



STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SPEAKER'S OFFICE
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RACHEL TALBOT ROSS
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

April 11, 2024

Representative Lemelin,

During the evening debate on LD 227, *An Act Regarding Health Care in the State*, your remarks were extremely offensive and intentionally harmful to the victims and the families of the Lewiston tragedy, the House of Representatives, and the People of Maine. The behavior and your language violated the order of decorum of the House Chamber. Your actions are deserving of the most serious consequences this body can deliver.

As Speaker of the House, it is my obligation to ensure the rules of the House of Representatives, adopted pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, are followed to assist in carrying out our shared responsibilities.

Pursuant to House Rule 201, Section D, you have been ruled out of order and I will enforce the observance of decorum in the House Chamber. Under House Rule 401, Section 11, it is the ruling of the Chair that you are found to be in Breach of the rules. When any member is guilty of a breach of any of the rules and orders of the House and the House has determined that the member has violated a rule or order, that member may not be allowed to vote or speak, unless by way of excuse for the breach, until the member has made satisfaction.

To make satisfaction, you must issue a formal apology, which you will read on the House floor. You must accept sole and full responsibility for the incident and publicly apologize to your constituents, the victims and families of the Lewiston tragedy, the greater Lewiston community, the House of Representatives, and the People of Maine. This apology must also be delivered in writing to myself, Majority Leader Terry, Assistant Majority Leader Cloutier, Republican Minority Leader Faulkingham, and Assistant Republican Minority Leader Arata prior to its delivery.

In addition, your actions and language will be subject to an official condemnation. The House of Representatives will be voting on a censure order this morning as soon as it is readily available from the Revisors office.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rachel Talbot Ross". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rachel" being the most prominent.

Rachel Talbot Ross
Speaker of the House