

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*One Hundred and Sixth
Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

Volume II

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Mr. GARSOE: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I would like to solicit your favorable vote on this motion to reconsider. And it is pretty much as has been outlined by the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Mulkern. I am opposed, as I believe the Committee on County Government was opposed, to the principle of converting unused sick leave into cash. This would be enough for me to oppose it on; but in addition, this sets Cumberland County aside to be the only one to which this amendment would apply. I would just remind you that the Committee on County Government originally took this out of the bill. This House amendment that is proposed, if we don't change our action, is one that would make this applicable only to Cumberland County.

So, giving these reasons, I hope you find some degree of logic in it. This has not been budgeted, I don't believe it has been properly approached. And I would hope for your favorable consideration on the motion to reconsider following which I would propose that we readopt Committee Amendment "A".

The SPEAKER pro tem: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Mulkern.

Mr. MULKERN: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I failed to add on my speech previous to this that this move does have the approval of the county commissioners. I did speak to the head of the County Government Committee, and I have spoken to several of the members of the County Government Committee, and they support this amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from China, Mr. Farrington.

Mr. FARRINGTON: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: The last day of the session, I rose to support this amendment on the assumption that not only the delegation but also the commissioners and everybody concerned was going along with this. I cannot, however, understand the attempt to circumvent the vote of the County Government

Committee. I am afraid that I will have to change my mind this morning and go along with the committee amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from Cumberland, Mr. Garsoe, that the House reconsider its action whereby it indefinitely postponed Committee Amendment "A" to L. D. 1177. All in favor of that motion will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

A vote of the House was taken.

71 having voted in the affirmative and 33 having voted in the negative, the motion did prevail.

On motion of Mr. Garsoe of Cumberland, Committee Amendment "A" (H-234) was read by the Clerk and adopted.

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

(H. P. 1001) (L. D. 1326) Resolution Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Providing for Early Inauguration of the Governor

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading and read the second time.

Mr. Birt of East Millinocket offered House Amendment "A" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" (H-271) was read by the Clerk and adopted.

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

Second Reader

Tabled and Assigned

(H. P. 1073) (L. D. 1411) Bill "An Act Amending the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law".

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading and read a second time.

Mr. Haskell of Houlton offered House Amendment "A" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Houlton, Mr. Haskell.

Mr. HASKELL: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: This amendment was necessary on this particular bill because of a piece of emergency

legislation which we accepted the committee report on earlier today; namely on the spruce budworm bill. Up to this time, the cost to the land owner of spruce budworm control, which has been shared by the federal government, by the state, by the land owner, the costs have been collected from the land owners through an increase in the mill rate each year as it came along. Well, after the passage of the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law, the mill rates are established, and there isn't this flexibility. So it became necessary to change the mill rate schedule in the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law for two reasons: First, to collect a mill and one half on an annual basis which would amount to \$360,000 for spruce budworm or other spray programs. Secondly, the estimates of the revenue to be derived from the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law fell short of the estimates by about \$600,000 on an annual basis.

So to restore the mill rate schedule back to the estimates and to allow for the collection from the landowner of their share of the spray program, it has been necessary to make the changes in the mill rate schedule contained in this amendment.

On motion of Mr. Dam of Skowhegan, tabled pending the adoption of House Amendment "A" and tomorrow assigned.

Second Reader

Tabled and Assigned

(H. P. 1440) (L. D. 1810) Bill "An Act Designating a Commemorative Day in Remembrance of Martin Luther King, Jr."

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading as read a second time.

Mr. Talbot of Portland offered House Amendment "A" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" (H-270) was read by the Clerk.

On motion of Mr. Binnette of Old Town, tabled pending adoption of House Amendment "A" and specially assigned for Wednesday, April 25.

(H. P. 1450) (L. D. 1870) Bill "An Act Relating to Utility Promotion and Advertising Expenses"

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading, read the second time, passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

**Emergency Measure
Tabled and Assigned**

An Act Limiting Sunday Harness Racing (H. P. 900) (L. D. 1188)

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

(On motion of Mr. Kelleher of Bangor, tabled pending passage to be engrossed and specially assigned for Wednesday, April 25.)

Enactor

Tabled and Assigned

An Act Increasing Nonresident Hunting License Fee (H. P. 188) (L. D. 265) (C. "A" H-201)

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

On motion of Mr. Bither of Houlton, under suspension of the rules, the House reconsidered its action whereby the Bill was passed to be engrossed.

On further motion of the same gentleman, under suspension of the rules, the House reconsidered its action whereby Committee Amendment "A" was adopted.

The same gentleman then moved Committee Amendment "A" be indefinitely postponed.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Orland, Mr. Churchill.

Mr. CHURCHILL: Mr. Speaker, I move this be tabled for two legislative days.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from Orland, Mr. Churchill, that this Bill be tabled pending the motion of Mr. Bither of Houlton to indefinitely postpone Committee Amendment "A" and specially assigned for Wednesday, April 25.

All in favor will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

A vote of the House was taken.

72 having voted in the affirmative and 26 having voted in the negative, the motion did prevail.