

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023.

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Monday, December 18, 2023.

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.

Silent Tribute.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Garballey) declared a brief recess, and at the request of Representative Decker of Cambridge, the members, guests and employees stood for a moment of silent tribute in honor of National Grid technician and Cambridge resident, Roderick "Kito" Jackson.

Roderick
"Kito"
Jackson.

Roderick died while performing public service utility work on Wednesday, December 6th, 2023. He was a technician on National Grid's gas operations team and was a highly respected, hard-working, and selfless team member who was always willing to lend a hand, roll up his sleeves, and help a colleague. Roderick showed up to work every day with a smile, and made sure to say hello to everyone, every morning. Roderick was a standout student-athlete at Cambridge Rindge and Latin, a devoted family member, and a beloved member of the Cambridge community. We send our deepest condolences to the family for their profound loss.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representative Owens of Watertown) congratulating Nathaniel McCullagh on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of the Boy Scouts of America, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Nathaniel
McCullagh.

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.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Blais of Deerfield and Senator Mark, a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Natalie M. Blais and Paul W. Mark for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Cheryl Thouin, an employee of the Hampshire County Sheriff's Office.

Cheryl
Thouin,—
sick leave.

By Representative Donato of Medford, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Paul J. Donato relative to health insurance reimbursements for services provided by advanced practice registered nurses.

Nurses,—
reimbursements.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

By Representative Sena of Acton, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Danillo A. Sena relative to the licensing of limited registration dentists. Severally, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Dentists,—
licensing.

Papers from the Senate.

Petitions severally were referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, as follows:

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2528) of Julian Cyr for legislation relative to free expression. To the committee on Education.

Students,—
free expression.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2530) of Michael D. Brady for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for William J. Torres, an employee of the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department. To the committee on Public Service.

William
Torres,—
sick leave.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2529) of Michael J. Barrett for legislation to reduce the financial penalty imposed on customers who shift to heat pumps, electric appliances, and electric vehicles; and

Electrification,—
financial
penalties.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2531) of Michael J. Barrett for legislation to advance grid enhancement technologies;

Electric grid
technologies.

Severally to the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules and the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the following petitions:

Petition (accompanied by bill) of John Francis Moran relative to the right of students to freedom of expression in public schools. To the committee on Education.

Students,—
rights.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Natalie M. Higgins and others relative to essential services in hospitals. To the committee on Public Health.

Hospitals,—
essential services.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Jeffrey N. Roy relative to electric grid enhancement technologies. To the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

Electric grid
technologies.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. McKenna of Webster, the reports were considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 then was suspended, in each instance. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

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

Extending the date for issuance of certain licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises in Hanover (House, No. 4009) [Local Approval Received];

Hanover,—
liquor
licenses.

Authorizing the licensing authority of the town of Natick to establish minimum seating capacity for granting licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages or wine and malt beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4187) [Local Approval Received];

Natick,—
liquor
licenses.

Granting an additional liquor license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises in the town of Chatham (House, No. 4189) [Local Approval Received];

Chatham,—
liquor
license.

Authorizing the town of Weston to grant an additional license for the sale of wines at a food store (House, No. 4190) [Local Approval Received];

Weston,—
liquor license.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Authorizing the city of Greenfield to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4191) [Local Approval Received];

Greenfield,—
liquor
license.

Authorizing the town of Williamstown to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4192) [Local Approval Received]; and

Williamstown,—
liquor
license.

Creating a sick leave bank for Kelly Wheeler, an employee of the Department of Developmental Services (House, No. 4213);

Kelly Wheeler,—
sick leave.

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.

By Mr. Stanley of Waltham, for the committee on Elder Affairs, on Senate, No. 370 and House, No. 630, a Bill relative to intensive case management for clinically complex older adults (House, No. 630).

Case
management,—
older adults.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 386 and House, No. 635, a Bill relative to disclosing continuing care retirement community entrance fees (House, No. 635).

Retirement
communities.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 380 and House, No. 649, a Bill to improve Massachusetts home care (House, No. 649, changed in section 1, in line 9, by inserting after the word “name” the words “or any entity that procures, offers, refers, provides or attempts to provide an independent home care worker or home care aide who provides home care services to clients or home care seekers”).

Home care.

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

By Mr. Stanley of Waltham, for the committee on Elder Affairs, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing a commission to study the financial abuse of elders (House, No. 632). Read; and referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Elder financial
abuse,—
commission.

By Mr. Stanley of Waltham, for the committee on Elder Affairs, on a petition, a Bill increasing the penalties for unfair and deceptive actions perpetrated against persons with disabilities and senior citizens (House, No. 613). Read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Deceptive
actions.

By Mr. Straus of Mattapoisett, for the committee on Transportation, on a petition, a Bill to increase safety on public ways (House, No. 3299).

Public ways,—
safety.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Falmouth as the Deputy John Robert Kotfila Jr. memorial bridge (House, No. 3466).

Falmouth,—
Kotfila bridge.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill designating Childs River Overpass Route 28 Falmouth for Marine Combat Veteran Kevin P. Quinn (House, No. 4044).

Falmouth,—
Quinn overpass.

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

Orders of the Day.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

The House Bill establishing attainable housing and Chatham elementary school special revenue accounts for the town of Chatham (House, No. 3971), 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 amending the act authorizing the town of Deerfield to construct and operate systems of sewers (House, No. 3841, reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Chatham,—
funds.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by substitution of a bill with the same title (House, No. 4220), which was read.

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted bill was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The House Bill amending the special act charter of the city of Northampton (House, No. 4080), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Northampton,—
charter.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by substitution of a bill with the same title (House, No. 4221), which was read.

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted bill 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 Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next sitting.

At thirteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. McKenna of Webster (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Thursday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.