

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, September 21, 2023.

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

Pledge of allegiance.

Distinguished Guests.

There being no objection, the Chair (Mr. Pacheco) introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, a delegation from Ireland.

Delegation from Ireland.

The attendees from Cork County included Mayor of the County of Cork, Cllr Frank Flynn and Mary Flynn, Tim Lucey, Chief Executive Cork County Council, Cllr Danny Collins, Cllr Patrick Gerard Murphy and Coleman Sullivan, Cllr Caroline Cronin, Cllr Anthony Barry, Cllr Alan Coleman, Cllr Michael Hegarty, Cllr Joe Carroll, Mairead Lucey, Senior Executive Officer Cork County Council, Lisa O'Reardon, Communication Officer Cork County Council, Rose Carroll, Tourism Officer Cork County Council and Mary Hickey, Senior Staff Officer Cork County Council.

The attendees from Kerry County included Mayor of County Kerry Councilor Jim Finucane and Sheila Finucane, Chair of Kenmare Municipal District Councilor Norma Moriarty, Councilor Martin Grade, Councilor Patrick Connor Scarteen, Chief Executive Kerry County Council Moira Murrell and Director of Economic and Community Development Kerry County Council Niamh O'Sullivan.

Mayor Flynn of County Cork and Mayor Finucane of County Kerry each briefly addressed the Chamber.

Also in attendance were Kelly Sullivan, granddaughter of Albert Sullivan, the youngest of the 5 Sullivan brothers. The five brothers were World War II sailor brothers of Irish American descent from Waterloo, Iowa, who were serving together on the light cruiser USS Juneau, were all killed in action during and shortly after its sinking around November 13, 1942 and Patrick Teahan, cousin of Governor Maura Healey. Ms. Sullivan and Mr. Teahan presented a painting of Governor Healy's grandfather's home in Ireland.

They were accompanied by Representative Murphy of Weymouth, who also briefly addressed the Chamber. The delegation were also the guests of Senator Collins.

The Senate welcomed them with applause, Mayor Flynn of County Kerry, Mayor Finucane of County Kerry and Ms. Sullivan signed the guest book and the delegation withdrew from the Chamber.

Report.

Report of the Department of Economic Research (pursuant to Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) submitting the August 2023 Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund report (received September 15, 2023),-- **was placed on file.**

DER,-- UI trust fund report.
SD2760

Petition.

Mr. Kennedy presented petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Edward J. Kennedy, Vanna Howard, Rodney M. Elliott and Rady Mom for legislation to increase housing production in the city of Lowell,-- **and the same was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.**

Lowell,-- housing production. SD2761

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

The following petition, having been timely filed by five o'clock P.M. on January 20, 2023, was referred in concurrence as follows:

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4098) of William J. Driscoll, Jr., relative to the protection of the public health through the regulation of indoor air quality within public buildings;

Public buildings,-- indoor air quality.

To the committee on Public Health.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4097) of Dawne Shand and Barry R. Finegold (by vote of the town) that the town of Merrimac be authorized to increase the number of select board members in said town,-- **was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.**

Merrimac,-- select board.

The Senate Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Mathew Blazes, an employee of the Worcester county sheriff's office (Senate, No. 2386),-- came from the House with the endorsement that the House had amended the bill by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:-

Mathew Blazes,-- sick leave.

“Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Worcester county sheriff's office shall establish a sick leave bank for Mathew Blazes, an employee of the office. Any employee of the office may voluntarily contribute 1 or more sick, personal or vacation days to the sick leave bank for use by Mathew Blazes. If Mathew Blazes terminates employment with the office or requests to dissolve the sick leave bank, any remaining time in the sick leave bank shall be transferred to the extended illness leave bank. Sick leave bank days shall not be used for absences unrelated to the illness or disability that necessitated the establishment of the sick leave bank as determined by the office.”; and

By striking out the title and inserting in place thereof the following title:- “An Act establishing a sick leave bank for Mathew Blazes, an employee of the Worcester county sheriff's office.”

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. O'Connor, and the House amendment was considered forthwith and adopted, in concurrence.

Emergency Preamble Adopted.

An engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Mathew Blazes, an employee of the Worcester county sheriff's office (see Senate, No. 2386, amended), having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage and containing an emergency preamble,-- was laid before the Senate; and, a separate vote being taken in accordance with the requirements of Article LXVII of the Amendments to the Constitution, the preamble was adopted in concurrence, by a vote of 3 to 0.

Id.

The bill was signed by the Acting President (Mr. Pacheco) and sent to the House for enactment.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions (having been filed with the Clerk) were severally considered forthwith and adopted, as follows:-

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Crighton) “congratulating the Nahant Village Church on its

Nahant Village

two hundredth anniversary”;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Fattman) “congratulating the Sutton Historical Society, Inc. on the two hundredth anniversary of the construction of the General Rufus Putnam Building in the town of Sutton”; and

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Timilty) “commending Parker Song and his family for bringing awareness to Williams Syndrome.”

Church.
Sutton Historical
Society, Inc.

Parker Song and
Family.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Engrossed Bills.

The following engrossed bills (both of which originated in the Senate), 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. Pacheco) and laid before the Governor for her approbation, to wit:

Authorizing the town of Provincetown to continue the employment of Michael Trovato (see Senate, No. 1642); and

Bills laid before the
Governor.

Establishing a sick leave bank for Mathew Blazis, an employee of the Worcester county sheriff’s office (see Senate, No. 2386, amended).

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Collins) the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of David Roberts.

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., and that the Clerk be directed to dispense with the printing of a calendar.

Time of meeting.

Adjournment in Memory of Dave Roberts.

The Senator from Cape and Islands, Mr. Cyr, presented a request that when the Senate adjourns today it do so in memory of Dave Roberts of Truro.

Dave Roberts passed away on July 23, 2023. He was a pioneer in the wine and spirits industry, accomplished football player, Army veteran, painter, and poet.

Born on March 17, 1942, to Jean and Mike Roberts in South Meriden, Connecticut, Dave was an all-state football player while attending Platt High School and was the first inductee into the school’s Athletic Hall of Fame. He earned a full scholarship to the University of Connecticut where he played football, met his future wife Kathleen Miller, and graduated with a business degree in 1964. He enlisted in the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) and then the Army, where he played football for Fort Eustis, Virginia, and retired as a Second Lieutenant.

Dave Roberts was the CEO of United Liquors/Martignetti, retiring in 2005. During that retirement, Dave purchased Truro Vineyards along with his wife, Kathy, and their children, David, Stephanie, and Kristen. In the last 16 years of his life, he served as the proprietor of Truro Vineyards of Cape Cod.

Dave will be deeply missed by all who knew him, especially his family: wife, Kathy Roberts; children, David Roberts, Jr. and his wife, Amy, Stephanie Roberts Hartung, Kristen Roberts and her husband, Eric Janson; grandchildren, Payton and Miles Hartung,

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Zach and Bella Roberts, Violet and Hazel Yingling, Cole and Bode Janson, and Virginia Janson-Driscoll; and brothers, Mike Roberts and his wife Edna and Paul Roberts and his wife Pat.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Dave Roberts, at six minutes past twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. O'Connor, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.