

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

1974

Kennebec Journal
Augusta, Maine

Reported that the same Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-341)

Signed:

Senator:

TANOUS of Penobscot

Representatives:

BAKER of Orrington

WHITE of Guilford

WHEELER of Portland

GAUTHIER of Sanford

KILROY of Portland

CARRIER of Westbrook

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

Signed:

Representatives:

PERKINS of So. Portland

McKERNAN of Bangor

Which reports were Read.

Thereupon, the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report of the Committee was Accepted and the Bill Read Once. Committee Amendment "A" was Read.

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

Mr. BERRY: Mr. President, I would like to make note of the fact that the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Senator Tanous, has done an extremely good job in turning out a report here when it has been very difficult to get the signatures of his entire committee. I think this indicates that he is doing an extremely good job and is not waiting for signatures to hold up the bill and the legislative process.

The PRESIDENT: Is it now the pleasure of the Senate to adopt Committee Amendment "A"?

Thereupon, Committee Amendment "A" was Adopted and the Bill, as Amended, Tomorrow Assigned for Second Reading.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on Judiciary on, Bill, "An Act Lowering the Maximum Age of Juvenile Offenders." (S. P. 713) (L. D. 2125)

Reported that the same Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-339).

Signed:

Senators:

TANOUS of Penobscot

SPEERS of Kennebec

Representatives:

CARRIER of Westbrook

WHEELER of Portland

BAKER of Orrington

PERKINS of So. Portland

WHITE of Guilford

KILROY of Portland

GAUTHIER of Sanford

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

Signed:

Representatives:

DUNLEAVY of Presque Isle

McKERNAN of Bangor

Which reports were Read.

Thereupon, the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report of the Committee was Accepted and the Bill Read Once. Committee Amendment "A" was Read.

Mr. Tanous of Penobscot then presented Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A".

Senate Amendment "A", Filing No. S-336, to Committee Amendment "A" was Read.

The PRESIDENT: The Senator has the floor.

Mr. TANOUS: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: The bill that we are now discussing is on the age of juvenile offenders. At the last session we increased the age of the juvenile offender from 17 to 18 and, as a result, in our existing laws a commitment statute prohibits any judge from exercising any degree of control of being able to commit any individual between the age of 17 and 18 because of the statute providing for commitment. It has caused a lot of problems regarding the juvenile in that age of limbo between 17 and 18. I spoke with many judges and both superior court judges and district court judges felt that the age ought to be returned back to 17, and this bill does this. This is the juvenile age, so once an individual reaches the age of 17 and commits a crime he will be treated like an adult. Originally this body very judiciously defeated that bill last year and then it was brought back and passed, so I guess our original thought and reaction on the bill was proper.

The amendment that I proposed is