

The yeas and nays.
Here’s how Maine’s congressional delegation voted this week

TARGETED NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Here’s a look at how area members of Congress voted over the previous week.

No significant legislation passed the Senate by voice vote this week, and there were no votes in the House this week, as the chamber had minimal activity after last weekend’s Northeast snowstorm.

There were no key votes in the House this week.

Senate votes

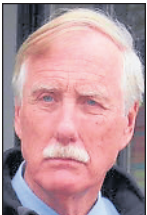
Senate vote 1
NEW JERSEY DISTRICT JUDGE: The Senate has confirmed the nomination of John Michael Vazquez to serve as a U.S. district judge for the New Jersey district.

A supporter, Sen. Cory A. Booker, D-New Jersey, cited Vazquez a well-qualified nominee with criminal and civil law experience as a federal prosecutor, New Jersey’s assistant attorney general and private practice lawyer. Booker called Vazquez “a fine and well-balanced jurist” acclaimed by both New Jersey legal groups and the American Bar Association.

The vote was 84 yeas to 2 nays. Both Sens. Susan Collins, R-Maine, and Angus King, I-Maine, were among the yeas.



Collins



King

Senate vote 2
NUCLEAR POWER RE-SEARCH: The Senate has passed an amendment sponsored by Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho, to the Energy Policy Modernization Act. The amendment would authorize establishing several facilities and programs for advanced research into new nuclear power reactor designs.

Crapo said increasing government backing for nuclear power development will help the U.S. “increase and maintain and keep its lead” in the global nuclear industry.

The vote was 87 yeas to 4 nays. Both Collins and King were among the yeas.

Senate vote 3
STUDYING IMPACTS OF CRUDE OIL EXPORTS: The Senate has passed an amendment sponsored by Sen. Edward Markey, D-Massachusetts, to the Energy Policy Modernization Act. The amendment would require the Government Accountability Office to annually, for the next three years, re-

port to Congress on the effects that U.S. crude oil exports are having on consumers, refineries, builders of oil tankers, and oil production.

Markey said exports could cut revenue for U.S. refiners by up to \$200 billion in the next decade, increase costs for consumers, and derail a boom in building tankers for shipping oil between U.S. ports.

The vote was 62 yeas to 29 nays. Both Collins and King were among the yeas.

Senate vote 4
ADVANCED ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES: The Senate has passed an amendment sponsored by Sen. Brian Schatz, D-Hawaii, to the Energy Policy Modernization Act. The amendment would increase funding for the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy by \$113 million from fiscal 2016 through fiscal 2020.

Schatz said the increase in government backing for work to develop an array of ground-breaking clean energy technologies promised to help the U.S. maintain its global economic dominance in the energy sector, improving the safety and reliability of the power grid while cutting energy costs.

The vote was 55 yeas to 37 nays. Both Collins and King were among the yeas.

Nissan recalling 870,000 cars in US, Canada

BY DAVID SHEPARDSON
REUTERS

Nissan Motor Co. said Friday it will recall about 870,000 Nissan cars in the United States and Canada for potentially faulty hood latches, marking the third time since 2014 the automaker has recalled vehicles to address the problem.

The Japanese automaker said it is recalling the 2013-2015 Nissan Altima, because its secondary hood


latch may bind on account of improperly applied rust coating and remain in the unlatched position when the hood is closed. That could result in the hood unexpectedly opening while driving.

The U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which said on Friday that 846,000 vehicles in the United States would be recalled, has received complaints from owners of Altimas whose hoods unexpect-

edly opened. Altimas accounted for about 25 percent of Nissan’s U.S. brand sales last year.

Transport Canada in an online posting on Friday cited the same problem, saying that 24,895 vehicles were affected.


Nissan said the previous recall fixes may not have been performed consistently to remove the safety risk. Dealers will replace the hood latch with a new one starting next month.



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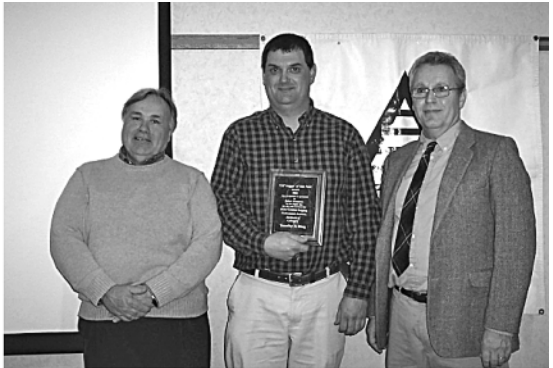
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A Cut Above

2015 Logger of the Year Award Winners


Conventional Operator Category	Supervisor/Contractor Category	Mechanical Operator Category
 <p>Roger Avery Milford, Maine</p>	 <p>Anthony Madden, A.W. Madden Milford, Maine</p>	 <p>Timothy Wing Standish, Maine</p>

Pictured above, Michael St. Peter, CLP Program Manager (R) and Kenny Fergusson, Huber Resources (L) Present the 2015 Logger of the Year Award to each winner

Recognition in this business doesn’t just fall from the trees. **You have to earn it.** And these Certified Logging Professionals have earned the best kind - the kind that comes from their peers. As recipients of the seventeenth annual Logger of the Year Awards, they were each nominated by a co-worker who admired their skill, safety, and focus on the health of our forest.


The awards, sponsored by Huber Resources Corporation, are presented each year, along with a check for \$1,000, to a logging operator in each of the three categories. They are given to loggers who have demonstrated the highest level of professionalism throughout their career.

The Certified Logging Professional program provides training and certification for Maine loggers. Our mission is to provide the best possible training and education for people involved in the Maine logging industry. Our program will evolve to reflect changes in the forest products industry and will provide a means for continual professional growth.



Maine TREE Foundation

CLP is a program of the Maine TREE Foundation,
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