

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

Legislative Record

OF THE

Eighty-Fourth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1929

KENNEBEC JOURNAL COMPANY
AUGUSTA, MAINE

should pass, the bond issue should be authorized by the people and also the gas tax, that more funds would be available so that a better working program could be set up to meet the requirements of every department of our highway system than could otherwise have been devised under the two plans that were submitted here at this session.

Mr. ALDRICH of Topsham: Mr. Speaker, might I ask the gentleman one further question? I want to be sure that I get this clear in my mind. I understand from a hasty reading of the extract I have here that, assuming the referendum is successful three million dollars will be available between now and the time when the next Legislature convenes.

Mr. KITCHEN: That is correct.

Mr. ALDRICH: And if the gasoline tax referendum should fail then we would have just the situation which we have at the present time, plus three million dollars. Sixty per cent of it, if I understood you correctly, is to be used for new construction, twenty-five per cent for reconstruction and the balance, an elastic amount, to be taken care of in the discretion of the Governor and Council; so that for reconstruction under that program, so far as the bond issue is concerned, there would be available seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars between now and the first of January, 1931,—twenty-five per cent of three million dollars.

Mr. KITCHEN: That is right, twenty-five per cent.

Mr. ALDRICH: Or \$750,000?

Mr. KITCHEN: Yes.

The SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House to recede from its former action whereby it accepted the minority report, ought not to pass, and to give this bill its several readings at the present time?

A viva voce vote being taken, the House voted to recede from its former action whereby the minority report, ought not to pass, was accepted, and the bill had its three several readings under suspension of the rules and was passed to be engrossed.

Report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing action of the two branches of the Legislature on

bill an act relating to a tax on gasoline (H. P. 1224) (H. D. 412) reporting that both branches recede and concur in the adoption of House Amendment "A" submitted herewith and pass said bill as amended.

(Signed) Messrs.

KITCHEN of Presque Isle

GILLESPIE of Meddybemps

BURKETT of Portland

—Committee on part of House

BOND of Lincoln

LELAND of Piscataquis

DUNBAR of Hancock

—Committee on part of Senate

The SPEAKER: House Amendment A is lengthy. Can the gentleman from Presque Isle, Mr. Kitchen, explain briefly the nature of House Amendment A to H. D. 412?

Mr. KITCHEN: Mr. Speaker, in answering the question as to the amendment of the gas tax bill, I will say that my bill provided that forty per cent of the gas tax should be used for State road construction. The amendment provides that, in the event of a bond issue, that bond issue would provide money for State road construction. Fifty per cent of that forty per cent, at the discretion of the Governor and Council, could be applied for maintenance of State aid highways. The amendment also contains a referendum clause.

Mr. MERRILL of Dover-Foxcroft: Mr. Speaker, may I add one word of explanation, that under the present arrangement, as provided for in the bill, there will be one million dollars more applicable to State aid roads and maintenance than we have ever had before; and, if the gas tax goes through, it will give a floating fund of about nine hundred thousand dollars in addition which can be allocated where it is most needed.

Thereupon the House accepted the report of the committee of conference. Also the House reconsidered its action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed.

A viva voce vote being taken, the House adopted House Amendment A, and the bill as so amended was passed to be engrossed.

Report of the Committee of Conference on the disagreeing action of the two branches of the Legislature on resolve proposing an amendment to the Constitution to provide for an additional issue of bridge bonds (H.