
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024.

[16]

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, February 15, 2024.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Ms. Giannino of Revere in the Chair (having been appointed by the Speaker, under authority conferred by Rule 5, to perform the duties of the Chair).

At the request of the Chair (Ms. Giannino), the members, guests and employees joined with her in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of
allegiance.

Message from the Governor — Bill Returned with Recommendation of Amendment.

A message from Her Excellency the Governor returning with recommendation of amendment the engrossed Bill relative to authorizing the town of Holliston to continue the employment of Mark Dellicker as Deputy Fire Chief [see House, No. 3998] (for message, see House, No. 4386), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Thursday, February 8.

Holliston,—
Mark Dellicker.

The message was read; and, under the provisions of Article LVI of the Amendments to the Constitution, the bill was thereupon “before the General Court and subject to amendment and re-enactment”.

Pending the question on adoption of the amendment recommended by the Governor, the bill was referred, on motion of Mr. Walsh of Peabody, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Order.

The following order was referred, under Joint Rule 30, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently:

Order (filed by Ms. Fiola of Fall River) relative to extending until Thursday, February 29, 2024 the time within which the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government is authorized to report on a current Senate document (House, No. 4401).

Municipalities
and Regional
Government,—
extension of time
for reporting.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules, reported that the order ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Philips of Sharon, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Communications.

Communications

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see Section 35VV of Chapter 10 of the General Laws) submitting the annual status report for the Social Innovation Financing Trust Fund (Pay-for-Success Contracts);

Social
Innovation
Financing Fund.

From the Office of the Norfolk County District Attorney (see Section 32(e) of Chapter 12 of the General Laws) submitting a statistical report on juvenile justice and drug diversion activities in Norfolk County for calendar year 2023;

Norfolk
County,—
drugs, etc.

From the Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (see Section 8(g) of Chapter 161B of the General Laws) submitting financial statements, supplementary information, and a schedule of expenditures of federal awards and OMB uniform guidance auditors' reports for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023;

Cape Cod
Regional
Transit
Authority.

From the Nantucket Regional Transit Authority (see Section 8(g) of Chapter 161B of the General Laws) submitting financial statements, supplementary information, and a schedule of expenditures of federal awards and OMB uniform guidance auditors' reports for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 and 2022;

Nantucket
Regional
Transit
Authority.

From the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (see item 0330-0613 of Section 2 of Chapter 126 of the Acts of 2022) submitting the Department of Correction and Parole Board Collaboration report for fiscal year 2023;

Parole Board
Collaboration.

From the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (see item 8900-0125 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting the Sex Offender Registry Board (SORB) annual report for fiscal year 2023; and

Sex Offender
Registry Board.

From the Insurance Fraud Bureau (see Section 1(k) of Chapter 338 of the Acts of 1990, as most recently amended by Section 5 of Chapter 279 of the Acts of 2002) submitting a semi-annual report containing its 2023 IFB semi-annual report [copies of said report had been forwarded to the committees on Financial Services and Labor and Workforce Development, by the bureau];

Insurance
Fraud Bureau.

Severally were placed on file.

Report.

A report of the District Attorney of Worcester County (under Section 99 of Chapter 272 of the General Laws) submitting a report relative to wiretaps for calendar year 2023, was placed on file.

Worcester
District
Attorney,—
wiretaps.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Gordon of Bedford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4403) of Kenneth I. Gordon (by vote of the town) relative to town meeting vacancies in the town of Burlington. To the committee on Election Laws.

Burlington,—
vacancies.

By Representative Whipps of Athol and Senator Comerford, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4404) of Susannah M. Whipps and Joanne M. Comerford (by vote of the town) relative to increasing the town of Northfield Board of Sewer Commissioners from three to five members. To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Northfield,—
sewer
commissioners.

By Representative Gordon of Bedford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4405) of Kenneth I. Gordon (by vote of the town) that the town of Burlington be authorized to appoint Ryan DeCoste as a firefighter in said town, notwithstanding the maximum age requirement. To the committee on Public Service.

