

## **JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**

Tuesday, February 5, 2002.

Met according to adjournment, at eleven o'clock A.M., with Mr. Fitzgerald of Boston 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 the Reverend Robert F. Quinn, C.S.P., Chaplain of the House, as follows:

Lord God, we are grateful to You, Our Creator, for the blessings (both material and spiritual) which You give to us daily. We have been and are presently blessed with rich human and material resources which have enabled us to build this great nation. In Your goodness, help us to continue using these gifts conscientiously and prudently. In recognizing Your gifts and blessings, we have deepened our trust in You and Your personal concern for our total well-being. In these uncertain and even trying times help us to deepen our trust in each other, our institutions and in the sincere and good decisions of others. Inspire us to be patient listeners and articulate leaders, with high standards, in the process of formulating and evaluating legislation.

Bestow Your blessings on the Speaker, the members and employees of this House and their families. Amen.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Fitzgerald), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

### *Petition.*

Mr. Carron of Southbridge presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Mark J. Carron and other members of the General Court for legislation to further regulate the early retirement system for certain public higher education employees; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

### *Reports of Committees.*

By Mr. Toomey of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Safety, on House, No. 2777, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Public Safety to make an investigation and study of a certain House document concerning the issuance of distinctive license plates for constables (House, No. 4891). Referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Subsequently Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for said committees, reported asking to be discharged from further consideration of said order; and recommending that the same be referred to the House committee on Rules. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted.

By Mr. Rogers of Norwood, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Bill ensuring the environmental protection of the northern 15,000 acres of the Massachusetts Military Reservation (Senate, No. 2180) ought to pass with an amendment. Referred, under Rule 7A, to the

committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Mr. Kujawski of Webster, for said committee, reported that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House; and, under said rule, it was placed in the Orders of the Day for the next sitting for a second reading with the amendment pending.

*Recess.*

At seven minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Finneran of Boston (Mr. Fitzgerald of Boston being in the Chair), the House recessed until half past two o'clock P.M.; and at that time the House was called to order with the Mr. Correia of Fall River in the Chair.

*Messages from the Acting Governor.*

A message from Her Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, Acting Governor, recommending legislation relative to amending the Governor's authority to address deficiencies in revenue (House, No. 4892) was filed this day in the office of the Clerk.

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

A message from Her Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, Acting Governor, recommending legislation relative to providing tax relief to victims of terrorist attacks (House, No. 4893) was filed in the office of the Clerk on Monday, February 4.

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

*Guest of the House.*

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Correia of Fall River) declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair, there being no objection; and introduced Jermaine Wiggins, tight end for the Super Bowl Champion New England Patriots. Mr. Wiggins was the guest of Representative Petrucci of Boston.

*Engrossed Bills.*

Engrossed bills

Authorizing the town of Uxbridge to establish a capital improvement fund (see House, No. 4294); and

Relative to voting precincts in the town of Framingham (see House, No. 4805);

(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.*

The Senate Bill authorizing certain military personnel to receive group insurance discounts (Senate, No. 773, changed and amended) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading), reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence. Sent to the Senate for concurrence in the amendment previously adopted by the House.

The Senate Bill validating certain actions by the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District and its member towns (Senate, No. 2212, changed), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

House bills

Relative to the conservation commission of the town of Sutton (House, No. 4325);

Authorizing the town of Framingham to offer an elderly discount program for water and sewer rates (House, No. 4463) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading); and

Authorizing the town of North Andover to grant a certain conservation restriction (House, No. 4830, changed);

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.

*Order.*

On motion of Mr. Finneran of Boston,—

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

Accordingly, without further consideration of the remaining matters in the Orders of the Day, at a quarter after three o'clock P.M., on motion of Ms. Haddad of Somerset (Mr. Correia of Fall River being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet tomorrow at eleven o'clock A.M.