

# 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 electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

Senate Legislative Record  
One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth Legislature

State of Maine

Daily Edition

First Regular Session  
beginning December 7, 2016

beginning at Page 1

argued a long time ago. It helped. We didn't see any evidence of it, in its practice over the years, that it was dividing families or pitting them against each other. What we found was that in rural areas where people travel a long distance and assume, because it's already in law in much of the Secretary of State's statutes, that it's something that can be done and then this one area it can't be. Folks at the registry are quite good at picking up on the nuances. This little piece gets in the way and all we're asking for, and all we have in statute already, is who can verify that this person's mature enough to drive, to fit in our system, to drive better than I do. That, sometimes, is a stepparent and that's who takes them, that's who's the responsible party, that's who knows them best. I would say anybody who would vouch for that, who was a responsible person, should be the person, but it limits it. It's already in law. Let's just fix it to make it uniform. Thank you very much.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair recognizes the Senator from Franklin, Senator Saviello.

Senator **SAVIELLO:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, two points. One, presently stepparents can sign for a learner's permit. The second was a story that was shared by an individual in the committee hearing that day, where she got up and testified and talked about her own personal life, where he father was no longer part of her life and her stepfather was her father. At the end of the day, he would not be able to sign for her driver's license. That's why she came in and supported the bill. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall this Bill become law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor? In accordance with Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution, the vote will be taken by the Yeas and Nays. A vote of yes will be in favor of the Bill. A vote of no will be in favor of sustaining the veto of the Governor."

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#146)**

YEAS: Senators: BELLOWS, BREEN, CARPENTER, CARSON, CHENETTE, CHIPMAN, COLLINS, DESCHAMBAULT, DIAMOND, DILL, DION, DOW, GRATWICK, HAMPER, HILL, JACKSON, KATZ, LANGLEY, LIBBY, MAKER, MASON, MILLETT, MIRAMANT, ROSEN, SAVIELLO, VITELLI, VOLK, WOODSOME, PRESIDENT THIBODEAU

NAYS: Senators: BRAKEY, CUSHING, CYRWAY, DAVIS, KEIM, WHITTEMORE

29 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 6 Senators having voted in the negative, and 29 being more than two-thirds of the members present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the veto of the Governor be **OVERRIDDEN** and the Bill become law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: H.C. 170

**STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
1 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001**

May 16, 2017

The 128th Legislature of the State of Maine  
State House  
Augusta, Maine

Dear Honorable Members of the 128th 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 905, "An Act To Authorize the Construction of a Maine Turnpike Connector to Gorham."

This bill would allow the Maine Turnpike Authority to construct and operate a connector in Cumberland County from Route 114 in South Gorham to an interchange on the turnpike in order to address congestion issues. The Maine Turnpike Authority and the Maine Department of Transportation have been studying this issue since 2007, and I agree that this area has a traffic problem that needs to be resolved.

Recently, I stated publically that I support a connector in this area, but I don't think that it should be a toll highway with the Maine Turnpike Authority. Maine citizens already pay enough in tolls when they travel in certain areas of the state, and we should not add additional toll costs to Maine citizens and businesses. I would support this project being done by the Maine Department of Transportation through general obligation bonds, as long as it can be done without the need for tolls.

For this reason, I return LD 905 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage  
Governor

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The accompanying Bill:

An Act To Authorize the Construction of a Maine Turnpike Connector to Gorham

H.P. 633 L.D. 905

Comes from the House with the **VETO OVERRIDDEN** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, notwithstanding the objections of the Governor.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall this Bill become law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor? In accordance with Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution, the vote will be taken by the Yeas and Nays. A vote of yes will be in favor of the Bill. A vote of no will be in favor of sustaining the veto of the Governor."

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#147)**

YEAS: Senators: BELLOWS, BRAKEY, BREEN, CARPENTER, CARSON, CHENETTE, CHIPMAN, COLLINS, CUSHING, CYRWAY, DAVIS, DESCHAMBAULT, DIAMOND, DILL, DION, DOW, GRATWICK, HAMPER, HILL, JACKSON, KATZ, KEIM, LANGLEY, LIBBY, MAKER, MASON, MILLETT, MIRAMANT, ROSEN, SAVIELLO, VITELLI, VOLK, WHITTEMORE, WOODSOME, PRESIDENT THIBODEAU

NAYS: Senators: None

35 Senators having voted in the affirmative and No Senator having voted in the negative, and 35 being more than two-thirds of the members present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the veto of the Governor be **OVERRIDDEN** and the Bill become law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor.

All matters thus acted upon were ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Off Record Remarks

**SENATE PAPERS**

Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund the Maine Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Loan Program"

S.P. 570 L.D. 1614

Presented by Senator VOLK of Cumberland. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)  
Cosponsored by Representative FECTEAU of Biddeford and Senators: LANGLEY of Hancock, MAKER of Washington, Representative: KORNFIELD of Bangor.

On motion by Senator **HAMPER** of Oxford, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

**ORDERS**

**Joint Orders**

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

The Honorable Rodney Whittemore and Coralee Whittemore, of Skowhegan, who are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary. We extend to Senator and Mrs. Whittemore our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 272

Sponsored by President THIBODEAU of Waldo. Cosponsored by Senators: BELLOWS of Kennebec, BRAKEY of Androscoggin, BREEN of Cumberland, CARPENTER of Aroostook, CARSON of Cumberland, CHENETTE of York, CHIPMAN of Cumberland, COLLINS of York, CUSHING of Penobscot, CYRWAY of Kennebec, DAVIS of Piscataquis, DESCHAMBAULT of York, DIAMOND of Cumberland, DILL of Penobscot, DION of Cumberland, DOW of Lincoln, GRATWICK of Penobscot, HAMPER of Oxford, HILL of York, JACKSON of Aroostook, KATZ of Kennebec, KEIM of Oxford, LANGLEY of Hancock, LIBBY of Androscoggin, MAKER of Washington, MASON of Androscoggin, MILLETT of Cumberland, MIRAMANT of Knox, ROSEN of Hancock, SAVIELLO of Franklin, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, VOLK of Cumberland, WOODSOME of York, Representatives: AUSTIN of Skowhegan, FARRIN of Norridgewock, GRIGNON of Athens, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, SKOLFIELD of Weld, STETKIS of Canaan, STROM of Pittsfield.

**READ.**

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Mason.

Senator **MASON:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, it's an honor to stand here and congratulate my friends, Rod and Coralee Whittemore, on their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. I've had the opportunity to get very close with Senator Whittemore and Mrs. Whittemore. Rod and I sat together for four years in this Body as seatmates and, as you know, you grow very close to people that you sit next to in these legislative chambers. I got to know the both of them outside of this Chamber as well and they are a shining example of what a human relationship should be and what a marriage should be on this earth. Mr. President, if I'm ever so lucky to marry my girlfriend I hope that it will be a relationship like Rod and Coralee's. Congratulations to both of you. I appreciate your friendship and congratulations from your legislative family.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Cushing.

Senator **CUSHING:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, I rise to also add my best wishes to this special occasion. Rod and Coralee are the parents of three fine sons, eight grandchildren, the youngest being 17 and the oldest 22. They've worked together in a family business for over 45 years, so this is truly a relationship that has prospered through