Burlington,—
Ryan DeCoste.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Cusack of Braintree, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Mark J. Cusack relative to licensing of earned wage access services providers by the Division of Banks.	Division of Banks,— wage services.
By Representatives DuBois of Brockton and Mendes of Brockton, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Michelle M. DuBois and Rita A. Mendes (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the police cadet program in the city of Brockton.	Brockton,— police cadet program.
By Representative Gordon of Bedford and Senator Brady, a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Kenneth I. Gordon and Michael D. Brady for legislation to modernize civil service laws to assist in the recruiting and hiring of municipal public safety employees.	Civil service,— public safety employees.
By Representative LaNatra of Kingston, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Kathleen R. LaNatra relative to the transfer of real property from the Silver Lake regional school district to the town of Kingston.	Kingston,— land.
By Representative Peake of Provincetown and Senator Cyr, a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Sarah K. Peake and Julian Cyr that the roundabout at the intersection of state highways routes 28 and 39 in the town of Orleans shall be designated in honor of Dorofei Klimshuk.	Orleans,— Klimshuk roundabout.
By Representative Peake of Provincetown, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Sarah K. Peake and Julian Cyr that a certain bridge on state highway Route 28 in the town of Harwich be designated as the United States Army Private First Class Joseph C. Blute memorial bridge.	Harwich,— Blute bridge.
By Representative Pignatelli of Lenox and Senator Mark, a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Smitty Pignatelli and Paul W. Mark for legislation to establish the quarterly allocation of Chapter 90 funds for cities and towns.	Chapter 90 funds,— allocations.
Severally, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.	

Papers from the Senate.

The House Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Dedham as the Honorable Deborah R. Cochran memorial bridge (House, No. 3382), came from the Senate, passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment, inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble: “Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to designate forthwith a bridge in the town of Dedham, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.”.	Dedham,— Cochran bridge.
The amendment was referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.	
The House Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Lexington as the Henry N. “Hank” Manz bridge (House, No. 4160) (its title having been changed by the Senate committee on Bills in the Third Reading), came from the Senate, passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with amendments striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document number 2641; and inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble: “Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to designate forthwith a bridge in the town of Lexington, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.”.	Lexington,— Manz bridge.

The amendments were referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

A Bill changing the name of the board of selectmen of the town of Charlton to select board (Senate, No. 2487) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received], passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Charlton,—
select board.

A petition of Patrick M. O'Connor for legislation to establish statewide food truck regulations, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Public Health.

Food trucks,—
regulation.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2670) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Public Health.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the following bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

The Senate Bill validating the results of the annual election held in the town of Whitman on May 20, 2023 (Senate, No. 2516) [Local Approval Received]; and House bills

Whitman,—
town election.

To protect innovation and entrepreneurship in the Commonwealth (House, No. 277);

Patent
infringement.

Eliminating the residency requirement for fortune tellers (House, No. 3893); and

Fortune tellers.
Worthington,—
health insurance.

Relative to the provision of health insurance for eligible employees and retirees in the town of Worthington (House, No. 4231) [Local Approval Received];

Under suspension of Rule 7A, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the bills severally were read a second time forthwith; and they were ordered to a third reading.

By Mr. Livingstone of Boston, for the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, on Senate, No. 72 and House, No. 146, a Bill ensuring access to behavioral health services for children involved with state agencies (House, No. 146) [Representative Sullivan-Almeida of Abington dissenting].

Children,—
behavioral
health services.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to enhance hospital care for those with autism and intellectual and developmental disabilities (House, No. 172).

Developmental
disabilities.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 1112 and House, No. 211, a Bill establishing a bill of rights for individuals experiencing homelessness (House, No. 211).

Bill of rights,—
homelessness.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 123 and House, No. 213, a Bill to increase the safety of individuals with disabilities relying on life-support equipment (House, No. 213).

Life-support
equipment.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, Nos. 64 and 129 and House, Nos. 166 and 173, a Bill relative to substance exposed newborns (House, No. 4392) [Representatives Berthiaume of Spencer and Sullivan-Almeida of Abington dissenting].

Substance
exposed
newborns.

Severally referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

By Mr. Livingstone of Boston, for the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, on Senate, No. 100 and House, No. 222, a Bill establishing a special commission to study women and homelessness (House, No. 222).

Women and homelessness,— study.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing a special commission on two-generation approaches to childhood education (House, No. 223).

Childhood education,— study.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 152, a Bill to amend the structure of the Commission of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (House, No. 4390).

