
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024.

[33]

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, April 4, 2024.

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, Representative Khan of Newton took the Chair, at the request of Representatives Khan of Newton, Balsler of Newton and Lawn of Watertown, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute in respect to the memory of longtime Newton resident Kyoko "May" Takayanagi, who passed away on March 13, 2024, at the age of 99 years old.

Kyoko "May"
Takayanagi.

In her younger years, May was imprisoned with her family in a Japanese internment camp in Utah during World War II, leading her to dedicate her life to speaking out against bigotry in all its forms.

Ms. Takayanagi married Japanese-American architect, Tetsuo "Taka" Takayanagi, who passed away at 99 years old in 2019. The couple were founding benefactors of the Institute for Asian American Studies at the University of Massachusetts – Boston.

May volunteered with the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, worked as a bookkeeper for the American Friends Service Committee, and served as past president of the New England Japanese American Citizens League.

Together, Taka and May are survived by their three children, Tina Barnet, Charles, and Lisa Suman, as well as their four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Statement of Representative Rogers of Norwood.

A statement of Mr. Rogers of Norwood was spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call to the attention of the House the fact that I was unable to be present in the House Chamber for the sitting of Wednesday, April 3, due to an unavoidable conflict in my schedule. Had I been present for Yea and Nay Nos. 82, 83 and 84, I would have voted, in each instance, in the affirmative. My missing of roll calls that day was due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of
Mr. Rogers of
Norwood.

Distinguished Guest.

During the session, the Speaker took the Chair and introduced Alexander Yui, Ambassador to the United States from Taiwan, accompanied by his wife and

Ambassador
Alexander Yui
of Taiwan.

members of an official delegation representing the country of Taiwan. The Speaker then read from previously adopted Resolutions of the House recognizing the significance of the 45th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act. Ambassador Yui then addressed the House briefly.

Guests of the House.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Garballey of Arlington), declared a brief recess and introduced, seated in the House Chamber, a group of young leaders from the Community Leadership Institute of the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce. They were the guests of Representatives Kilcoyne of Clinton, Higgins of Leominster, Kushmerek of Fitchburg and Ferguson of Holden.

Community Leadership Institute.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Arriaga of Chicopee, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4533) of Shirley B. Arriaga and Jacob R. Oliveira (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the terms of the office of mayor in the city of Chicopee. To the committee on Election Laws.

Chicopee,—mayoral terms.

By Representative Chan of Quincy, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4534) of Tackey Chan, Bruce J. Ayers and John F. Keenan (with the approval of the mayor and the city council) relative to the retirement of Kevin Bythrow by the retirement board of the city of Quincy; and

Quincy,—Kevin Bythrow.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4535) of Tackey Chan, Bruce J. Ayers and John F. Keenan (with the approval of the mayor and the city council) that the city of Quincy be authorized to appoint retired firefighters as special firefighters in said city.

Quincy,—special firefighters.

Severally to the committee on Public Service.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Public Service, on House, Nos. 48, 49, 2429, 2430, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2454, 2457, 2459, 2460, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2477, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2484, 2485, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2503, 2509, 2510, 2513, 2514, 2517, 2519, 2521, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2538, 2542, 2544, 2545, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2559, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2566, 2568, 2570, 2572, 2576, 2580, 2582, 2584, 2587, 2591, 2593, 2596, 2597, 2599, 2600, 2602, 2603, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2613, 2614, 2617, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2623, 2624, 2629, 2632, 2636, 2639, 2641, 2642, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2651, 2655, 2656, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2663, 2664, 2666, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2676, 2684, 2685, 2686, 2687, 3640, 3647, 3649, 3650, 3718, 3793, 3794, 3851, 3857, 3892, 3898, 3925, 3987, 4060, 4069, 4095, 4247 and 4248, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Public Service to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to pensions, collective bargaining, spousal benefits and other public service issues (House, No. 4518) [Senator Fattman dissenting]. Referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Public employees' compensation,—study.

Subsequently, Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committees, reported asking to be discharged from further consideration of the order; and recommending that the same be referred to the House committee on Rules. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted.

Subsequently, Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, on the foregoing order, reported, in part, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3987) of Ruth B. Balsler, Cynthia Stone Creem and Kay Khan (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to retired fire fighters in the city of Newton,— and recommending that the same be recommitted to the committee on Public Service. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted.

Newton,—
retired fire
fighters.

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:

Relative to designating the Rumney Marsh as the Joseph T. James area of critical environmental concern (House, No. 913);

Prohibiting the practice of coal rolling (House, No. 1698);

Regarding municipal truck routes (House, No. 3279);

Protecting motorists and emergency personnel (House, No. 3370);

Relative to the fair housing ordinance of the city of Cambridge (House, No. 4234) [Local Approval Received];

Authorizing the city of Cambridge to increase the fines for failure to move parked vehicles during street cleaning in the city above the limits set forth in M.G.L. C. 90, §20A½ (House, No. 4264) [Local Approval Received]; and

Relative to insurance claims (House, No. 4307);

Under suspension of Rule 7A, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Owens of Watertown, the bills severally were read a second time forthwith; and they were ordered to a third reading.

Rumney
Marsh.

Exhaust soot.

Truck routes.

Speeding.

