
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, October 16, 2023.

Met at twenty-six minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Collins in the Chair) (having been appointed by the President, under authority conferred by Senate Rule 4, to perform the duties of the Chair).

The Chair (Mr. Collins), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of allegiance.

Distinguished Guests.

There being no objection, the Chair (Mr. Collins) handed the gavel to Mr. Tarr for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Tarr then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, Annika Amrhein, the President and founder of Y We Lead and Grace Chen, an underclassman representative of Y We Lead. Y We Lead is a Sharon High School organization of students dedicated to building leadership skills that are necessary to create positive change in the world and address the gap in women's representation in leadership. Last year, their most successful initiative was their Equal Pay Day Campaign that raised awareness about the gender pay gap and how gender equality benefits everyone. They were accompanied by Annika's father, Andrew Amrhein and were also guests of Senator Feeney. The Senate applauded their accomplishments and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Y We Lead.

Communication.

Communication from the Executive Office for Health and Human Services (pursuant to Section 2KKKKK of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting a copy of a report detailing all money transferred, credited or deposited into and from the Nonpublic Ambulance Service Reimbursement Trust Fund, as well as the reasons for any unspent funding and an analysis of the uniform assessment paid by nonpublic ambulance providers (received October 13, 2023),-- was placed on file.

EOHHS,-- ambulance TF report. SD2796

Reports.

The following reports were severally received and placed on file, to wit:

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to Sections 5, 20 and 21 of Chapter 111 of the General Laws) relative to inspection of Essex County Correctional Facility (received October 12, 2023);

DPH,-- facility inspection. SD2795

Report of the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (pursuant to Section 8(g) of Chapter 161B of the General Laws) submitting its financial statements and supplementary information for the year ended June 30, 2023 (received October 13, 2023);

BRTA,-- auditors' report. SD2797

Report of the Worcester Regional Transit Authority (pursuant to Section 8(g) of Chapter 161B of the General Laws) submitting its financial statements and supplementary information for the year ended June 30, 2023 (received October 13, 2023);

WRTA,-- auditors' report. SD2799

Report of the Department of Economic Research (pursuant to Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) submitting the September 2023 Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund report and annual outlook report (received October 13, 2023); and

DER,-- UI trust fund report. SD2800

Report of the Executive Office of the Trial Court (pursuant to Section 15(c) of Chapter

EOTC,-- rental

239 of the General Laws) submitting its report summarizing the filings, actions and dispositions of summary process cases relative to rental protections from January 2023 through September 2023 (received October 16, 2023).

protections report.
SD2801

Petitions.

Petitions were severally presented and referred as follows:

By Mr. Cyr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2467) of Julian Cyr and Dylan A. Fernandes (by vote of the town) for legislation to change the name and membership of the Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission [Local approval received];

NP&EDC,--
membership.

Under Senate Rule 20, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

By Mr. Cyr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2465) of Julian Cyr and Sarah K. Peake (by vote of the town) for legislation relative to the expansion of the residential tax exemption in the town of Provincetown [Local approval received]; and

Provincetown,-- tax
exemption.

By the same Senator, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2466) of Julian Cyr and Sarah K. Peake (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Provincetown to impose a 0.5% real estate transfer fee [Local approval received];

Provincetown,--
transfer fee.

**Severally, under Senate Rule 20, to the committee on Revenue.
Severally sent to the House for concurrence.**

Reports of a Committee.

By Mr. Oliveira, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on petition, a Bill amending the charter of the city of Everett (Senate, No. 1290) [Local approval received];

Everett,-- charter.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Nantucket to convey for roadway and any other purposes certain parcels of land within the roadway known as Ames Avenue, and shown as lots 35-38 (inclusive) in block 31 on land court plan no. 2408-m filed with the Nantucket registry district of the land court situated in the town of Nantucket held for conservation or recreational purposes to be conveyed for roadway and/or any purposes (Senate, No. 2417, changed in section 1 by striking out the first sentence) [Local approval received];

Nantucket,-- land
conveyance.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill changing the board of selectmen in the town of East Bridgewater to a select board (Senate, No. 2422) [Local approval received];

East Bridgewater,--
select board.

