
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023.

[25]

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, March 16, 2023.

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.

Silent Tribute.

During the session, Mrs. Lipper-Garabedian of Melrose took the Chair, and at her request, the members, guests and employees stood for a moment of silent tribute in respect to the memory of Scott Forbes, a United States Air Force Veteran and former President of the Melrose City Council, who died on Monday, March 6, 2023. Scott graduated from Melrose High School in 1992 and served in the military for 22 years with active-duty assignments in Afghanistan and Iraq. In 2013, Scott was elected to the Melrose Board of Alderman as the Ward 7 Alderman, following in the footsteps of his father and fellow veteran, Bill H. Forbes. Scott represented his Ward for three terms on the Board, renamed the City Council, including as President in his final year.

Scott
Forbes.

In January 2021, Scott was named interim executive director of Haverhill-based Veterans Northeast Outreach Center after volunteering with the organization for two years. In his role, Scott helped homeless and at-risk veterans receive the housing, education, benefits, and peer support they need and deserve. Scott's work with the VNEOC and his time as a volunteer in the community serve as shining examples of what it means to continue to serve one's nation after leaving the military.

Scott is survived by his mother Mary, children Abby and Jack, brother Billy, sister Julie, and countless family and friends who will miss deeply his good humor, his sense of service, and his commitment to doing good and helping others.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representative Cassidy of Brockton and other members of the House) commending the Admetech Foundation on recognizing the fourteenth annual Prostate Cancer Awareness Day on March 30, 2023, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Prostate Cancer
Awareness Day.

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

Papers from the Senate.

Petitions were referred, in concurrence, as follows:

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 468) of Julian Cyr and Dylan A. Fernandes (by vote of the town) for legislation to prohibit the application of fertilizer used in the town of Nantucket except for farming purposes. To the committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Nantucket,—
fertilizer.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2371) of Anne M. Gobi and Kimberly N. Ferguson (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Rutland to increase the membership of the board of selectmen from 3 members to 5 members. To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Rutland,—
selectmen.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2369) of John C. Velis (with approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation relative to the retirement of Greg Heath, a former firefighter of the city of Westfield; and

Westfield,—
Greg Heath.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2370) of Patricia D. Jehlen (with approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to authorize the city of Somerville to continue the employment of Charles J. Femino as acting Chief of Police;

Somerville,—
Charles
Femino.

Severally to the committee on Public Service.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2368) of Marc R. Pacheco, Carol A. Doherty, Patricia A. Haddad and Norman J. Orrall (with approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation relative to property tax deferral for seniors in the city of Taunton. To the committee on Revenue.

Taunton,—
senior tax
deferrals.

A petition of Edward J. Kennedy and Margaret R. Scarsdale for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Meredith Mingolelli-Cotter, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on the Judiciary.

Meredith
Mingolelli-
Cotter,—
sick leave.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2372) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on the Judiciary.

Order.

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

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

Next
sitting.

Representative Ferrante of Gloucester then moved that when the House adjourns today, it do so in respect to the memory of Anthony J. Verga, a member of the House from Gloucester from 1995 to 2008, inclusive; and the motion prevailed.

Accordingly, at twenty-six minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. McKenna of Webster (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.