

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, February 15, 2001.

Met according to adjournment, at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.

Prayer was offered by the Reverend Robert F. Quinn, C.S.P., Chaplain of the House, as follows:

Eternal God, we, as a people, proclaim our trust and confidence in You. Grant us the courage and the good sense to deepen our trust in You, and Your ways, in each other, and in our laws and institutions. We are grateful to You for Your personal and constant concern for our total well-being. As we prepare to celebrate Presidents Day, may we reflect on the political, philosophical and religious principles which motivated the founders of this nation in forming our constitution and government. May the leadership qualities and the dedication to political integrity of President Washington and his associates remain in our hearts and minds at all times. Guide our efforts to build a responsive and responsible nation in which the dignity and importance of each person is recognized.

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

At the request of the Speaker, the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Messages from the Governor.

A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to the Pioneer Valley life sciences initiative (House, No. 4001) was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, February 14.

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

A message from His Excellency the Governor (under the provisions of Section 8 of Article LXXXIX of the Amendments to the Constitution) recommending legislation relative to authorizing the town of Mansfield to use certain conservation land for road and bridge purposes (House, No. 4002) was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, February 14.

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

Appointments to a Special House Committee.

The Speaker announced the appointments of Representatives Correia of Fall River, Stefanini of Framingham, Kaufman of Lexington, LeDuc of Marlborough, Falzone of Saugus and Blumer of Framingham to serve on the special committee of the House authorized (under the provisions of House order No. 2825 of 2001) to make an investigation of the feasibility of automating the House of Representatives.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Marini of Hanson) congratulating Michael Drewniak on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Marini of Hanson) congratulating Zachary Wassmouth on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Bunker of Rutland) honoring Helen Harding on the occasion of her ninetieth birthday and for many years of public service to the community of Holden;

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Casey of Winchester and Jones of North Reading) congratulating Chief Edward W. Marchand on the occasion of his retirement from the Reading Police Department;

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Casey of Winchester and Festa of Melrose) congratulating Jeffrey D. Nutting on the occasion of his retirement as the Stoneham Town Administrator;

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Harkins of Needham) congratulating Pamela Fernandes on winning a Gold Medal at the 2000 International Paralympics;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Koczera of New Bedford) congratulating Ronald Merkman on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Postal Service;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Kujawski of Webster) congratulating Donald F. Cushing on the occasion of his retirement;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. LeDuc of Marlborough and other members of the House) honoring the Massachusetts delegation to the Special Olympics;

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Owens-Hicks of Boston) commending Pastor Horatius Cornelius Gittens on his outstanding contributions to the Berea Seventh-Day Adventist Church;

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Stanley of West Newbury) congratulating the Gar Memorial Library on placing third on the Hennen's American Public Library Rating Index; and

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Story of Amherst and other members of the House) honoring Amherst Police Officer Joe Jeronimo for his outstanding contribution to the Special Olympics;

Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the committee on Rules, reported, in each instance, that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Ms. Story, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Engrossed Bill.

Mr. Flynn of Bridgewater being in the Chair,— The engrossed Bill making special provisions for an election to fill a vacancy in the board of selectmen of the town of Reading (see House bill printed in House, No. 3999) (which originated in the House), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be enacted (more than two-thirds of the members having agreed to pass the same); and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Order.

On motion of Mr. Hynes of Marshfield,—

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

At sixteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Casey of Winchester (Mr. Flynn of Bridgewater being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet on Tuesday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.

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