

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, December 18, 2023.

Met at eleven minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Collins in the Chair).

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

Pledge of allegiance.

Distinguished Guest.

There being no objection, the Chair (Mr. Collins) introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, Laudz Nicholas, the Director of the Sant Belvi Center. Ms. Nicholas was called to the Rostrum and presented with a Senate Citation recognizing the commitment and dedication of the Sant Belvi Center, serving seniors with the highest quality day care service for the last 15 years. Ms. Nicholas briefly addressed the Senate, was applauded for her service and withdrew from the Chamber.

Laudz Nicholas.

Report.

Report of the Childhood Trauma Task Force (under the provisions of Section 14 of Chapter 18C of the General Laws) submitting its 2023 annual report (received December 14, 2023),-- was placed on file.

Childhood Trauma Task Force,-- annual report. SD2886

Petition.

Ms. Moran presented a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Susan L. Moran for legislation relative to police reports involving railroad fatalities,-- and the same was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Railroad fatalities,-- police reports. SD2895

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Petitions were severally referred, in concurrence, as follows, to wit:

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4214) of Mark J. Cusack, Walter F. Timilty and John F. Keenan (by vote of the town) that the city known as the town of Braintree be authorized to provide for the retirement of William R. Cushing Jr., a police officer in said city;

Braintree,-- William R. Cushing, Jr.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4215) of Todd M. Smola and Jacob R. Oliveira (by vote of the town) that the town of Warren be authorized to continue the employment of Steven Perkins, a member of the fire department of said town; and

Warren,-- Steven Perkins.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4216) of Marcus S. Vaughn (by vote of the town) that the town of Plainville be authorized to appoint retired police officers as special police officers in said town;

Plainville,-- retired police officers.

Severally to the committee on Public Service.

A Bill protecting the right to time off for voting (House, No. 4217,-- on Senate, No. 1153 and House, No. 1912),-- was read and, under Senate Rule 27, referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

Voting,-- time off.

Bills

Authorizing Gregory S. Shopshire to purchase creditable service from the Barnstable county retirement board (House, No. 3642,-- on petition); and

Gregory S. Shopshire,-- retirement.
Jeffrey H. Jackson,-- retirement.

Authorizing Jeffrey H. Jackson to purchase creditable service from the Barnstable county retirement board (House, No. 3644,-- on petition);

Were severally read and, under Senate Rule 26, referred to the committee on Rules.

Bills

Authorizing the board of selectmen of the town of Rockland to serve as cemetery commissioners for the town of Rockland (House, No. 4010,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Rockland,-- cemetery commissioners.

Authorizing certain investments by the treasurer of the town of Norton (House, No. 4039,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Norton,-- treasurer investments.

Authorizing the town of West Stockbridge to continue the employment of Steven Traver as fire chief (House, No. 4196,-- on House, No. 3865) [Local approval received on House, No. 3865]; and

West Stockbridge,-- Fire Chief Steven Traver.

Authorizing the town of Richmond to continue the employment of Steven Traver as fire chief (House, No. 4197,-- on House, No. 3951) [Local approval received on House, No. 3951];

Richmond,-- Fire Chief Steven Traver.

Were severally read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.

Petition.

On motion of Mr. Fattman, Senate Rule 20 and Joint Rule 12 were suspended on the petition, presented by Mr. Collins, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Nick Collins and Ryan C. Fattman for legislation relative to grant expenditures for public health and safety,-- **and the same was referred to the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.**

Grant expenditures,-- approval.
SD2897

Sent to the House for concurrence.

Report of a Committee.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, reported that the following matter be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session:

The House Bill authorizing Matthew K. Sonnabend to purchase creditable service from the Barnstable County Retirement Board (House, No. 3643) (the committee on Rules having recommended that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 2526).

Matthew K. Sonnabend,-- retirement.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Mark, and the bill was read a second time and was amended, as recommended by the committee on Rules.

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.

Matter Taken Out of the Orders of the Day.