Cambridge,—
fair housing.

Cambridge,—
street cleaning
fines.

Insurance.

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, on a petition, a Bill assuring prompt access to health care (House, No. 1140).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to dual diagnosis treatment coverage (House, No. 1141).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to prohibit cost sharing for opioid antagonists (House, No. 1142).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to improve the health insurance prior authorization process (House, No. 1143).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to specialty medications and patient safety (House, No. 1144).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill removing barriers to behavioral health services (House, No. 1145).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing access to full spectrum addiction treatment services (House, No. 1146).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to prescription drug pricing (House, No. 1148).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to expand the doula workforce (House, No. 1154).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to enact pharmacy benefit manager duties (House, No. 1155).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to opioid use disorder treatment and rehabilitation coverage (House, No. 1156).

Health care,—
access.

Dual
diagnosis.

Opioids,—
cost sharing.

Prior
authorizations.

Specialty
medications.

Behavioral
health.

Addiction
treatment.

Prescription
drug pricing.

Doula
workforce.

Benefit
managers.

Opioid use
disorder.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to improve sickle cell care (House, No. 1161).

Sickle cell care.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to telehealth and digital equity for patients (House, No. 3585).

Patients,— equity.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to ensure access to prescription medications (House, No. 3587).

Prescription medications.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to PANDAS/PANS screening in medical/clinical settings (House, No. 3920).

PANDAS/PANS screening.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill expanding access to mental health services (House, No. 4058).

Mental health services.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to pharmacists as healthcare providers (House, No. 4066).

Pharmacists.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to improve outcomes for persons with limb loss and limb difference (House, No. 4096).

Limb loss and difference.

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

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, on a petition, a Bill addressing the racial wealth gap (House, No. 1157).

Racial wealth gap.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill protecting seniors and adults with disabilities from financial exploitation (House, No. 4124).

Financial exploitation.

By Mr. Roy of Franklin, for the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, on House, No. 3155, a Bill modernizing competitive energy supply (House, No. 4499).

Energy supply.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 3219 and 3852, a Bill supporting load aggregation programs in the Commonwealth (House, No. 4500).

Load aggregation.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 3187 and 3215, a Bill to expedite permitting for electric decarbonization infrastructure projects (House, No. 4501).

Electric decarbonization infrastructure.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 777, 3164, 3217, 3218 and 3691, a Bill to promote transportation electrification infrastructure (House, No. 4502).

Transportation electrification infrastructure.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, Nos. 2132 and 2168, and House, Nos. 3144, 3159, 3161, 3166, 3170, 3205, 3214, 3216, 3220, 3683, 3992 and 4222, a Bill relative to clean energy generation (House, No. 4503).

Clean energy generation.

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Orders of the Day.

The Senate amendment of the House Bill providing for recall elections in the town of Conway (House, No. 3575), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was adopted, in concurrence.

Conway,— recall elections.

The Senate amendment of the House Bill establishing the appointed positions of town treasurer and tax collector in the town of Westwood (House, No. 3879), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was adopted, in concurrence.

Westwood,— treasurer and collector.

The House Bill validating a certain vote taken by the city of Attleboro relative to the acceptance of certain ways (House, No. 4243) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading), reported by said committee 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.

Recess.

At two minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Ms. Gifford of Wareham (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at one minute before one o'clock P.M. the House was called to order with Mr. Garballey in the Chair.

Recess.

Paper from the Senate.

The following order, having been approved by the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, came from the Senate with the endorsement that it had been adopted by said branch, as follows:

Ordered, That, notwithstanding the provisions of Joint Rule 10, the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security be granted until April 8, 2024, within which time to make its final report on current Senate documents numbered 1476, 1477, 1478, 1479, 1481, 1482, 1483, 1486, 1487, 1488, 1490, 1491, 1492, 1493, 1494, 1495, 1496, 1497, 1498, 1499, 1500, 1501, 1502, 1503, 1504, 1505, 1506, 1507, 1508, 1509, 1510, 1511, 1512, 1513, 1514, 1515, 1516, 1517, 1518, 1519, 1520, 1521, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1525, 1526, 1527, 1528, 1529, 1530, 1531, 1532, 1533, 1534, 1535, 1536, 1538, 1539, 1540, 1541, 1542, 1543, 1544, 1545, 1546, 1547, 1548, 1549, 1550, 1551, 1552, 1553, 1554, 1555, 1556, 1557, 1558, 1559, 1560, 1561, 1562, 1563, 1564, 1565, 1566, 1567, 1568, 1569, 1570, 1571, 1572, 1573, 1574, 1575, 1576, 1577, 1578, 1579, 1580, 1581, 1582, 1583, 1584, 1585, 1586, 1587, 1588, 1589, 1590, 1591, 1592, 1593, 1594, 1595, 1596, 1597, 1599, 1600, 1601, 1602, 1603, 1604, 1605, 1606, 1607, 1608, 2514, and 2535, relative to public safety and homeland security matters.

Public Safety and Homeland Security committee,— extension of time for reporting.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Gifford of Wareham, the order (Senate, No. 2622) was considered forthwith; and it was adopted, in concurrence.

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.

At one minute after one o'clock P.M., on motion of Ms. Gifford of Wareham (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.