

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.**



**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023**

## JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, October 12, 2023.

Met at a quarter before twelve o'clock noon (Ms. Friedman in the Chair) (having been appointed by the President, under authority conferred by Senate Rule 4, to perform the duties of the Chair).

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The Chair (Ms. Friedman), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

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Pledge of allegiance.

### *Reports.*

The following reports were severally received and placed on file, to wit:

Report of the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds (pursuant to Section 2KKK(a) of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting its plan for expenditure from the County Registers Technological Fund (copies having been forwarded as required to the Senate Committees on Ways and Means and Post Audit and Oversight) (received October 11, 2023); and

Plymouth ROD,--  
tech fund report.  
SD2790

Report of the Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund Advisory Council (pursuant to Section 35000(c) of Chapter 10 of the General Laws) submitting its fiscal year 2023 annual report (received October 11, 2023).

ORRF Council,--  
annual report.  
SD2791

### *Petition.*

Mr. Tarr presented a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2459) of Bruce E. Tarr and Ann-Margaret Ferrante (by vote of the town) for legislation relative to changing the terms board of selectmen and selectmen to the term select board in the town of Rockport [Local approval received];

Rockport,-- select  
board.

**Referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.**

**Sent to the House for concurrence.**

### *Reports of a Committee.*

By Mr. Brady, for the committee on Public Service, on petition, a Bill relative to retirement buy back into the Massachusetts State Retirement system for Sherrie Stevens (Senate, No. 1684); and

Sherrie Stevens,--  
retirement.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to pension parity (Senate, No. 2399);

Francis J. Doyle,--  
retirement.

**Severally read and, under Senate Rule 27, referred to the committee on Ways and Means.**

### *Committee Discharged.*

Ms. Jehlen, for the committee on Elder Affairs, reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2460) of Paul R. Feeney and William Francis Galvin for legislation to protect seniors and adults with disabilities from financial exploitation,-- and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Financial Services.

Seniors,-- financial  
exploitation.

**Under Senate Rule 36, the report was considered forthwith and accepted.  
Sent to the House for concurrence.**

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Notice was received from the House of Representatives announcing the following appointment by the Minority Leader:

Dr. Danna Mauch, President and CEO of the Massachusetts Association for Mental Health has been re-appointed to serve as his designee (under Section 219 of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) to the Commission on Community Behavioral Health Promotion and Prevention.

Commission on  
Community  
Behavioral Health  
Promotion and  
Prevention.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4122) of Ryan M. Hamilton and Francisco E. Paulino (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the mayor of the city of Methuen be authorized to appoint police cadets to the police department of said city,-- **was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Public Service.**

Methuen,-- police  
cadets.

A Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Dedham as the Honorable Deborah R. Cochran memorial bridge (House, No. 3382,-- on petition),-- **was read and, under Senate Rule 26, referred to the committee on Rules.**

Dedham,-- Deborah  
R. Cochran bridge.

*Emergency Preambles Adopted.*

An engrossed Bill providing for unlimited free phone calls to incarcerated individuals (see House, No. 4052, 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 7 to 0.

Incarcerated  
persons,-- phone  
calls.

**The bill was signed by the Acting President (Ms. Friedman) and sent to the House for re-enactment.**

An engrossed Bill relative to the paid family and medical leave program (see House, No. 4053, 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 5 to 0.

Paid family leave.

**The bill was signed by the Acting President (Ms. Friedman) and sent to the House for re-enactment.**

*Resolutions.*

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Timilty) “congratulating Fire Chief Michael P. MacDermott on the occasion of his retirement from the Bridgewater Fire Department after 35 years of service.”

Fire Chief Michael P.  
MacDermott.

*Matters Taken Out of the Orders of the Day.*

There being no objection, the following matters were taken out of the Orders of the Day and considered as follows.

The House Bill increasing the number of members for the select board of the town of

Lakeville,-- select

Lakeville (House, No. 2093, amended),-- **was read a second time, ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to read as follows:- “An Act increasing the membership of the select board of the town of Lakeville”.**

board membership.

The House Bill relative to property tax classifications in the city of Watertown (House, No. 2910),-- was read a second time.

Watertown,--  
property tax  
classifications.

Pending the question on ordering the bill to a third reading, Mr. Brownsberger presented an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 2461.

**The amendment was adopted.**

**The bill, as amended, was then ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with the amendment.**

**Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.**

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4124) of James M. Murphy for legislation to protect seniors and adults with disabilities from financial exploitation,-- **was referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Financial Services.**

Seniors,-- financial  
exploitation.

*Engrossed Bill.*

An engrossed Bill relative to the paid family and medical leave program (see House, No. 4053, amended) (which originated in the House), **having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be re-enacted and signed by the Acting President (Ms. Friedman) and again laid before the Governor for her approbation.**

Bill again laid before  
the Governor.

