

April 17, 2012

Senator Barry J. Hobbins
Senate Minority Leader
State House Station 3
Augusta, Maine 04333

Representative Emily A. Cain
House Minority Leader
State House Station 2
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Senator Hobbins and Representative Cain,

Thank you for your letter earlier today regarding Governor LePage's line-item vetoes of several allocations in LD 1903.

As you noted, Article IV, Part Third, Section 1 of Maine's Constitution provides that the "Legislature may convene on the call of the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House, with consent of the majority of the members of the Legislature of each political party, all Members of the Legislature having first been polled."

You indicated to us that you have polled Democratic legislators, and that a majority of them have consented to convening the Legislature.

The Senate Majority Office and the Speaker's Office have likewise informed us that they have polled Republican legislators today, and two-thirds of them have declined to consent to convening the Legislature.

Inasmuch as we do not have the consent of a majority of members of both parties, the Legislature will not convene this week. However, as the FY 2013 supplemental budget will be considered in May, the Legislature will have an opportunity at that point to weigh the issues addressed by the Governor's line-item veto.

Sincerely,



KEVIN L. RAYE
President of the Senate



ROBERT W. NUTTING
Speaker of the House

Cc: Secretary of the Senate
Clerk of the House