Legislative Record

House of Representatives

One Hundred and Twenty-Seventh Legislature

State of Maine

Daily Edition

First Regular Session

beginning December 3, 2014

beginning at page H-1
June 8, 2015
The 127th Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, Maine

Dear Honorable Members of the 127th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 892, "An Act To Amend Certain Laws Affecting the Judicial Branch."

As promised, I am vetoing all bills sponsored by Democrats because they have stifled the voice of Maine citizens by preventing them from voting on the elimination of the income tax. These legislators were elected to serve the people of Maine, but they choose to operate behind closed doors to advance their own partisan agendas. Rather than work with me to at least give the Maine people a chance to vote on lowering or eliminating the income tax, they closed the door. They defend the status quo and they cut the people out of the process.

I will not sit by and watch a handful of Democrats disenfranchise the people they were elected to represent. I want to ensure that each piece of legislation gets the widest possible representation in Augusta.

Therefore, any bills sponsored by Democrats must have at least a two-thirds vote and a roll call to get by me. For this reason, I return LD 892 unsigned and vetoed.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE. Sent for concurrence.

The accompanying item An Act To Amend Certain Laws Affecting the Judicial Branch (H.P. 611) (L.D. 892) (C. "A" H-164)

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Cape Elizabeth, Representative Monaghan.

Representative MONAGHAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Pro Tem, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, so this is another bill that was my bill and it just aims to create some efficiencies to make the courts run smoother. Also allows payments of fines and fees that will raise from $250, I believe, to $500, so that makes more money coming into the court system. So I hope you will support this and override the veto. Thank you.

After reconsideration, the House proceeded to vote on the question, 'Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?' A roll call was taken.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The pending question before the House is ‘Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?' All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 187V


ABSENT - Devin, Kinney M, Stuckey, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, 135; No, 12; Absent, 4; Excused, 0.

135 having voted in the affirmative and 12 voted in the negative, with 4 being absent, and accordingly the Veto was NOT SUSTAINED. Sent for concurrence.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE. Sent for concurrence.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 205)
STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001

June 8, 2015
The 127th Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, Maine

Dear Honorable Members of the 127th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 987, "An Act To Suspend the Right of an Out-of-state Toll Violator To Operate a Motor Vehicle on Maine Roads."

As promised, I am vetoing all bills sponsored by Democrats because they have stifled the voice of Maine citizens by preventing them from voting on the elimination of the income tax. These legislators were elected to serve the people of Maine, but they choose to operate behind closed doors to advance their own partisan agendas. Rather than work with me to at least give the Maine people a chance to vote on lowering or eliminating the income tax, they closed the door. They defend the status quo and they cut the people out of the process.

I will not sit by and watch a handful of Democrats disenfranchise the people they were elected to represent. I want to ensure that each piece of legislation gets the widest possible representation in Augusta.

Therefore, any bills sponsored by Democrats must have at least a two-thirds vote and a roll call to get by me. For this reason, I return LD 987 unsigned and vetoed.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

June 9, 2015
The 127th Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, Maine

Dear Honorable Members of the 127th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 987, "An Act To Amend Certain Laws Affecting the Judicial Branch."

As promised, I am vetoing all bills sponsored by Democrats because they have stifled the voice of Maine citizens by preventing them from voting on the elimination of the income tax. These legislators were elected to serve the people of Maine, but they choose to operate behind closed doors to advance their own partisan agendas. Rather than work with me to at least give the Maine people a chance to vote on lowering or eliminating the income tax, they closed the door. They defend the status quo and they cut the people out of the process.

I will not sit by and watch a handful of Democrats disenfranchise the people they were elected to represent. I want to ensure that each piece of legislation gets the widest possible representation in Augusta.

Therefore, any bills sponsored by Democrats must have at least a two-thirds vote and a roll call to get by me. For this reason, I return LD 987 unsigned and vetoed.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE. Sent for concurrence.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Gorham, Representative McLean.

Representative McLEAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House, I submitted this bill on behalf of Peter Mills and the Maine Turnpike Authority and, as usual I appreciate the good and unanimous work of the Transportation Committee on this particular piece of legislation.

What this bill does is it allows the Maine Turnpike Authority, in collaboration with the Secretary of State, to suspend the right of out-of-state toll violators. It's a fairly big issue on the Maine Turnpike. We lose a significant amount of money every year from those who choose not to pay the tolls, and so this would allow the Turnpike Authority, as well as the Secretary of State, to suspend the right to operate until that particular liability is paid by that operator. I would urge all of you to override this veto. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Arundel, Representative Parry.

Representative PARRY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I just wanted to stand and agree with my good House Chair on this bill. It's turning into a real problem out on the Turnpike and we figured that we needed to give the Turnpike and Secretary of State's Office this tool to collect these out-of-state toll violators. Thank you.

After reconsideration, the House proceeded to vote on the question, 'Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?' A roll call was taken.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The pending question before the House is 'Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?' All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 188V


NAY - NONE.

ABSENT - Devin, Fredette, Kinney M, Stuckey, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, 146; No, 0; Absent, 5; Excused, 0.

146 having voted in the affirmative and 0 voted in the negative, with 5 being absent, and accordingly the Veto was NOT SUSTAINED. Sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 193)

TOWN OF JAY
340 MAIN STREET
JAY, MAINE  04239-1697

June 3, 2015
Honorable Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE:  LD 281, Resolve, To Modify the State Valuation of the Town of Madison To Reflect the Loss in Valuation of the Madison Paper Company and To Modify the State Valuation of the Town of Skowhegan To Reflect the Loss in Valuation of the S.D. Warren Company

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Attached is an attested town resolution in support of LD 281, as it was amended by the committee's majority report (Resolve, To Modify the State Valuation of the Town of Madison To Reflect the Loss in Valuation of the Madison Paper Company, To Modify the State Valuation of the Town of Skowhegan To Reflect the Loss in Valuation of the S.D. Warren Company, To Modify the State Valuation of the Town of East Millinocket To Reflect the Loss in Valuation of Great Northern Paper, and To Modify the State Valuation of the Town of Jay To Reflect the loss in Valuation of Verso Paper Company). On behalf of the Town of Jay, I request that this resolution be posted on the House Calendar. I sincerely appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely

S/Shiloh LaFreniere
Town Manager, Jay

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF JAY
SELECT BOARD

It is hereby resolved that the Town of Jay supports legislation to modify the revenue sharing and general purpose aid for education formulas to protect the Town of Jay from the severe reduction of these funds resulting from the reduced valuation of the Androscoggin Mill.

Given under our hands at Jay, Maine this 23rd day of February, 2015.

Select Board, Town of Jay
S/Steven McCourt
S/Justin Merril
S/Pearl Cook
S/Thomas Goding
S/Timothy DeMillo
A True Copy

Attest: S/Ronda L. Palmer

Read and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.