*Resolutions.*

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

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Creem, Ms. Rausch, Ms. Friedman, Messrs. Finegold, Lewis, Rodrigues, Rush, Tarr, O'Connor, Kennedy and Timilty, Ms. Lovely, Messrs. Collins, Moore, Velis, Oliveira, Feeney, Montigny, Keenan and Barrett, Ms. Moran, Mr. Cronin, Ms. Comerford, Messrs. Brady, Cyr, Pacheco, Crighton, Payano, Brownsberger, DiDomenico, Fattman and Mark) (Senate, No. 2462),-- were considered forthwith, read and adopted, as follows:—

Israel,-- terrorist  
attack.

RESOLUTIONS CALLING ON THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE TO STAND WITH THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL IN THEIR TIME OF NEED, SUPPORT THE VICTIMS OF THE RECENT TERRORIST ATTACK AGAINST THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND WORK TOWARDS THE SAFE RETURN OF THOSE WHO ARE BEING HELD HOSTAGE.

WHEREAS, ON OCTOBER 7, 2023, THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS HAMAS LAUNCHED A BRUTAL, BARBARIC ASSAULT AND ATTACK ON THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND BROUGHT IMMENSE SUFFERING TO THE INNOCENT CIVILIANS OF ISRAEL AND THE REGION; AND

WHEREAS, THE ISRAELI PEOPLE HAVE AN INALIENABLE RIGHT TO DEFEND THEMSELVES AGAINST ACTS OF TERRORISM; AND

**UNCORRECTED PROOF.**

WHEREAS, THE COMMONWEALTH MOURNS THE THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT VICTIMS OF HAMAS'S TERRORIST ATTACK AGAINST ISRAEL, INCLUDING WOMEN, CHILDREN AND BABIES, AND IS GRAVELY CONCERNED FOR THE MANY INNOCENT CIVILIANS WHO HAVE BEEN KIDNAPPED AND ARE BEING HELD HOSTAGE; AND

WHEREAS, THE COMMONWEALTH HAS CONTINUOUSLY DEMONSTRATED AN UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING INNOCENT VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE AND CALLS FOR A SAFE RETURN OF THE ISRAELIS, AMERICANS AND OTHER NATIONALS WHO HAVE RECENTLY BEEN KIDNAPPED AND ARE BEING HELD HOSTAGE; AND

WHEREAS, THE COMMONWEALTH MUST STRONGLY CONDEMN THESE HEINOUS TERRORIST ACTIONS BY HAMAS IN ISRAEL; AND

WHEREAS, THE COMMONWEALTH STANDS IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN ISRAEL, THE COMMONWEALTH AND AROUND THE WORLD; AND

WHEREAS, THE RECENT, SHARP RISE IN ANTISEMITISM, EXPRESSED OPENLY AND VIOLENTLY, REINFORCES THE NEED FOR OUR COLLECTIVE, CONTINUED EFFORTS TO STAND AGAINST HATRED AND BIGOTRY IN THE COMMONWEALTH AND ABROAD; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, THAT THE MASSACHUSETTS SENATE HEREBY CALLS ON THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE TO STAND WITH THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL IN THEIR TIME OF NEED, SUPPORT THE VICTIMS OF THE RECENT TERRORIST ATTACK AGAINST THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND WORK TOWARDS THE SAFE RETURN OF THOSE WHO ARE BEING HELD HOSTAGE; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THESE RESOLUTIONS BE TRANSMITTED FORTHWITH BY THE CLERK OF THE SENATE TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.

*Remarks of Senator Nick Collins.*

Thank you Madam President, and through you to the members. I rise today in support of this Resolution and the people of Israel, their right to exist as a state and in support of Jewish people worldwide. Not only because they are members of my extended family, but also my friends, colleagues and it's the right thing to do. It's hard to believe that anyone could equivocate on that. Some have compared the terrorist attack on Israel to 9/11. We all know how painful that is in the city, this state and the country. The good people of Israel and the Jewish community across our state and beyond need and deserve to have us proclaim our support here in the Senate loudly, unequivocally and this Resolution does strongly. We need to resolve to fight antisemitism through policymaking, deeds and words. As our words do matter. So I want to thank the Senate President for leading on this issue as well as the Majority Leader for putting this Resolution forward. Let it be the first step in this body's actions toward standing with our allies, friends and family - Israel and the Jewish community at large. And fighting the evil of antisemitism and hate. So again I am in strong support of this Resolution and I hope it passes unanimously.

Remarks of Senator  
Nick Collins.

**On motion of Mr. Tarr, under the provisions of Senate Rule 6A, the above remarks were printed in the Journal of the Senate.**

Ordered printed.

*Moment of Silence.*

At the request of the Chair (Ms. Friedman), the members, guests and staff stood in a

Moment of silence.

moment of silence and reflection to the memory of the victims in Israel.

*Order Adopted.*

On motion of Ms. Creem,--

*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 – Hamas Terrorist Attack.*

The Senator from Norfolk and Middlesex, Ms. Creem moved that when the Senate adjourns today it do so in memory of the victims – including the infants, children, parents, and grandparents - of the Hamas terrorist attack in Israel on October 7th, 2023.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Hamas Terrorist Attack victims, at nineteen minutes past twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Tarr, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.