

# 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

*One Hundred and Sixth*

*Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1973

KENNEBEC JOURNAL  
AUGUSTA, MAINE

may answer if she wishes. The Chair recognizes that gentletady.

Mrs. BERRY: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: This is not the one that we heard in our committee. This is the overall bill, not just for particular ones that we heard in our committee.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Finemore of Bridgewater, tabled pending the adoption of House Amendment "A" and specially assigned for Monday, April 23.

The Chair laid before the House the second item of Unfinished Business:

Bill "An Act to Revise the Election Laws" (S. P. 493) (L. D. 1535)

Tabled — April 12, by Mr. Jacques of Lewiston.

Pending — Adoption of House Amendment "E" (H-216)

The SPEAKER pro tem: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bath, Mr. Ross.

Mr. ROSS: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: House Amendment "E" may seem very long but do not let that fool you. It does only one thing. As most of you know, this year we passed a new ballot and all this amendment does is to change our election law bill to conform with that new ballot. I move the amendment be adopted.

Thereupon, House Amendment "E" was adopted.

Mr. Ross of Bath offered House Amendment "A" to House Amendment "E" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" to House Amendment "E" (H-227) was read by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bath, Mr. Ross.

Mr. ROSS: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: This amendment does only one thing. On page 2 of the amendment that you just adopted, it talks about write-ins, and it says you have to write the last name first. Since most people are known by their full name, we have deleted this in this amendment, and all that this does is that in write-ins, it will be perfectly valid to use

the last name or the first name first.

I move the adoption of this amendment.

Thereupon, House Amendment "A" to House Amendment "E" was adopted.

Mr. Ross of Bath offered House Amendment "F" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "F" (H-226) was read by the Clerk.

Mr. ROSS: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: We have had on our table since March 12, a constitutional amendment to reduce residency for all persons to 30 days. As you know, it used to be six months from out of state and three months in state. But the Supreme Court ruled last year that if you wanted to vote for President and Vice President only, you could register the very next day. We had an understanding that they would approve 30 days for all. So we put this question to our Supreme Court and they came back with a ruling that in certain states that have a difficult registration procedure, the requirements might be allowed even up to 50 days but not in Maine.

In Maine, as we interpret it, the longest time that we would be allowed would be 9 days, since in cities over 24,000, the board is closed for 9 days. I believe that we must discuss this particular bill that is on the table in both of our caucuses to decide what we are going to come up with for a day. So this just completely deletes from the Omnibus bill any provision of residency requirement.

I move its adoption.

Thereupon, House Amendment "F" was adopted.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bath, Mr. Ross.

Mr. ROSS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: That ends the amendments I have, but the Democrats presented me with ten of theirs just now. This, I think, may set a new record because we will go as far as House Amendment "P". But I now suggest that somebody table this for just one more day and we will listen to the ideas from the other party.

On motion of Mr. Hoffses of Camden, tabled pending passage to be engrossed and tomorrow assigned.

The Chair laid before the House the third item of Unfinished Business.

Bill "An Act Repealing License Fee for Sporting Camps" (H. P. 1202) (L. D. 1540)

Tabled — April 12, by Mr. Good of Westfield.

Pending — Passage to be engrossed.

Mrs. White of Guilford offered House Amendment "A" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" (H-228) was read by the Clerk and adopted.

The Bill was passed to be engrossed as amended and sent to the Senate.

The Chair laid before the House the fourth item of Unfinished Business.

Bill An Act Preventing Discrimination in Reimbursement or Payment under Insurance Policies (S. P. 153) (L. D. 387)

Tabled — April 12, by Mr. Simpson of Standish.

Pending — Acceptance of Either Report.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Strong, Mr. Dyar.

Mr. DYAR: Mr. Speaker, I move the acceptance of the minority "ought to pass" report and would speak briefly to my motion.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The gentleman from Strong, Mr. Dyar, moves the acceptance of the Minority "Ought to pass" Report.

The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. DYAR: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: The minority report on L.D. 387 is a redraft, which can be found under L.D. 1768.

I feel this morning, rather than accepting the majority "ought not to pass" report, we should accept the minority report so that the redraft would come out on the floor of the House for discussion. I think this is a very important issue, it is allowing the people of the State of Maine to use the services of a chiropractor and be able to collect under insurance.

I think if you study the matter, you will find that many states, California for example, the cost in many cases for back injury in industry, the chiropractic profession treats a patient and has him back to work much faster than the medical people.

The big argument against this piece of legislation is the fact that it is going to raise insurance costs. If we take the information that can be believed from the other states in this country that do recognize this practice, you will find, if anything, that the cost of insurance that includes the chiropractor should reduce the overall rates.

So I hope this morning that you will go along and accept the minority report and be able to have time to read this piece of legislation and act accordingly.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Westbrook, Mr. Deshaies.

Mr. DESHAIES: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: To begin with this bill, L.D. 1768, has a very deceptive title. It is not a bill to end discrimination. It boils down to one question and one question only: shall Blue Cross pay for chiropractors' charges.

This is not reflected in the title, but this is what the whole bill amounts to, and this was very apparent at the public hearing, Blue Cross versus the Chiropractors.

Now, I believe it is only proper to explain right now how Blue Cross operates. Unlike the conventional insurance company, which incidentally pays chiropractors' bills, this is a nonprofit organization that pays benefits only after negotiating with a hospital or a doctor on acceptable charges. They establish beforehand what these charges will be; and because of this practice, they are able to control costs and hold down premiums to their subscribers. They have established over the years this liaison between hospitals, medical doctors, osteopaths, but have apparently been unable to do so with the chiropractors.