
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2023

[100]

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Wednesday, November 20, 2023.

Met at sixteen minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Rodrigues 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. Rodrigues), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of allegiance.

Communication.

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

Communication from the Department of Public Health relative to its plan of correction for the Bridgewater State Hospital inspection on October 18 and 19, 2023 (received November 17, 2023);

DPH,-- plan of correction.
SD2868

Communication from the Honorable Karen E. Spilka, President of the Senate, announcing the appointment of Senator Lydia Edwards (pursuant to Section 16W of Chapter 6A of the General Laws) to the Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Commission (received November 22, 2023); and

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Commission.

Communication from the Honorable Karen E. Spilka, President of the Senate, announcing the appointment of Pavel Payano (pursuant to Section 219 of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) to the Community Behavioral Health Promotion and Prevention Commission (received November 22, 2023).

Community Behavioral Health Promotion and Prevention Commission.

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 Western Massachusetts Women's Correctional Center (received November 20, 2023); and

DPH,-- facility inspection.
SD2867

Report of the Department of Early Education and Care (pursuant to Sections 3(g), 4, 5, 10 and 13(d) of Chapter 15D of the General Laws) submitting its 2022 annual report (received November 21, 2023).

DEEC,-- 2022 annual report.
SD2869

Reports of Committees.

By Ms. Jehlen, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on petition, a Bill relative to paid pregnancy loss leave (Senate, No. 1201);

Paid loss leave.

By Mr. Brady, for the committee on Public Service, on petition, a Bill relative to the timely and consistent payment of law enforcement personnel (Senate, No. 1705);

Police details,-- payment.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, 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. 2464);

Jerry Shampang,-- employment.

By Mr. Collins, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on petition, a Bill providing for access to baby-changing stations (Senate, No. 1984);

Baby-changing stations.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill addressing the racial wealth gap (Senate, No. 1999);

Racial wealth gap.

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By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to the 401(k) CORE plan (Senate, No. 2025);

401(k) CORE plan.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill authorizing project labor agreements (Senate, No. 2027);

Project labor agreements.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill establishing a moratorium on the procurement of structures or activities generating PFAS emissions (Senate, No. 2053); and

PFAS emissions,-- moratorium.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2445), a Bill relative to real property in Lowell (Senate, No. 2509);

Lowell,-- real property.

Severally read and, under Senate Rule 27, referred to the committee on Ways and Means

By Mr. Collins, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on petition, a Bill relative to removing the term hearing impaired from the general laws (Senate, No. 1983); and

Hearing impaired,-- term.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill creating the official shellfish of the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 2049);

Quahog,-- official shellfish.

Severally read and, under Senate Rule 26, referred to the committee on Rules.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4194) of Margaret R. Scarsdale and John J. Cronin (by vote of the town) relative to the charter in the town of Groton,-- **was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.**

Groton,-- charter.

Bills

Designating a certain overpass in the town of Stoneham as the State Trooper Tamar A. Bucci Memorial Bridge (House, No. 4123, amended,-- on House, No. 4107); and

Stoneham,-- State Trooper Bucci memorial bridge. Deerfield,-- town election.

Validating the results of the annual election held in the town of Deerfield on May 2, 2022 (printed in, House, No. 4157,-- being a message from Her Excellency the Governor);

Were severally read and, under Senate Rule 26, referred to the committee on Rules.

Engrossed Bills.

The following engrossed bills (all of which originated in the House), having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, were severally passed to be enacted and were signed by the Acting President (Mr. Rodrigues) and laid before the Governor for her approbation, to wit:

Increasing the membership of the board of health in the town of Reading (see House, No. 2072);

Bills laid before the Governor.

Changing the board of selectmen of the town of Avon to a select board (see House, No. 3746, changed and amended); and

Authorizing the city of Northampton to grant 7 additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (see House, No. 3952).

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 House Bill amending the charter of the town of Northborough (House, No. 3903),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Northborough,-- charter.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Conway to continue the employment of police officer Randall Williams (House, No. 2448),-- was read a third time.

Conway,-- Williams employment.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Mark presented an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 2513.

The amendment was adopted.

The bill, as amended, was then passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with the amendment.

Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4198) of Brian M. Ashe, Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr., and Jacob R. Oliveira relative to entrance fee refund provisions in continuing care agreements and written residency agreements,-- **was referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Elder Affairs.**

Continuing care agreements.

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Rodrigues) the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Sara Covello Massa.

Moment of silence.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. O'Connor,--

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

Time of meeting.

Adjournment in Memory of Sara Covello Massa.

The Senator from Essex and Middlesex, Mr. Finegold, moved that when the Senate adjourns today it do so in memory of Sara Covello Massa of Tewksbury.

Sara Covello Massa passed away peacefully on Friday, November 3rd, 2023 after a brief illness at the age of 102.

Born in the North End of Boston as the daughter of Sicilian immigrant parents in 1921, Sara spent most of her early life in the greater Boston area before moving to Tewksbury with her late husband, Joseph, and their three children, Joseph Jr, Joanne, and Lorraine.

Sara was an exceptional wife, mother, aunt, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She enjoyed playing bingo at the Tewksbury Senior Center, reading, traveling, and she loved to cook.

Survived by her 15 great-grandchildren plus numerous nieces and nephews, Sara will be remembered as the beloved matriarch of her family. Our thoughts go out to all of Sara's family, as well as the broader Tewksbury and Wilmington communities impacted by her loss.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Sara Covello Massa, at twenty-five minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. on motion of Mr. O'Connor the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

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