
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2024.

[19]

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Monday, February 26, 2024.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Garballey of Arlington 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 (Mr. Garballey), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of
allegiance.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Speaker Mariano of Quincy and other members of the House) recognizing and congratulating the National Conference of State Legislatures on its fiftieth anniversary in 2025, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

NCSL
anniversary.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Order.

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

Order (filed by Mr. Straus of Mattapoissett) relative to extending until Thursday, May 23, 2024 the time within which the committee on Transportation is authorized to report on a current House document (House, No. 4435).

Transportation
committee,—
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. Wong of Saugus, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Communications.

Communications

From the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (see item 1790-0100 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its annual report on data collection and reporting in the criminal justice system;

Criminal
justice,—
data collection.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see item 4000-0005 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its report entitled: Safe and Successful Youth Initiative;

Safe and
Successful
Youth Initiative.

From the Department of Mental Health (see item 5011-0100 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting a report on an investigation into the utility and feasibility of converting a cruise ship into a mental health and rehabilitation facility;

Cruise ship
conversion.

From the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (see item 8100-1004 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting the third quarterly report of the Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab for calendar year 2023; and

State Police
Crime Lab.

From the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (see item 8100-1004 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting the fourth quarterly report of the Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab for calendar year 2023; Severally were placed on file.

Id.

Report.

A report of the Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance (under item 7004-0104 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting a progress report entitled: Home and Healthy for Good – A solution-driven permanent supportive housing model from July 1, 2023-February 29, 2024, was placed on file.

Supportive housing model progress.

Papers from the Senate.

The House Bill modernizing firearm law (House, No. 4139), 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 numbered 2584; and striking out the title and inserting in place there of the following title: “An Act to sensibly address firearm violence through effective reform”.

Firearms laws.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the amendments were considered forthwith. The House then non-concurred with the Senate in its amendments; and, on motion of Mr. Day of Stoneham, asked for a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches. Representatives Day, González of Springfield and McKenna of Webster were appointed the committee on the part of the House. Sent to the Senate to be joined.

Committee of conference.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Bernardston to continue the employment of fire chief Peter Shedd (House, No. 4064), came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place there of the text contained in Senate document numbered 2671. The amendment was referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Bernardston,— Peter Shedd.

A Bill authorizing the continued employment of Jerry Shampang as an environmental police officer in the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (Senate, No. 2691) (on Senate bill No. 2464), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Jerry Shampang,— employment.

A petition (accompanied by bill) of Sal N. DiDomenico for legislation relative to the development of a professional soccer stadium and a waterfront park on part of the Mystic River designated port area, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

Mystic River port area,— soccer stadium.

The House concurred with the Senate in suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2692) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

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 authorizing the town of Norwell to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (Senate, No. 1921) [Local Approval Received]; and

House bills

Relative to Rosa Parks Day (House, No. 3075);

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]; and

Modernizing birth certificates (House, No. 4292);

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

Norwell,—
property
taxes.

Rosa Parks Day.
Boston,—
Luigi
D’Addieco.

Birth
certificates.

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that the Bill strengthening the Commonwealth’s farms and food systems (House, No. 4387), ought to pass. Referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Farms and
food systems.

By Mr. Driscoll of Milton, for the committee on Emergency Preparedness and Management, on a petition, a Bill relative to emergency response and preparedness in the event of a surge in pediatric or adult hospitalizations (House, No. 733). Referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

Hospitals,—
surge.

By Mr. Driscoll of Milton, for the committee on Emergency Preparedness and Management, on a petition, a Resolve providing for a special commission on the field of emergency management (House, No. 740, changed in section 2, in lines 23 to 26, inclusive, by striking out the following: “21 members: 6 members of the general court, the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on public safety and homeland security, or the chairs’ designees; the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on Covid-19 and” and inserting in place thereof the following: “17 members: 4 members of the general court, the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on”; in lines 33 and 34, by striking out the text contained in those lines; and in line 40 by inserting after the following: “(IAEM)” the following: “Region 1”). Read; and referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Emergency
management
commission.

By Ms. Garlick of Needham, for the committee on Education, on House, No. 427, a Bill relative to air quality in public schools (House, No. 4415).

Schools,—
air quality.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 437, a Bill relative to the training, assessment, and assignment of qualified school interpreters in educational settings (House, No. 4416).

Schools,—
interpreters.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 439, 484, 545, 573, 594, 595, 598 and 608, a Bill relative to charter schools (House, No. 4417).

Charter
schools.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 443, a Bill requiring food allergen certification in vocational schools (House, No. 4418).

