

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*One Hundred and Third  
Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

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would feel very negligent if I didn't fight to the end for this bill which I feel is drawing its last breath right now. I'd like to come up with an agreement which perhaps cannot be worked out in this body, in this branch I should say, but maybe my Blind Children's Education Bill could become effective July 1, 1969. I think perhaps I'll try that proposal and let both parties work that over.

The SPEAKER: All those in favor of this Bill, An Act to Appropriate and Provide Moneys for the Expenditures of State Government and for Other Purposes for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1968 and June 30, 1969, S. P. 815, L. D. 1885, being enacted as an emergency measure will vote yes, those opposed will vote no, and the Chair opens the vote.

125 having voted in the affirmative and 13 having voted in the negative, the Bill was passed to be enacted as an emergency measure, signed by the Speaker and sent forthwith to the Senate.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will call attention to Supplement number 4.

An Act to Correct Errors and Inconsistencies in the Public Laws S. P. 756, L. D. 1867.

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Sanford, Mr. Nadeau.

Mr. NADEAU: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: Yesterday on the 24th in the late hour when we decided to reconvene again at 5:00 o'clock, before you was brought the gem which is called L. D. 1867, An Act to Correct Errors, and in my opinion, we made some grave errors. At this stage it is now ready for engrossment, but in the short span mind you of six minutes, I just want it recorded as to what we did. During the course of the long 103rd, which is the record session ever held here in Maine, there were before you many articles; these articles received public hearings, the pros and cons were considered. Many of us were assigned—in fact all of us were

assigned to various committees. These committees, including members of the other house, deliberated on these bills, they came before you in the House, they were again debated; they were debated in the Senate, they were approved by the House and were finally enacted by both the House and the Senate. I say to you ladies and gentlemen that I feel that I have failed, and I feel that possibly others of us have in not recognizing that in a short span of six minutes we disregard all the work that was done in the 103rd, because this is part of it; we disregard all the people who came up as proponents or opponents to various articles; we disregard the fact that we once considered these things, we enabled them to become law and it was signed in law no later than October 7, 1967, but under this little gem which is called an act to correct errors, mainly known as L. D. and labeled L. D. 1867 comes before us in the waning minutes and the late hours of every session I am told, but being a freshman Legislator I don't know about the past, but this has enlightened me whereas for months and months you do a certain amount of work, and unbeknown or possibly we don't care, comes out what they call a committee amendment, and I stand to be corrected because I've made mistakes, but I talked to members of this committee, and do you know what they told me? They didn't know about these amendments. So I ask you, who did know? Is it the amendment of one person? Is it the amendment of two? We are 151 of us in here. Shouldn't we have the right and the time to look into this? But they tell me this is politics, this is how it occurs each and every year.

Well, I feel awful sad for the people who I feel which do not get the respect at the waning hours of closing. I, for one, have to disagree with this, and this doesn't only cover nine bills who were passed into law that we are repealing, regardless how small the error would have been, but this is the gem that contains four pages of various other changes

which I know, and no doubt many of you have not read, but I have talked to several of you today, and many of you, and I'm pleased to say you admitted that you have not had time to look into this, many others as was noted from the hour that they came in this morning were not even aware that this had been put on their desks.

I think it's very unfortunate. However, it has made me make one conclusion which at least will make many of you members in this House happy. Knowing that this is the method chosen for us to break laws that have been properly recorded and enacted at one time, I must now choose that I do not want to be part of such a body. This is my swan song. I do not intend to run again under these present conditions, and I want to thank you very much, and I apologize if ever during any part of this session I have ever said anything that might have offended each and every one of you. It has been very enjoyable, but I, for one, want no part of such method of legislation. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Southwest Harbor, Mr. Benson.

Mr. BENSON: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I do not intend to speak to the bill that is presently before us, but we have a number of young people in our gallery this morning observing the legislative process of the State of Maine, and I would not want these young people to leave here thinking that the legislative process was a flimsy one or an improper one.

The legislative process in the State of Maine I feel is one that is carried on properly; it is one that is given every consideration; it is one that I feel has grown to its present proportion over the years since our organization in 1820, and I want these young people to be assured that the laws that are enacted in the State of Maine are good and proper laws given good and proper consideration. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Sanford, Mr. Nadeau.

