
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, April 27, 2023.

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.

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 Rule 12 be suspended on the following petitions

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Aaron Michlewitz for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Sarah Kolb, an employee of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services; and

Sarah Kolb,—
sick leave.

Joint petition (accompanied by bill) of John J. Mahoney and Robyn K. Kennedy for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Michael Grant, an employee of the Department of Correction;

Michael
Grant,—
sick leave.

Severally to the committee on Public Service.

Under suspension of the rule, on motion of Mr. Owens of Watertown, the reports were considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended, in each instance. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the Senate Bill establishing a process for determining the order of candidates' names on the town of Marblehead's town election ballots (Senate, No. 411) [Local Approval Received], be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Marblehead,—
ballots.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

Reports of Committees on Proposals Legislative Amendments to the Constitution.

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Election Laws, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, Senate, No. 8) of Liz Miranda, Adam Gomez and Lindsay N. Sabadosa for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to voting rights,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see Senate, No. 8), ought to pass.

Voting
rights,—
felons.

By the same member, for the same committee, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 26) of Erika Uytterhoeven and others for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to voting rights of certain persons incarcerated in correctional facilities due to felony convictions,— reported, in accordance with a

Id.

provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 26), ought to pass.

By Mr. Day of Stoneham, for the committee on the Judiciary, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 33) of Mindy Domb and Jack Patrick Lewis for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the oaths and affirmations of public office,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 33), ought to pass.

Public offices,—
oaths and
affirmations.

By Ms. Fiola of Fall River, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, Senate, No. 12) of William N. Brownsberger for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to select boards,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see Senate, No. 12), ought to pass.

Select boards.

By Mr. Cusack of Braintree, for the committee on Revenue, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, Senate, No. 13) of Joanne M. Comerford, Susannah M. Whipps, Susan Williams Gifford, Hannah Kane and other members of the General Court for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to agricultural and horticultural lands,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see Senate, No. 13), ought to pass.

Agricultural and
horticultural
lands.

By the same member, for the same committee, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 41) of Paul A. Schmid, III and others for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to agricultural and horticultural lands,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 41), ought to pass.

Id.

The reports were severally read and placed on file, in accordance with the requirements of said rule.

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Housing, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 29) of Vincent L. Dixon for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the right to housing,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 29), ought NOT to pass [Representative Connolly of Cambridge dissenting].

Housing,—
Constitutional
right.

By Mr. Day of Stoneham, for the committee on the Judiciary, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, Senate, No. 10) of William N. Brownsberger for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the Governor and Lieutenant Governor,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see Senate, No. 10), ought NOT to pass.

Governor and
Lt. Governor,—
titles.

By the same member, for the same committee, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, Senate, No. 11) of Vincent Lawrence Dixon for a legislative amendment to the Constitution for term renewal process,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see Senate, No. 11), ought NOT to pass.

Judges,—
term renewal.

By the same member, for the same committee, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 30) of Jennifer Balinsky Armini and Andres X. Vargas for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the title of the Governor,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 30), ought NOT to pass.

Governor,—
title.

By the same member, for the same committee, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 31) of Jennifer Balinsky Armini for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the title of the Lieutenant-Governor,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 31), ought NOT to pass.

Lieutenant Governor,— title.

By the same member, for the same committee, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 32) of Mindy Domb and Lindsay N. Sabadosa for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to use of gender in the Constitution of the Commonwealth,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 32), ought NOT to pass.

Constitution,— gender.

By the same member, for the same committee, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 34) of Vanna Howard for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the term of office of judicial officers,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 34), ought NOT to pass.

Judicial officers,— term.

By the same member, for the same committee, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 35) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to prohibiting eminent domain takings,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 35), ought NOT to pass.

Eminent domain.

By the same member, for the same committee, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 36) of Paul McMurtry for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to changing the mandatory age of retirement for judges,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 36), ought NOT to pass.

Judges,— retirement age.

By the same member, for the same committee, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 37) of Orlando Ramos and Carlos González for a legislative amendment to the Constitution to require reappointment of judges every five years,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 37), ought NOT to pass.

Judges,— reappointment.

By the same member, for the same committee, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 38) of Susannah M. Whipps, Paul W. Mark and others for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to a succession plan for a vacancy in the office of Lieutenant-Governor,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 38), ought NOT to pass.

Lieutenant Governor,— vacancy.

By Mr. Cutler of Duxbury, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 39) of Vincent L. Dixon for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to a Constitutional right to employable skills training,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 39), ought NOT to pass.

Employable skills training,— Constitutional right.

By Mr. Cusack of Braintree, for the committee on Revenue, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, Senate, No. 14) of Bruce E. Tarr for a legislative amendment to the Constitution to require a supermajority vote for the utilization of rainy day funds,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see Senate, No. 14), ought NOT to pass [Senator Fattman and Representative Soter of Bellingham dissenting].

Rainy day funds,— supermajority vote.

By the same member, for the same committee, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, Senate, No. 15) of Bruce E. Tarr for a legislative amendment to the Constitution to cap the state income tax,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see Senate, No. 15), ought NOT to pass [Senator Fattman and Representative Soter of Bellingham dissenting].

Income tax,—
cap.

By the same member, for the same committee, on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 40) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to ensuring appropriate expenditure of fair share funds received from persons reporting incomes in excess of one million dollars,— reported, in accordance with a provision of Joint Rule 23, recommending that the amendment proposed by said petition (see House, No. 40), ought NOT to pass [Senator Fattman and Representative Soter of Bellingham dissenting].

Fair share
funds,—
expenditure.

The reports were severally read and placed on file, in accordance with the requirements of said rule.

Under the provisions of Joint Rule 23, the following proposals were placed on file, the time within which the said committees were required to report having expired:

Of the committee on Election Laws, ought NOT to pass (under Joint Rule 23), on the petition (accompanied by proposal, Senate, No. 7) of James B. Eldridge for a legislative amendment to the Constitution to establish an independent redistricting commission;

Redistricting,—
commission.

Of the same committee, ought NOT to pass (under Joint Rule 23), on the petition (accompanied by proposal, Senate, No. 9) of Paul W. Mark for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to campaign finance reform; and

Campaign
finance
reform.

Of the committee on Health Care Financing, ought NOT to pass (under Joint Rule 23), on the petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 27) of Vincent L. Dixon for a legislative amendment to the Constitution to establish a right to health care.

Health care,—
Constitutional
right.

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill authorizing the town of Leicester to continue the employment of Kenneth M. Antanavica (see House, No. 2579) (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 House Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Lisa Balentine, an employee of the Department of Transitional Assistance (House, No. 3779), having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to correctly drawn, was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Lisa
Balentine,—
sick leave.

The House Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Jane Racine, an employee of the Department of Developmental Services (House, No. 3771), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading be correctly, was read a third time.

Jane Racine,—
sick leave.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:

“Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to establish forthwith a sick leave bank for a certain employee of the department of developmental services, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.”.

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 3771, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for 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 twenty-nine before twelve o’clock noon, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (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.