

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

1st Special Session

OF THE

*One Hundred and Sixth
Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

Volume II

MARCH 7, 1974 TO MARCH 29, 1974

Index

Legislative Ethics Committee Report

order of five or six million dollars, at the minimum, to make Skowhegan suitable to handle all the female offenders. On the other hand, it would cost approximately \$150,000 to modify one of the buildings now in existence at Hallowell to receive the girls or the women from Skowhegan. We are running a \$300,000 plus payroll up at Skowhegan, and this seems like money that we could well put to use somewhere else.

Now, this order, I don't feel, is as sinister as the good Senator has inferred, in that it simply authorizes the Legislative Council to study the feasibility of utilizing the Women's Correctional Center at Skowhegan for purposes other than correction to determine the appropriate disposition of the facility upon determination of its present use. Now, I would suggest to the Senate that if its use is not terminated this order would be unnecessary. On the other hand, if funding is withheld from Skowhegan, I don't for the life of me see how it can continue to operate as the facility now does.

So, Mr. President and Members of the Senate, I object to the motion which the good Senator from York, Senator Hichens, has proposed and would hope that the Senate would not reconsider its previous action whereby this order was passed.

The PRESIDENT: The pending motion before the Senate is the motion of the Senator from York, Senator Hichens, that the Senate reconsider its action whereby Joint Order, S. P. 936, was passed. The Chair will order a division. As many Senators as are in favor of the motion of the Senator from York, Senator Hichens, to reconsider will please rise and remain standing until counted. Those opposed will please rise and remain standing until counted.

A division was had. Four Senators having voted in the affirmative, and 21 Senators having voted in the negative, the motion did not prevail.

On motion by Mr. Sewall of Penobscot,
recessed until the sound of the bell.

After Recess

Called to order by the President.

On the disagreeing action of the two branches of the Legislature on Bill, "An Act Relating to Initial Changes in the Penal System of the State and the Rights and Duties of Convicted Person" (H. P. 2015) (L. D. 2556), the President appointed the following Conferees on the part of the Senate:

Senators:

TANOUS of Penobscot
SPEERS of Kennebec
BRENNAN of Cumberland.

The President laid before the Senate the matter tabled earlier in today's session by Mr. Berry of Cumberland:

Non-concurrent Matter

Bill, "An Act to Increase the Minimum Wage." (H. P. 1801) (L. D. 2321)

In the Senate March 14, 1974, Passed to be Engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-745), In non-concurrence.

Comes from the House, Passed to be Engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-744) and House Amendment "A" (H-765), in non-concurrence.

Pending—Consideration.

Mr. Tanous of Penobscot moved that the Senate Adhere.

Mr. Conley of Cumberland then moved that the Senate Recede and Concur and subsequently requested a roll call.

The PRESIDENT: A roll call has been requested. In order for the Chair to order a roll call, it requires the affirmative vote of at least one-fifth of those Senators present and voting.

The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Tanous.

Mr. TANOUS: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: I would just like to remind you on this particular bill that we debated extensively last week that, again, this was placed in the Governor's call and the Governor called for a \$2 minimum wage.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Conley.

Mr. CONLEY: Mr. President, I have heard the good Senator from Penobscot, Senator Tanous, use the good Governor of this State's name several times relative to this piece of legislation. I would also like to remind the good Senator from Penobscot, Senator Tanous, that there are many things that the Governor asked for in his current services budget, as well as the supplemental budget, that we have more than doubled as far as his requests were concerned. I think that, if the working poor in this state are going to be able to have any purchasing or bargaining power, that we have to meet up to our responsibilities and increase the minimum wage. I think the amendment which is before the Senate at this time, which was put on in the other body, is at least a fair compromise whereas as soon as this law was passed the bill would go to \$2 an hour; commencing June 30, 1974 would go to \$2.10; and on October 15, 1975 and thereafter \$2.20 an hour. I don't think that is too difficult to buy.

The PRESIDENT: In order for the Chair to order a roll call, it requires the affirmative vote of at least one-fifth of those Senators present and voting. Will all those Senators in favor of ordering a roll call please rise and remain standing until counted.

Obviously more than one-fifth having arisen, a roll call is ordered. The pending motion before the Senate is the motion of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Conley, that the Senate recede and concur with the House on Bill, "An Act to Increase the Minimum Wage." A "Yes" vote will be in favor of receding and concurring; a "No" vote will be opposed.

The Secretary will call the roll.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Senators Brennan, Cianchette, Clifford, Conley, Cyr, Danton, Fortier, Kelley, Minkowsky.

NAYS: Senators Anderson, Berry, Cox, Cummings, Graffam, Greeley, Haskell, Henley, Hichens, Joly, Katz, Morrell, Olfene, Richardson, Roberts,

Sewall, Speers, Tanous, MacLeod.

ABSENT: Senators Huber, Marcotte, Schulten, Shute, Wyman.

A roll call was had. Nine Senators having voted in the affirmative, and 19 Senators having voted in the negative, with five Senators being absent, the motion did not prevail.

Thereupon, the Senate voted to Adhere.

The President laid before the Senate the second matter tabled earlier in today's session by Mr. Berry of Cumberland:

Senate Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on Labor on Bill, "An Act Extending Bargaining Rights to State Employees." (S. P. 817) (L. D. 2314) reports that the same Ought to Pass as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-401).

Signed:

Senators:

TANOUS of Penobscot
HUBER of Knox
KELLEY of Aroostook

Representatives:

CHONKO of Topsham
FARLEY of Biddeford
BINNETTE of Old Town
McHENRY of Madawaska
HOBBINS of Saco
FLYNN of South Portland
McNALLY of Ellsworth
BROWN of Augusta
ROLLINS of Dixfield

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject matter reports that the same Ought Not to Pass.

Signed:

Representative:

GARSOE of Cumberland

Pending — Acceptance of Either Report.

Thereupon, the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report of the Committee was Accepted and the Bill Read Once. Committee Amendment "A" was Read and Adopted and the Bill, as Amended, Tomorrow Assigned for Second Reading.

The President laid before the Senate the matter tabled earlier in today's