Mr. NADEAU: Mr. Speaker, in rebuttal to the Assistant Majority Leader which I have great respect, I still say again that I would request that he question the members of this committee and see for himself how many knew about these amendments. This is the only statement that I am making, and I say they were proper consideration, I say they were hastily. There are many other things that I could possibly say but at this time I think I have said my piece.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Madawaska, Mr. Levesque.

Mr. LEVESQUE: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: Somehow this morning I find myself having to say these few words, and probably feeling a little sorry that the gentleman from Sanford, Mr. Nadeau, does not see fit to run for political office again, but I think probably the same gentleman would recognize the bare fact that as he has stated, this is politics, and until such time as the people of this State or until such time as the people of this Country can come forth with a better system of government, our system of government including the one in the State of Maine, has still been recognized as still the best form of government. And until somebody comes up with a better idea to better organize the people of the Country and the State of Maine, I feel that our system, although as imperfect as it may be in many areas, no other country has been able to come up with a better form of government. Each and every individual member of this House, whether it's a bill that corrects errors and inconsistencies or a document that has had a complete and full hearing from January 3rd to July 9th, due consideration is given to each measure; some measures are given consideration probably a little bit more than others. In the final round when the bell is rung, some people are quite unhappy, other people are just happy. They may not be entirely satisfied, but yet in a form of government in any county, how can anybody or everybody be completely and totally satisfied? These are some of the

unfortunate moments of politics that you just can't run away with everything all at the same time. So it is quite unfortunate that the gentleman from Sanford, Mr. Nadeau, will not see fit to join our ranks again, but again I am sure that the biggest majority of the members of this House will see fit to promote the government of the State of Maine and to try to make it a better and continuing better government. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will order a vote. All those in favor of the enactment of L. D. 1867, An Act to Correct Errors and Inconsistencies in the Public Laws, will vote yes, those opposed will vote no, and the Chair opens the vote.

A vote of the House was taken.

124 having voted in the affirmative and 5 having voted in the negative, the Bill was passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent forthwith to the Senate.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would direct your attention to the calendar, the original one this morning, item 2, which was tabled earlier in the day and later assigned pending indefinite postponement:

Bill "An Act relating to Speed of Motor Vehicles Measured Electronically" (H. P. 1330) (L. D. 1875)

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Madawaska, Mr. Levesque.

Mr. LEVESQUE: Mr. Speaker, I would inquire through the Chair if the motion for indefinite postponement is for the amendment or the entire bill?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would inform the gentleman, for the entire bill.

Mr. LEVESQUE: Mr. Speaker, would the motion to reconsider the indefinite postponement be in order, that we could keep the bill alive for the purpose of making a motion to indefinitely postpone the amendment only?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would inform the gentleman that a motion would be in order to reconsider our action whereby this bill failed passage to be engrossed.

Mr. LEVESQUE: Mr. Speaker, I so make that motion.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would inform the gentleman that not having voted on the prevailing side his motion would not be entertained.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Cumberland, Mr. Richardson.

Mr. RICHARDSON: Mr. Speaker, is the pending question a motion to indefinitely postpone?

The SPEAKER: The pending question is the indefinite postponement of the bill and its accompanying papers.

Mr. RICHARDSON: An inquiry, Mr. Speaker. If we vote no on indefinite postponement, that makes the bill susceptible to amendment does it not?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would inform the gentleman that is correct.

Mr. RICHARDSON: I request a division on the motion for indefinite postponement and urge the members of the House to vote no.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Madawaska, Mr. Levesque.

Mr. LEVESQUE: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I would also urge each and every member of this House to vote no on the pending motion, to indefinitely postpone the entire bill, so that we could kill this amendment for the purpose of introducing another amendment.

The SPEAKER: The pending question is on the indefinite postponement. If you are in favor of indefinite postponement you will vote yes; if opposed you will vote no. The Chair opens the vote.

A vote of the House was taken.

14 having voted in the affirmative and 114 having voted in the negative, the motion did not prevail.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Limerick, Mr. Carroll.

Mr. CARROLL: Mr. Speaker, am I too late to change my vote? I erred in voting.

The SPEAKER: This not being a roll call vote, the gentleman is not in order.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Madawaska, Mr. Levesque.