

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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House Legislative Record
of the
One Hundred and Eighteenth Legislature
of the
State of Maine

Volume I

First Regular Session

December 4, 1996 - March 27, 1997

First Special Session

March 27, 1997 - May 15, 1997

An Act to Reestablish the State Compensation Commission (H.P. 999) (L.D. 1391) (C. "A" H-309)

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

On motion of Representative KONTOS of Windham, was set aside.

On further motion of the same Representative, tabled pending passage to be enacted and later today assigned.

An Act to Authorize Shellfish Management Committees to Determine Fees for Clam Licenses (H.P. 1292) (L.D. 1837)

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

On motion of Representative CHARTRAND of Rockland, was set aside.

On further motion of the same Representative, tabled pending passage to be enacted and specially assigned for Monday, May 12, 1997.

An Act to Prevent Discrimination (S.P. 338) (L.D. 1116)

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

On motion of Representative KONTOS of Windham, was set aside.

The same Representative requested a roll call on passage to be enacted.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Enactment. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 160

YEA - Bagley, Baker CL, Baker JL, Berry RL, Bigl, Bodwell, Bolduc, Bouffard, Brennan, Brooks, Bruno, Bull, Cameron, Carleton, Chartrand, Chick, Cianchette, Colwell, Cowger, Davidson, Dunlap, Dutremble, Etnier, Farnsworth, Fisher, Frechette, Fuller, Gagne, Gagnon, Gamache, Goodwin, Green, Hatch, Jones KW, Jones SL, Kane, Kerr, Kontos, LaVerdiere, Lemaire, Lemke, Lindahl, Mailhot, Marvin, Mayo, McAlevey, McKee, Mitchell JE, Morgan, Muse, O'Brien, O'Neil, Ott, Paul, Peavey, Perkins, Perry, Pieh, Povich, Powers, Quint, Rines, Rowe, Samson, Savage, Saxl JW, Saxl MV, Shannon, Shiah, Skoglund, Stevens, Tessier, Thompson, Tobin, Townsend, Tripp, Usher, Volenik, Watson, Wheeler GJ, Wright, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Ahearn, Barth, Belanger DJ, Berry DP, Bragdon, Buck, Bumps, Bunker, Campbell, Chizmar, Clark, Clukey, Cross, Desmond, Dexter, Donnelly, Driscoll, Foster, Gerry, Gieringer, Honey, Jones SA, Joy, Joyce, Kasprzak, Kneeland, Labrecque, Lane, Layton, Lemont, Lovett, Mack, Madore, McElroy, Meres, Murphy, Nass, Nickerson, O'Neal, Pendleton, Pinkham RG, Pinkham WD, Plowman, Poulin, Richard, Sanborn, Sirois, Snowe-Mello, Spear, Stanley, Stedman, Taylor, True, Tuttle, Underwood, Vedral, Vigue, Waterhouse, Wheeler EM, Winglass, Winn, Winsor.

ABSENT - Belanger IG, Fisk, Gooley, Jabar, Joyner, MacDougall, Treadwell.

Yes, 82; No, 62; Absent, 7; Excused, 0.

82 having voted in the affirmative and 62 voted in the negative, with 7 being absent, the Bill was passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker, and sent to the Senate.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were ordered sent forthwith.

The Chair laid before the House the following item which was tabled earlier in today's session:

House Divided Report - Committee on **Appropriations and Financial Affairs** - (11) members "**Ought to Pass**" - (2) members "**Ought Not to Pass**" on Bill "An Act to Appropriate Funds for the Education Research Institute" (H.P. 1298) (L.D. 1841) which was tabled by Representative TOWNSEND of Portland pending her motion to accept the Majority "**Ought to Pass**" Report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Westbrook, Representative Lemke.

Representative LEMKE: Madam Speaker, May I pose a question through the Chair?

The SPEAKER: The Representative may pose his question.

Representative LEMKE: Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. To anyone who may respond, what is the Education Research Institute and what does it do?

The SPEAKER: The Representative from Westbrook, Representative Lemke has posed a question through the Chair to anyone who may care to respond. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Glenburn, Representative Winn.

Representative WINN: Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. The Research Institute is an organization that is based at Orono, but it uses a lot of telecommunications and infrastructure around the state. It is a state-wide operation and it is really very fascinating and I think extremely beneficial investment. You have a lot of statisticians and a lot of good data and when we, as a Legislature, or other entities in the state have a problem and they really have a really good solid answer to their question, they can turn to this research institute and have them do the number crunching for it. I, as you know, have experienced a lot of frustration at times during the years that I have served here and a lot of that is due to the fact that we don't have the time to explore the question and find a good solution to it. We don't have the data. We make decisions on a whim or a hunch or a best guess. This is one mechanism where we can turn to them and say this is our problem and please do the research for us and come back and let us know what the truth is. It is very sophisticated and very accurate and, I think, very worthy of our support. I would encourage everybody to start using it more.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Madison, Representative Richard.

Representative RICHARD: Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. A member of that commission is here in the House and I would really like to defer to him. He has all of the information that is necessary.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Unity, Representative McElroy.

Representative MCELROY: Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I have little to add to what the good Representative from Glenburn has already told you. This was a group that was established by the 115th Legislature. All of the major, if I might use this word, stakeholders in education are represented on the steering committee. The information or the data that is supplied by the University of Maine System, both Orono and Southern Maine is supplied under the guidance of the steering committee. The funding for this specific group was left out of the budget this year in kind of a mission of forgetfulness, I guess. We have attempted a number of times to get it back in. In my mind, this group is very essential to the continuation of positive education in Maine. It is unreal to think that we can