
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2019.

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Thursday, January 24, 2019.

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).

Prayer was offered by Father Rick Walsh of the Paulist Fathers, Chaplain of the House, as follows:

God of Energy and Creativity, we give You thanks for Your continual presence in the lives of the citizens of Massachusetts. We recognize the achievements of those who, over the centuries, emigrated from other lands to start their lives in our Commonwealth.

Prayer.

Today we remember it was on this day in 1899 that Irish-born Humphrey O'Sullivan patented the rubber heel. O'Sullivan was a workman for a printing press in Lowell where he placed a rubber floor mat under his feet at his work station to ease the fatigue he felt in his legs. In those times when shoes were frequently re-soled and re-heeled, O'Sullivan decided to cut the mat and to nail pieces of the rubber to his shoes. Noticing the effectiveness and durability of the rubber heel he began his effort to modify and perfect, and eventually secure the patent for his invention.

We pray for our House membership and their staff as they walk through the development of legislation for this session. May the large workload that lies ahead not deter them in their efforts.

May God continue to bless our Commonwealth.

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.

Messages from the Governor.

A message from His Excellency the Governor submitting the annual budget of the Commonwealth for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 (House, No. 1), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, January 23.

General Appropriation Bill.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying schedules, to the committee on Ways and Means.

A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to promoting equity and excellence in education (House, No. 70), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, January 23.

Education,—
funding.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Education. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to implementing the recommendations of the Special Commission on

Impaired driving.

Operating Under the Influence and Impaired Driving (House, No. 71), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, January 23.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on the Judiciary. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions (filed with the Clerk) were referred, under Rule 85, to the temporary committee on Rules:

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Kearney of Scituate, Whelan of Brewster and D'Emilia of Bridgewater) recognizing retired police officer James "Louie" Lopes on the occasion of his eightieth birthday; and

James
Lopes.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. McKenna of Webster) commending Timothy Bent, Sr. on the occasion of his retirement as Chief of Police of the town of Webster;

Timothy
Bent.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the temporary committee on Rules, reported, in each instance, that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion Mr. Wagner of Chicopee, the resolutions (having been certified by the House Counsel to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Recesses.

At eight minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at nine minutes before one o'clock P.M. the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Recesses.

The House thereupon took a further recess, on motion of Mr. Wong, subject to the call of the Chair; and at two o'clock P.M. the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Petition.

Representative Blais of Sunderland and Senator Comerford presented (previous to five o'clock P.M., on Friday, January 18, 2019) a joint petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 72) of Natalie M. Blais and Joanne M. Comerford for an investigation by a task force (including members of the General Court) to address the statewide impacts of the 2018-2019 federal government shutdown; and the same was referred, on motion of Ms. Blais of Sunderland, to the temporary committee on Rules.

Federal
government
shutdown,—
task force.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, then reported on the foregoing joint petition, a Resolve establishing the Massachusetts Government Assistance task force to address the statewide impacts of the 2018-2019 federal government shutdown (House, No. 72), which was read.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Blais of Sunderland, the resolve was read a second time forthwith.

Pending the question on ordering the resolve to a third reading, the same member moved to amend it by substitution of a resolve with the same title (House, No. 73), which was read.

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted resolve was ordered to a third

reading.

At a twenty-seven minutes after two o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at twenty-eight minutes before four o'clock P.M. the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Recess.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Blais, the resolve (having been certified by House Counsel to be correctly drawn) was read a third time.

Pending the question on passing the resolve to be engrossed, Mr. Speliotis of Danvers moved to amend it by adding the following paragraph:

“This resolve shall take effect as of January 24, 2019.”.

The amendment was adopted; and the resolve (House, No. 73, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Order.

On motion of Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop,—

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

Next sitting.

At twenty-seven minutes after five o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.