Schools,—
food allergens.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 470, 491, 496, 504, 576 and 3887, a Bill implementing elementary and secondary interdisciplinary climate literacy education across the Commonwealth (House, No. 4419).

Climate
literacy.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 490, 507, 539, 552 and 556, a Bill relative to emergency stock supply of epinephrine in schools (House, No. 4420).

Schools,—
epinephrine.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 530, a Bill establishing an education-to-career data center (House, No. 4421).	Education-to-career data.
By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 570, 584, 3570 and 3756, a Bill relative to school transportation (House, No. 4422).	School transportation.
By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 579, a Bill to promote high-quality early literacy instruction and improve student outcomes (House, No. 4423).	Early literacy.
By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 601, a Bill relative to food literacy (House, No. 4424).	Food literacy.
By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 3567, a Bill to provide a sustainable future for rural schools (House, No. 4425).	Rural schools.
By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Election Laws, on a petition, a Bill enforcing accessibility for voters with disabilities (House, No. 701).	Voters with disabilities.
By Mr. Driscoll of Milton, for the committee on Emergency Preparedness and Management, on a petition, a Bill to strengthen the Commonwealth's strategic preparedness stockpiles (House, No. 732).	Strategic preparedness stockpiles.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to an emergency preparedness instructional awareness program (House, No. 735).	Emergencies,—instructions.
Severally read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.	
By Mr. Donahue of Worcester, for the committee on Cannabis Policy, on a petition, a Bill relative to seeds (House, No. 104).	Cannabis seeds.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to establishing a minimum age of entry for cannabis (House, No. 112).	Cannabis,—minimum age.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to research by independent testing laboratories (House, No. 116).	Independent laboratories.
By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 114, a Bill prohibiting employment discrimination based on legal use of cannabis (House, No. 4426).	Cannabis,—employment discrimination.
By Ms. Garlick of Needham, for the committee on Education, on a petition, a Bill providing for alternatives to fines for failure to send (House, No. 476).	Schools,—fines.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill requiring instruction in CPR and the use of defibrillators for high school graduation (House, No. 492).	CPR and defibrillators.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill updating the accuracy of membership to the state advisory council on early education and care (House, No. 551).	State advisory council.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill concerning disposable menstrual products in schools (House, No. 563).	Menstrual products.
By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 447, a Bill relative to supporting student participation in 4-H programs (House, No. 4427).	4-H programs.
By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 466, a Bill to promote the inclusion of American Sign Language in the Commonwealth's public schools (House, No. 4428).	American Sign Language.
By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Election Laws, on a petition, a Bill relative to gender neutral language in elections law (House, No. 660).	Gender neutral language.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill clarifying the role of Governor's Councillor on the ballot (House, No. 665).	Governor's Councillors.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill expanding ballot access for regional school district votes (House, No. 690).	Regional school district votes.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to youth voter engagement (House, No. 705).	Youth voter engagement.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill validating a certain vote taken by the city of Attleboro in Ch.228 of the Acts of 2022 (House, No. 4243) [Local Approval Received].

Attleboro,—
validate vote.

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, on House, No. 1107, a Bill relative to fairness in debt collection (House, No. 4429).

Debt
collection.

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

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Stoneham as the State Trooper Tamar A. Bucci memorial bridge (see House, No. 4123, amended), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was considered, the question being on adopting the emergency preamble.

Stoneham,—
Bucci bridge.

A separate vote was taken, as required by the provisions of Article XLVIII (as amended by Article LXVII) of the Amendments to the Constitution; and the preamble was adopted, by a vote of 3 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Subsequently, the Senate having concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, the bill (which originated in the House) was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill
enacted.

Engrossed Bills.

The engrossed Bill designating a certain bridge in the towns of Belchertown and Ware as the Kenneth J. Iwasinski memorial bridge (see House, No. 4008, 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 exempting certain positions in the city of Northampton from the civil service law (see House, No. 3719) (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.

The Senate amendment of the House Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Dedham as the Honorable Deborah R. Cochran memorial bridge (House, No. 3382), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was adopted, in concurrence.

Dedham,—
Cochran
bridge.

The Senate Bill changing the name of the board of selectmen of the town of Rockport to the select board (Senate, No. 2459), 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, in concurrence.

Third
reading
bill.

The House Bill relative to the provision of health insurance for eligible employees and retirees in the town of Worthington (House, No. 4231), 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.

Id.

Order.

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

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

Next
sitting.

At twenty-five minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. McKenna of Webster (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Wednesday at eleven o'clock A.M.