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren.

Severally read; and referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

By Mr. Livingstone of Boston, for the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, on a petition, a Bill relative to the placement of children in foster care (House, No. 130).

Foster care,— placement.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 76 and House, No. 135, a Bill establishing basic needs assistance for Massachusetts immigrant residents (House, No. 135) [Representatives Berthiaume of Spencer and Sullivan-Almeida of Abington dissenting].

Immigrant residents,— assistance.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to lift kids out of deep poverty (House, No. 144) [Representatives Berthiaume of Spencer and Sullivan-Almeida of Abington dissenting].

Dependent children,— benefits.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing a livable home modification grant program (House, No. 148).

Home modifications.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 104 and House, No. 149, a Bill establishing a diaper benefits pilot program (House, No. 149).

Diaper benefits pilot program.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to education or training activities for purposes of meeting the Department of Transitional Assistance work requirement (House, No. 169).

Assistance,— work requirements.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the family medical history of adopted children (House, No. 178).

Adopted children.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to financial literacy (House, No. 184).

Financial literacy.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to foster care recruitment (House, No. 186).

Foster care recruitment.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 117 and House, No. 187, a Bill to protect safety net access for Massachusetts residents (House, No. 187).

Safety net access.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the prevention of child sexual abuse in schools and youth organizations (House, No. 194).

Child abuse,— prevention.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 90 and House, No. 198, a Bill relative to animal welfare and DCF regulations (House, No. 198).

Animal welfare.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 107 and House, No. 206, a Bill relative to cueing and supervision in the PCA program (House, No. 206).

Personal care attendant program.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the use of electronic benefit transfer cards with regard to online grocery delivery services (House, No. 210).

Electronic benefit transfer cards.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill preventing funds deposited in children's savings accounts from counting against cash assistance benefits (House, No. 221).

Cash assistance benefits.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 147, a Bill providing immediate child care assistance to homeless families (House, No. 4389) [Representatives Berthiaume of Spencer and Sullivan-Almeida of Abington dissenting].

Homeless families,— child care.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 92 and House, No. 162, a Bill relative to child fatality review (House, No. 4391).

Child fatality review.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 96 and House, Nos. 141 and 174, a Bill updating terminology and investigative practices related to the protection of persons with disabilities (House, No. 4393).

Protection of persons with disabilities.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 94 and House, No. 192, a Bill allowing certain minors to consent to supportive services (House, No. 4394).

Supportive services,— minors.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 203, a Bill protecting vulnerable adults from financial exploitation (House, No. 4395).

Financial exploitation.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 212, a Bill requiring universal changing stations in public buildings (House, No. 4397).

Changing stations.

By Mr. Straus of Mattapoisett, for the committee on Transportation, on a petition, a Bill [sic] a parcel of land in Winchester (House, No. 4043).

Winchester,— land.

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Livingstone of Boston, for the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, on Senate, No. 95 and House, No. 160, a Bill relative to individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities (House, No. 4396).

Individuals with disabilities.

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for admission into the police academy for Luigi D'Addieco (House, No. 4071) [Local Approval Received].

Boston,— Luigi D'Addieco.

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Engrossed Bills.

The engrossed Bill designating a certain bridge in the city of Leominster as the Captain Ross A. Reynolds memorial bridge (see House, No. 3334, amended) (which originated in the House), in respect to which the Senate had concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill enacted.

The engrossed Bill authorizing Brandon Fredette to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (see House, No. 4147) (which originated in the House), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Id.

Orders of the Day.

Senate bills

Establishing a sick leave bank for Danielle Marie Cruz, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 2537); and

Third reading bills.

To provide for the continuance of the town of Hingham's senior means-tested property tax exemption (Senate, No. 2553);

Severally reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

The House Bill establishing building trades recovery week (House, No. 3058), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Third reading bill.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Sharon to change the use of a certain parcel of land used for outdoor recreational purposes to a use for general municipal purposes (House, No. 4170) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading), reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Sharon,—land.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it in section 1, in lines 15 and 16, by striking out the words "or the conservation commission".

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 4170, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Order.

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Tuesday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next sitting.

At eleven minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (Ms. Giannino of Revere being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Tuesday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.