

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

One Hundred And Seventeenth Legislature

OF THE

State Of Maine

VOLUME VI

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

House of Representatives

January 3, 1996 to April 3, 1996

Senate

January 3, 1996 to March 13, 1996

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 729)
ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate adjourn, they do so until Monday, March 11, 1996, at 9:00 o'clock in the morning.
 Came from the Senate read and passed.
 Was read and passed in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Definition of Commercial Whitewater Outfitter" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 727) (L.D. 1833)
 Came from the Senate, referred to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Ordered Printed.
 Was referred to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in concurrence.

ORDERS

On motion of Representative STROUT of Corinth, the following Joint Order (H.P. 1340)

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation report out, to the House, a bill on logo signs.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Orono, Representative Stevens.

Representative STEVENS: Mr. Speaker, May I pose a question through the Chair?

The SPEAKER: The Representative may pose her question.

Representative STEVENS: Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is to Representative Strout or any member of the Transportation Committee. What exactly is a logo sign and what is the intent and content of this bill?

The SPEAKER: The Representative from Orono, Representative Stevens has posed a question through the Chair to anyone who may care to respond. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Corinth, Representative Strout.

Representative STROUT: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House: The answer to the Representative's question is last year we had a bill presented to the committee and the Transportation Committee decided that we could not deal with the logo signs at that time and we asked the Department of Transportation to do a study and report back to us on some recommendations for these logo signs. We have had two meetings with the department in recent weeks and as of yesterday, the department came to us with recommendations for logo signs and because the committee felt strongly that the various interested parties would like to have more information on these logo signs, it was decided at that time that we would put in a joint order to hold a public hearing some time in the next two weeks to deal with this issue. The recommendations that are coming forward, the committee has some reservations with and we just feel that it is important that the public have a chance to see these recommendations so that is why we are moving forward with the joint order to have a public hearing.

Was read and passed and sent up for concurrence.

On motion of Representative JACQUES of Waterville, the House reconsidered its action whereby Bill "An Act to Amend the Atlantic Salmon Authority" (H.P. 1338) (L.D. 1832) was referred to the Committee on Marine Resources.

On further motion of the same Representative, the Bill was referred to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

TABLED AND TODAY ASSIGNED

The Chair laid before the House the following items which were Tabled and Today Assigned:

An Act Pertaining to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority (H.P. 1228) (L.D. 1681)

- In House, passed to be enacted on February 22, 1996.

- In Senate, passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-445) in non-concurrence.

TABLED - March 6, 1996 by Representative STROUT of Corinth.

PENDING - Further Consideration.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Corinth, Representative Strout.

Representative STROUT: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I move that we recede and concur. The rail authority has asked me to read into the record a statement on the amendment that was adopted in the other body. The amendment removes the text of the bill relating to the application of the Administrative Procedures Act as unnecessary because action of the authority in consulting with Amtrak about Amtrak fares are not rulemaking within the meaning of the Administrative Procedure Act. Thank you very much.

On motion of Representative STROUT of Corinth, the House voted to Recede and Concur.

HOUSE DIVIDED REPORT - Majority (8) "Ought to Pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-732) - Minority (5) "Ought Not to Pass" - Committee on Criminal Justice on Bill "An Act to Allow Charitable Solicitation by Law Enforcement Officers, Agencies and Associations" (H.P. 478) (L.D. 659)

TABLED - March 6, 1996 by Representative CLARK of Millinocket.

PENDING - Motion of same Representative to accept the Majority "Ought to Pass" as amended Report.

Representative CLUKEY of Houlton requested a division on the motion to accept the Majority "Ought to Pass" as amended Report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Naples, Representative Thompson.

Representative THOMPSON: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House: People ought to know what this bill does. This bill repeals the provision that we currently have in Maine law that prohibits law enforcement officers from soliciting funds when there may be pecuniary interest for the law enforcement officer, his family, agency or any of the other law enforcement officers. The reason this law was put into effect was to do away with what is at least the appearance of impropriety or coercion when police officers solicit for their own behalf.

The law does allow police officers to solicit for charitable organizations, but it does not allow them to solicit when there is some interest to a police officer or their family. What repealing this law would result in is, I believe, a situation where law enforcement officers could be out soliciting money and without any wrongdoing at least create the appearance of wrongdoing. What we are trying to do by keeping this law in effect is to maintain the integrity of police and the appearance of integrity.