
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, September 28, 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.

Appointment of the Speaker.

The Speaker announced that he had appointed Representative Mendes of Brockton as his designee (under Section 73 of Chapter 3 of the General Laws) to the Commission on the Status of Latinos and Latinas.

Latinos and
Latinas.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representative Fluker Oakley of Boston) commending the Massachusetts Sickle Cell Association, Inc. for recognizing September 2023 as National Sickle Cell Awareness Month, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Sickle Cell
Awareness
Month.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Petition.

Representative Vaughn of Wrentham presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Marcus S. Vaughn for legislation to provide school districts with an option to opt out of the free school lunch; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Schools,—
lunches.

Communication.

A communication from the Division of Medical Assistance (see Section 10F of Chapter 118E of the General Laws) submitting a quarterly report for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2023 legislative report for the Children's Medical Security Plan (CMSP) for the period April 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023, was placed on file.

Children's
Medical
Security Plan.

Monthly Report.

A monthly report of the Department of Unemployment Assistance (under Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) relative to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund for August 2023, was placed on file.

Unemployment
Insurance
Trust Fund.

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 petition of James M. Murphy for legislation to protect seniors and adults with disabilities from financial exploitation. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 then was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Financial Services. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Financial
exploitation,—
elderly and
disabilities.

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:

Designating a certain bridge in the town of Dedham as the Honorable Deborah R. Cochran memorial bridge (House, No. 3382);

Dedham,—
bridge.

Designating a portion of state highway Route 28 in the town of Harwich as the Alphonso Palmer Rogers highway (House, No. 3838); and

Harwich,—
bridge.

Creating the appointed positions of town treasurer and tax collector in the town of Westwood (House, No. 3879) [Local Approval Received];

Westwood,—
employees.

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.

Orders of the Day.

House bills

Providing for the annual election of members of the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School Committee (printed as Senate, No. 421) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading); and

Third
reading
bills.

Providing for recall elections in the town of Conway (House, No. 3575);

Severally reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Recess.

At ten minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at five minutes before one o'clock P.M. the House was called to order with Mr. Garballey in the Chair.

Recess.

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Matthew McRae, an employee of the Department of State Police (see House, No. 4085), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was

Matthew
McRae,—
sick leave.

considered, the question being on adopting the emergency preamble. A separate vote was taken, as required by the provisions of Article XLVIII (as amended by Article LXVII) of the Amendments to the Constitution; and the preamble was adopted, by a vote of 2 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Subsequently, the Senate having concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, the bill (which originated in the House) was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill
enacted.

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Authorizing the town of Wendell and the town of New Salem to continue the employment of Joseph J. Cuneo (see House, No. 3813); and

Bills
enacted.

To improve the Commonwealth's competitiveness, affordability, and equity (see House, No. 4104);

(Which severally originated in the House);

Severally having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, were passed to be enacted; and they were signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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 five minutes after one o'clock P.M., 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.