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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024.**

[119]

# JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

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Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Donato of Medford 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. Donato), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of allegiance.

## *Communication.*

A communication from the Capital Debt Affordability Committee of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see Section 60B(f) of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting the committee's annual report estimate of the total amount of new Commonwealth debt that may be prudently authorized for the next fiscal year, was placed on file.

Capital Debt Affordability.

## *Report.*

A report of the Inspector General of the Commonwealth (under Section 196(c) of Chapter 46 of the Acts of 2015) submitting a review of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority's police dispatch services contract with IXP Corporation, was placed on file.

MBTA police dispatch services.

## *Petition.*

Representative Vaughn of Wrentham presented a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4237) of Marcus S. Vaughn and Rebecca L. Rausch (by vote of the town) for legislation to amend the charter of the town of Wrentham; and the same was referred to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Wrentham,—charter.

## *Paper from the Senate.*

A communication from the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (under the provisions of Section 50 of Chapter 7 of the General Laws) submitting amendments to the rules and regulations governing retirement of public employees in Massachusetts 840 CMR 2.00 Retirement Board Travel, 840 CMR 4.00 Financial Operations/Standard Method of Accounting, 840 CMR 8.00 Applicability of \$30,000 Salary Cap, 840 CMR 11.00 Service After Age 70, 840 CMR 12.00 Service Between Age 65 and 70, 840 CMR 15.00 Miscellaneous, and 840 CMR 25.00 The Conduct of Field Examinations of Contributory Retirement Systems (Senate, No. 2540), was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Public Service.

PERAC,—regulations.

*Reports of Committees.*

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the following bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

The Senate Bill changing the position of town clerk in the town of Wenham from an elected position to an appointed position (Senate, No. 2524) [Local Approval Received]; and

Wenham,—  
town clerk.

House bills

Designating Childs River Overpass Route 28 Falmouth for Marine Combat Veteran Kevin P. Quinn (House, No. 4044);

Falmouth,—  
Quinn overpass.

Relative to changing the term of the elected office of moderator for the town of Stoneham (House, No. 4075) [Local Approval Received]; and

Stoneham,—  
moderator.

Providing for an alternate member of the town of Mattapoisett finance committee (House, No. 4159) [Local Approval Received];

Mattapoisett,—  
finance  
committee.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, in each instance, on motion of Ms. Garcia of Chelsea, the bills severally were read a second time forthwith; and they were ordered to a third reading.

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Public Service, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Cheryl Thouin, an employee of the Hampshire County Sheriff's Office (House, No. 4233). Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Cheryl  
Thouin,—  
sick leave.

*Engrossed Bills.*

Engrossed bills

Authorizing the city of Leominster to establish an age limit for original appointment to the position of police officer (see House, No. 2555); and

Bills  
enacted.

Exempting the position of police chief in the town of Lancaster from the civil service law (see House, No. 2571);

(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.

*Orders of the Day.*

House bills

Authorizing the town of Norwell to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 2765); and

Third  
reading  
bills.

Authorizing the town of Truro to establish a program to reduce property tax liability in exchange for volunteer services for persons with disabilities (House, No. 3735);

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.

Speaker Mariano of Quincy and Representative Garcia of Chelsea moved that when the House adjourns today, it do so in respect to the memory of Richard A. Voke, a member of the House from Chelsea from 1977 to 1996, inclusive, and Majority Leader of the House from 1991 to 1996, inclusive; and the motion prevailed.

Accordingly, at ten minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Ms. Gifford of Wareham (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned.

[Under the provisions of Article X of the Amendments to the Constitution, the 2023 session of the General Court was dissolved on the day next preceding the first Wednesday of January, without any proclamation or other act of His Excellency the Governor.]

Attest:

STEVEN T. JAMES,  
*Clerk.*