There being no objection, the follow matter was taken out of the Orders of the Day and considered as follows:

The House Bill relative to the select board of the town of Northborough (House, No. 3902),-- was read a second time.

Northborough,--
select board.

Pending the question on ordering the bill to a third reading, Ms. Kennedy presented an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 2495.

The amendment was adopted.

The bill, as amended, was then ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed.

Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4222) of Jeffrey N. Roy relative to electric grid enhancement technologies,-- **was referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.**

Electric grid,--
enhancement.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Mark,--

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

Time of meeting.

*Adjournment in Memory of United States Air Force
Staff Sergeant Jacob "Jake" Michael Galliher.*

The Senator from Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and Hampshire District, Mr. Mark, moved that when the Senate adjourns today it do so in memory of United States Air Force Staff Sergeant Jacob "Jake" Michael Galliher, 24, of Pittsfield, who passed away November 29, 2023 after a CV-22 Osprey crash in Japan. He was based at Yokota Air Force Base in Western Tokyo, Japan.

Born on February 7, 1999 to Kimberly M. Krautter and Jon L. Galliher, Jake was raised in Pittsfield, Massachusetts where he was a 2017 graduate of Taconic High School.

Jacob has been recalled as an outstanding student, friend and teammate from many friends, staff, coaches, and teammates. He was an avid football player and was part of the 2017 Taconic Braves Western Mass Football Championship.

In addition to football, Jake loved baseball, basketball, snowboarding, and water skiing as well as working out at the gym with his friends.

Upon graduation, Jacob joined the United States Air Force in August of 2017.

Jacob's first assignment was to the 25th Intelligence Squadron in Hurlburt Field, FL, until August of 2022. Upon arriving in Japan, he served as a Direct Support Operator assigned to the 43rd Intelligence Squadron, Detachment 1, Operation Location – Alpha, 363rd Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Wing. Jacob received many honors throughout his Air Force career. He was an Honor Graduate of Basic Military Training, a distinguished graduate of the Cryptologic Language Analyst course, and an Honor graduate of the Defense Language Institute's Chinese Language Course. He was fluent in Mandarin Chinese.

Jacob was recognized with The Air Force Achievement Medal, Air and Space Commendation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, and Air Force Meritorious Unit Award.

Jacob is survived by his beautiful wife, Ivy Groshong-Galliher of Kirkland,

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Washington, along with their two perfect sons, Malcolm age 2, and Killian age 9 weeks old. He was a beloved husband and father who fought to get back to his family.

Besides his wife and children, Jake is survived by his mother and father, Kim Krautter of Lanesborough and Jon Galliher of Pittsfield; as well as his stepfather, Tor Krautter and stepmother, Virgin Galliher.

Jake is also survived by his sisters, Jadyr Galliher and Courtney Beauchamp; his brothers, Nicholas and Zacharie Beauchamp; his stepbrother Aldrin John "AJ" Castillo; his uncle Paul Galliher "U.P." and wife Marianne, with whom he shared a special relationship; his father-in-law Adam Groshong; his grandparents Shelia Daugherty, Michael & Carol Daugherty and Alfred & Heidi Krautter; his aunts Happy, Megan, Lisa and Tonja; his uncles, Charles, Michael, Kevin, Matt and Jason; his cousins Tyler, Brody, Masen, Sarah, Elizabeth, Luke and Mary.

He also had a great bond and much love for his nephew and nieces, Christian, Amelia, Kyra and Aydria.

He was predeceased by his beloved paternal grandmother, Nellie Galliher in 2020.

Jake's family and our Berkshire community are devastated by the loss of their wonderful husband, father, son, brother, classmate, friend, teammate, and Airman. We thank Jacob, as well as all our other United States Service Members, for their bravery to serve and protect our country. Our condolences are with the families of Jake's crew who also lost their lives in service to our country.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of United States Air Force Staff Sergeant Jacob "Jake" Michael Galliher, at twenty-eight minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Mark the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.