

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, February 28, 2002.

Met at six minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. O'Flaherty of Chelsea 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:

Eternal and Merciful God, we pause for a moment to reflect on the reality of Your presence in our midst and to renew our personal dedication to You and to the principles which guide us in our daily activities and in making legislative and personal choices. During these times of serious concern for personal safety and security here and elsewhere, inspire us to be patient listeners and thoughtful leaders in proposing legislative remedies. In addressing current needs of people and of our districts, may we also keep in mind the impact of proposed legislation on the future of the Commonwealth and the people. By our commitment to lofty ideals, traditional values and reasoned legislation, may we continue to build confidence and trust in us in each other and in our institutions.

Grant Your blessings to the Speaker, the members and employees of this House and their families. Amen.

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

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Mr. Stanley of Waltham) congratulating the American Red Cross for its service to those in need, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

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

Communications.

A communication from the city known as the town of Agawam transmitting to the General Court a copy of Resolutions (approved by the town council and the mayor) requesting the Commonwealth of Massachusetts provide supplemental budget funding for the Holyoke Soldiers' Home, was spread upon the records of the House; and sent to the Senate for its information.

A communication from the Board of Higher Education submitting a copy of a request for an appropriation to fund a collective bargaining agreement between the Board of Higher Education and Local 167 of Council 93 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal

Employees, was placed on file.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Mr. Bosley of North Adams, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Daniel E. Bosley relative to the date by which regional school districts are required to adopt operating and maintenance budgets.

By Mr. Bradley of Hingham, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Garrett J. Bradley that the State Retirement Board be directed to grant certain creditable service to Maureen O'Donnell.

By Mr. Casey of Winchester, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Paul C. Casey, Kathi-Anne Reinstein, Edward G. Connolly, Colleen M. Garry, Philip Travis and Christine E. Canavan relative to consent to blood testing solely for medical purposes.

By Mr. Correia of Fall River, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Robert Correia, Joan M. Menard and Michael J. Rodrigues (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the improvement of living conditions in certain housing developments in the city of Fall River.

By Mr. Donnelly of Boston, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of David T. Donnelly, Byron Rushing, Robert S. Creedon, Jr., Joan M. Menard and another for legislation to establish a reserve to supplement salary accounts of employees of the Trial Court.

By Mr. Naughton of Clinton, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Harold P. Naughton, Jr., relative to ceding concurrent jurisdiction to the United States over certain property located at the former Devens Army Base.

Severally, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Larkin of Pittsfield, for the committee on Education, Arts and Humanities, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the Order relative to authorizing the committee on Education, Arts and Humanities to make an investigation and study of a certain House document concerning the imposition of a moratorium on new charter schools (House, No. 4918),— and recommending that the same be recommitted to the committee on Rules. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted.

By Mr. Dempsey of Haverhill, for the committee on Public Service, on House, No. 1672, a Bill relative to infectious diseases under the public employee retirement law (House, No. 4925). Read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Counties on the part of the House.

By Mrs. Simmons of Leominster, for the committee on Local Affairs, on a message from Her Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, Acting Governor, a Bill validating certain actions and authorizing certain reimbursements by the town of Oak Bluffs (printed in House, No. 4906).

By Mr. Dempsey of Haverhill, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill authorizing Quincy College to adopt a six year tenure system (House, No. 4695) [Local Approval Received].

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Orders of the Day.

Senate bills

Further regulating the minimum size of American lobsters (Senate, No. 1847); and

Relative to the declaration of noncash dividends by trust companies (Senate, No. 1873) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading);

Severally reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

The House Bill relative to recreational facilities (House, No. 313, 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. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Braintree to convey a certain parcel of town forest land (House, No. 4729) was read a third time.

The committee on Bills in the Third Reading reported recommending that the bill be amended by substitution of a bill with the same title (House, No. 4926), which was read.

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted bill was passed to be engrossed. 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 on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

At a quarter after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Ms. Wolf of Cambridge (Mr. O'Flaherty of Chelsea being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.

