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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024.**

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# JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Monday, January 8, 2024.

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

Pledge of  
allegiance.

## *Communications.*

A communication from the Division of Energy Resources of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (under the provisions of Section 12 of Chapter 25A of the General Laws) submitting 225 CMR 25.00 – Participation in the Green Communities Program for Municipalities Served by Municipal Light Plants (House, No. 4239), was referred to the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Division  
of Energy  
Resources,—  
regulations.

### Communications

From the Cape and Islands District Attorney's Office (see Section 6 of Chapter 258B of the General Laws) submitting a report on the Victim Witness Assistance program; and

Victim Witness  
Assistance.

From the Department of Energy Resources (see Section 80(b) of Chapter 179 of the Acts of 2022) submitting a report and recommendations on the existing energy storage market in the Commonwealth and the potential role of mid-and long-duration energy storage technologies;

Energy  
storage.

Severally were placed on file.

## *Petition.*

Representative Mom of Lowell presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Rady Mom, Brendan P. Crighton and James B. Eldridge relative to instruction on the Cambodian and Vietnamese American refugee experience, the Cambodian genocide and the history and culture of the Hmong people; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Cambodian  
genocide,—  
school  
curriculum.

## *Papers from the Senate.*

### Bills

Facilitating better interactions between police officers and persons with autism spectrum disorder (Senate, No. 2542) (on Senate bill No. 2204); and

Autism,—  
police.

Relative to fentanyl test strips (Senate, No. 2543) (on Senate bill No. 2458);

Fentanyl.

Severally passed to be engrossed by the Senate, were read; and they were referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2545) of Patricia D. Jehlen, Christine P. Barber, Erika Uytterhoeven and Mike Connolly (with approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to authorize the city of Somerville to regulate rent in residential dwelling units, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Housing.

Somerville,—  
rent.

*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 Rules 12 and 9 be suspended on the petition of James Arciero that the town of Littleton be authorized to provide drinking water to the inhabitants of the town of Boxborough. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rules 12 and 9 were suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Littleton,—  
drinking  
water.

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 petition of Jeffrey Rosario Turco for legislation to authorize schools and students participating in certain athletic programs to seek arbitration to review athletic programs eligibility decisions. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Education. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Athletic  
programs,—  
arbitration.

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:

Authorizing the town of Nantucket to convey a certain parcel of land situated in the town of Nantucket held for park purposes to the Nantucket Conservation Foundation Inc. for open space, recreational, and conservation purposes (House, No. 4046) [Local Approval Received];

Nantucket,—  
land.

Authorizing the town of Nantucket to convey certain land situated in the town of Nantucket held for open space, recreational or conservation purposes to the Nantucket Islands Land Bank for the purposes pursuant to its legislation (House, No. 4077) [Local Approval Received]; and

Id.

Relative to the town of Lanesborough employee training (House, No. 4158) [Local Approval Received];

Lanesborough,—  
employee  
training.

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.

*Engrossed Bill.*

The engrossed Bill authorizing the city of Haverhill to appoint retired police officers as detail police officers (see House, No. 2677, amended) (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.

Bill  
enacted.

*Orders of the Day.*

The Senate amendment of the House Bill authorizing Matthew K. Sonnabend to purchase creditable service from the Barnstable county retirement board (House, No. 3643), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was adopted, in concurrence.

Matthew  
Sonnabend,—  
retirement.

The Senate Bill establishing a senior property tax deferral program in the city of Taunton (Senate, No. 2517), 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 authorizing the town of Chesterfield to continue the employment of reserve special police officer Greg Smith (House, No. 4195), 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.

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At twelve minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Muradian of Grafton (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Wednesday at eleven o'clock A.M.