

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LEGISLATIVE RECORD**

**OF THE**

***Ninety-Fifth Legislature***

**OF THE**

**STATE OF MAINE**

**1951**

**DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL  
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

On motion by Mr. Barnes of Aroostook, the Senate voted to take from the table bill, An Act Authorizing the Trustees of the University of Maine to Operate a College of Medicine (S. P. 268) (L. D. 607) tabled by that Senator on March 2nd pending assignment for second reading.

The PRESIDENT: This bill having been tabled by the Senator from Aroostook, Senator Barnes, pending assignment for second reading, the Chair will now assign it for tomorrow for second reading.

Mr. McCUSICK of Piscataquis: Mr. President and members of the Senate, if it is in order I would like to make a statement from the committee in regard to this bill.

This measure was presented at the Committee hearing purely as enabling legislation. The expressed purpose of its proponents was that an instrument be created whereby gifts, endowments or any other monies might be received for the construction or operation of a medical school in Maine. It was expressly stated by the proponents at the Committee hearing that this measure asked no appropriation from the State at this time. There can be no doubt as to the desirability of a medical school in Maine if it can be built and operated without expense to the State. With the limited resources of Maine there is a serious question whether we should attempt to build and support a medical school at State expense.

This question of whether a medical school should be constructed and operated wholly or partly at State expense was not before the Committee and was not discussed, and that question is not before this Legislature. The Committee report and favorable action on this bill indicate only their assent to it for the purposes for which it was presented. It certainly should not and does not indicate that we are in favor of a State appropriation to support a medical school in Maine.

This bill is an enabling act to be passed only for the purpose of setting up and operating said medical school in the event that monies become available through gift or endowment from any sources other than State appropriation.

Mr. BARNES of Aroostook: Mr. President, I am not sure on my point of order and I therefore ask unanimous consent to address the Senate.

The PRESIDENT: The Senator from Aroostook, Senator Barnes, asks unanimous consent to address the Senate. Is there objection? The Chair hears no objection and the Senator may proceed.

Mr. BARNES: Mr. President and members of the Senate, the sole purpose for which I tabled this bill on March 2nd was because I realized the stringent financial condition of the State and I also realize that our state university, of which we are all justly proud, is coming to this legislature asking for additional funds to run the various departments that are now handled so efficiently and therefore I wanted an opportunity to study the bill and talk with members of the Committee to determine whether or not there was an indication that now, or even in the future, it would require the appropriating of state tax dollars.

I have satisfied myself that there is no such indication in the bill and that the only reason for passing it at this time is to have a set-up so that in the future if some Hetty Green or some other philanthropist should decide to will enough money to the state to set up, maintain and operate a medical school we would have a vehicle whereby that might be accomplished. And for that reason I have this morning taken the bill off the table and will in no way offer any objection to its ultimate passage.

On motion by Mr. Crosby of Franklin, the Senate voted to take from the table bill, An Act to Appropriate Monies for the Expenditures of State Government and for Other Purposes for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1952, and June 30, 1953 (S. P. 495) (L. D. 1196) tabled by that Senator on March 15 pending assignment for 2nd reading.

Mr. CROSBY of Franklin: Mr. President and Senators, I realize that the Appropriations Committee has done a great deal of work and I think have come out with exceptionally fine report. I am going