women and working families? Our children at home, do they have a right to see their mother or father? Do they have to be totally subservient to the workplace to the tune of 80 plus hours a week?

We have not had any kind of amendment from the opposition in dealing with their concerns other than criticism. The good chair from Skowhegan has tried tirelessly to find a bare amendment to pass protections for Maine workers and this is it. Nothing has come from the opposition. It is time, ladies and gentlemen, men and women of this House of both parties to stand up and do what we know is right. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Biddeford, Representative Sullivan.

Representative SULLIVAN: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I just wanted you to know there are companies that do insist on seven days a week mandatory, week after week, month after month, simply because demand for their product is so strong that they must keep their machines going. They are working to full capacity. They are keeping their machines going for the all mighty dollar. There have been employees that could not take time for family weddings that had been planned. They could not attend church services because their shift and church hours coincided. They are well paid, but mandatory time seven days a week, month after month is wrong. If we truly believe in family values and there were many who would like to have worked that time, fine, but when you have family commitment, you need to be able to go. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Adoption of House Amendment "A" (H-1145) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-893). All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

#### ROLL CALL NO. 663

YEA - Ahearn, Bagley, Baker, Berry RL, Bolduc, Bouffard, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Bull, Carr, Chick, Chizmar, Clark, Colwell, Cote, Cowger, Daigle, Davidson, Davis, Desmond, Dudley, Dugay, Dunlap, Duplessie, Etnier, Fisher, Fuller, Gagne, Gagnon, Gerry, Gillis, Goodwin, Green, Hatch, Jacobs, Kane, LaVerdiere, Lemoine, Lemont, Mailhot, Martin, Matthews, Mayo, McAlevey, McDonough, McGlocklin, McKee, McNeil, Mendros, Muse, Norbert, O'Brien LL, O'Neal, O'Neil, Perkins, Perry, Pieh,

Povich, Powers, Quint, Richard, Richardson J, Rines, Rosen, Samson, Sanborn, Savage W, Saxl JW, Saxl MV, Sherman, Shiah, Skoglund, Stanley, Stevens, Sullivan, Tessier, Thompson, Townsend, Tracy, Tripp, Tuttle, Twomey, Usher, Volenik, Watson, Wheeler GJ, Williams, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Belanger, Berry DP, Bowles, Bragdon, Bruno, Buck, Bumps, Cameron, Cianchette, Clough, Collins, Cross, Duncan, Foster, Glynn, Gooley, Heidrich, Honey, Jodrey, Joy, Kasprzak, Kneeland, Labrecque, Lindahl, Lovett, MacDougall, Mack, Murphy E, Murphy T, Nass, Nutting, O'Brien JA, Peavey, Pinkham, Richardson E, Savage C, Schneider, Shields, Shorey, Snowe-Mello, Stanwood, Tobin D, Tobin J, Trahan, Treadwell, Waterhouse, Weston, Wheeler EM, Winsor.

ABSENT - Andrews, Campbell, Frechette, Jabar, Jones, Madore, Marvin, McKenney, Mitchell, Plowman, Sirois, Stedman, True.

Yes, 89; No, 49; Absent, 13; Excused, 0.

89 having voted in the affirmative and 49 voted in the negative, with 13 being absent, and accordingly **House Amendment "A" (H-1145) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-893) was ADOPTED.**

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-893) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-1145) thereto was ADOPTED.**

The Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-893) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-1145) thereto in NON-CONCURRENCE** and sent for concurrence.

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

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#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The following matter, in the consideration of which the House was engaged at the time of adjournment Friday, April 14, 2000, had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

Bill "An Act to Correct Errors and Inconsistencies in the Laws of Maine" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1665) (L.D. 2334)

TABLED - April 14, 2000 (Till Later Today) by Representative THOMPSON of Naples.

PENDING - **ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-1121) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-1124) thereto.**

Representative THOMPSON of Naples **PRESENTED House Amendment "B" (H-1161) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-1121), which was READ by the Clerk and ADOPTED.**

On further motion of the same Representative, **TABLED pending ADOPTION of Committee Amendment "A" (H-1121) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-1124) and House Amendment "B" (H-1161) thereto and later today assigned.**

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

Representative GREEN: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. In reference to Roll Call 648 on LD 2510, if I had been present, I would have voted yea.

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