Severally read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.

Remarks of Senator Bruce E. Tarr.

The Chair (Mr. Collins) moved that the October 12, 2023 remarks of Senate Minority Leader, Bruce E. Tarr, relative to “Resolutions calling on the United States government to continue to stand with the people of Israel in their time of need, support the victims of the recent terrorist attack against the state of Israel and work towards the safe return of those who are being held hostage” be printed in the Senate Journal; and, under the provisions of Senate Rule 6A, the remarks were printed in the Journal of the Senate, as follows:

Remarks of Senator
Bruce E. Tarr.

I will say two things. It is our moral obligation to condemn terrorism when it arises anywhere on this planet. And number two, it is incumbent upon us to support the victims of that terrorism in any way that we can. I hope the resolutions are adopted.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4125) of Norman J. Orrall and Michael J. Rodrigues (by vote of the town) relative to establishing recall methods for elected officials in the town of Lakeville,-- **was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Election Laws.**

Lakeville,-- elected officials.

A Bill creating the appointed positions of town treasurer and tax collector in the town of Westwood (House, No. 3879,-- on petition) [Local approval received],-- **was read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.**

Westwood,-- town treasurer and tax collector.

A report of the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1934) of Alice Hanlon Peisch and Sally P. Kerans for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to employer-supported child care benefit, and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Education,-- **was considered forthwith, under Senate Rule 36, and accepted, in concurrence.**

Child care,-- benefits.

Engrossed Bill.

An engrossed Bill increasing the membership of the select board of the town of Lakeville (see House, No. 2093, amended) (which originated in the House), **having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be enacted and signed by the Acting President (Mr. Collins) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.**

Bill laid before the Governor.

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the House Bill relative to salary range transparency (House, No. 4109),-- ought to pass, with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 2468.

Salary range,-- transparency.

Order Adopted.

Mr. Rodrigues presented the following order, to wit:

Ordered, That notwithstanding Senate Rule 7 or any other rule to the contrary, the House Bill relative to salary range transparency (House, No. 4109) (the committee on Ways and Means having recommended that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 2468) shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for a second reading on Thursday, October 19, 2023 for immediate consideration.

Procedural order.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Tarr, and the order was considered forthwith and adopted.

The bill will be placed in the Orders of the Day for Thursday, October 19, 2023, for a second reading with the amendment pending.

Matters Taken Out of the Orders of the Day.

There being no objection, the following matters were taken out of the Orders of the Day and considered as follows.

The Senate Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Jason Barone-Cichocki, an employee of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (Senate, No. 2414),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed.**

Jason Barone-Cichocki,-- sick leave.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

The House Bill relative to Yarmouth tourism funding change (House, No. 3796),-- **was read a second time, ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to read as follows:- “An Act amending the Tourism Revenue Preservation Fund in the town of Yarmouth”.**

Yarmouth,-- tourism funding.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Jaer J. Martinez, an employee of the department of transitional assistance (House, No. 4110,-- on petition),-- was read.

Jaer J. Martinez,-- sick leave.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Tarr, and the bill was read a second time and ordered to a third reading.

Petitions were severally referred, in concurrence, as follows, to wit:

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4127) of Daniel Cahill (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Lynn be authorized to use certain park land in said town for school purposes;

Lynn,-- park land.

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4128) of James Arciero and others for legislation to authorize municipalities to provide residential exemptions to senior citizens;

Seniors,-- residential exemption.

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Revenue.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4129) of Marjorie C. Decker and Steven Owens that the commissioner of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance be authorized to convey a certain parcel of land in the city of Cambridge to said city for school and other municipal purposes;

Cambridge,-- land conveyance.

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tarr,--

Ordered, That, when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Thursday next at one o'clock P.M. in a full formal session with a calendar.

Time of meeting.

On motion of the same Senator, at twenty-six minutes before twelve o'clock noon, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at one o'clock P.M.