

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

One Hundred And Thirteenth Legislature

OF THE

State Of Maine

VOLUME IV

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

March 25, 1988 to May 5, 1988

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SECOND CONFIRMATION SESSION

May 13, 1988

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FOURTH CONFIRMATION SESSION

November 14, 1988

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FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION

November 28, 1988

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HOUSE & SENATE LEGISLATIVE SENTIMENTS

December 3, 1986 to December 6, 1988

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-586).

Which Reports were READ.

On motion by Senator TWITCHELL of Oxford, the Majority OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED Report was ACCEPTED, in concurrence.

The Bill READ ONCE.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-586) READ and ADOPTED, in concurrence.

The Bill as Amended, TOMORROW ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING.

Senate

Leave to Withdraw

The following Leave to Withdraw Report shall be placed in the Legislative Files without further action pursuant to Rule 15 of the Joint Rules:

Bill "An Act to Provide Replacement Funding and Capital for the Maine Fire Training and Education Program as offered by the Southern Maine Vocational-Technical Institute"

S.P. 875 L.D. 2278

Senate at Ease

Senate called to order by the President.

Ought to Pass As Amended

Senator BLACK for the Committee on JUDICIARY on Bill "An Act to Correct Errors and Inconsistencies in the Laws of Maine" (Emergency)

S.P. 950 L.D. 2521

Reported that the same Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-404).

Which Report was READ and ACCEPTED.

The Bill READ ONCE.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-404) READ.

Senate at Ease

Senate called to order by the President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Brannigan.

Senator BRANNIGAN: Thank you Mr. President. Mr. President, men and women of the Senate. We are about to Adopt the first Errors Bill. It is a little different this year that we are running the big Errors Bill early. The Committee on Judiciary has been working hard and has gone through almost all of the errors that have been discovered. So, if anybody has amendments that they wish to offer to the Bill they may do so, however, we are preparing a second Errors Bill that will be coming along in the next week or so and if you would like to submit any errors from your Committee's or any other errors that you have found, the Judiciary Committee would be glad to look at them for inclusion in the second Errors Bill. We would like to have them by the end of the week so that we can do that at the first of next week. Thank you.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-404) ADOPTED.

The Bill as Amended, TOMORROW ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on AGRICULTURE on Bill "An Act Concerning Membership on the Maine Blueberry Commission"

S.P. 921 L.D. 2412

Reported that the same Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-405).

Signed:

Senators:

TWITCHELL of Oxford

BLACK of Cumberland

Representatives:

TARDY of Palmyra

PARENT of Benton

NUTTING of Leeds

BRAGG of Sidney

MAHANY of Easton

SHERBURNE of Dexter

HUSSEY of Milo

GLIDDEN of Houlton

ALIBERTI of Lewiston

PINES of Limestone

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (S-406).

Signed:

Senator:

MATTHEWS of Kennebec

Which Reports were READ.

Senator MATTHEWS of Kennebec moved to ACCEPT the Minority OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" (S-406) Report.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the same Senator.

Senator MATTHEWS: Thank you Mr. President. Mr. President, men and women of the Senate. As you can all see on the Divided Report, I am the lone signer of the Minority Report as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (S-406). I won't take up a long time on this issue, but I do feel very, very strongly about my position and would like to mention it to all of you. L.D. 2412, sponsored by the good Senator from Washington, Senator Randall, was an issue brought to our Committee dealing with the make up of the Maine Blueberry Commission. The good Senator and the people that came to testify brought to the attention of the Agriculture Committee an inequity in the current composition of the Blueberry Commission. Presently, the Commission is made up of eight members, five processors and three producers of blueberries. The amendment, which I am asking this Body to accept, would change that composition to four processors, four producers and one designee from the Department. Ladies and gentlemen, there is no need in my estimation to study this issue and I think that is almost the most important issue here to be discussed today. We held the public hearing, the good Senator from Washington, raised the concerns of people in his area and in Hancock County and some other areas of the state. There is no need to attempt to salvage something and have a study. There should be an overriding purpose when we study issues, ladies and gentlemen, we are in session and I believe we are here to do the business of the people of the state. We had a public hearing, as I said, people were there to testify, the majority of the people there to testify favored the passage of the Bill which is now amended - my amendment which I am supporting here today. I want to read just a couple of things into the Record. First of all, the Bill was supported by the Department and let me just read very briefly. "The Maine Department of Agriculture recognizes the importance of promoting Maine commodities. The promotion of Maine blueberries, funded half by the producers and half by the processors, is presently administered by the Maine Blueberry Commission. L.D. 2412, will equalize representation so that both growers and processors will have four members. Realizing that the