

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, March 21, 2002.

Met according to adjournment, at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mrs. Walrath of Stow 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:

Gracious God, Our Creator, each day we depend upon You, Your spiritual assistance and gift of wisdom for direction as we strive to craft legislation and programs which are just, prudent and relevant. In these rather unusual, uneasy and stressful times, inspire us to be leaders who build confidence and trust in each other, in our noble traditions and in our institutions. Grant us the knowledge to comprehend the needs and reasonable expectations of the people, the good sense to appreciate the legislative accomplishments of our predecessors and the vision to plan for a prosperous, peaceful and safe future for both people and our communities. May we always be aware of Your constant personal concern for each of us.

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

At the request of the Chair (Mrs. Walrath), the members, guests and employees joined with her in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Appointment to a Special Commission.

The Minority Leader of the House announced the appointment (under Section 17 of Chapter 55A of the General Laws) of Representative Hahn of Westfield as his designee to the Special Commission on Clean Elections.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. O'Brien of Kingston and Straus of Mattapoisett) congratulating Adam Bagdon on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America;

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. O'Brien of Kingston and Straus of Mattapoisett) congratulating Jacob Leonard Naujunas on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America;

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Poirier of North Attleborough) congratulating the American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts on the occasion of its 200 years of ministry in the Commonwealth; and

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Provost of Sandwich) congratulating Douglas R. Kearns, Jr. on

receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America;

Mr. DiMasi 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 Mr. Peterson of Grafton, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Petitions.

Ms. Balsler of Newton presented a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4977) of Ruth B. Balsler, Cynthia S. Creem, Kay Khan and Peter J. Koutoujian (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to establishing a voting subprecinct in the city of Newton; and the same was referred to the committee on Election Laws. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Mr. Buoniconti of West Springfield, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Stephen J. Buoniconti for legislation to provide creditable service to corrections officers for service outside the Commonwealth.

By Mr. Golden of Lowell, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Thomas A. Golden, Jr., and other members of the General Court for the annual issuance of a proclamation by the Governor setting apart October tenth as Teens Terminate Tobacco Day.

By the same member, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Thomas A. Golden, Jr., relative to the Board of Appeal on Motor Vehicle Liability Policies and Bonds.

By Mr. Toomey of Cambridge, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., Guy W. Glodis, Stephen M. Brewer and Kevin J. Murphy relative to establishing a department of police services under the supervision of a municipal police commissioner.

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

Paper from the Senate.

A petition of Guy W. Glodis and Timothy J. Toomey, Jr. for legislation relative to the operation of low-speed vehicles, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Public Safety.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2291) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Public Safety.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Dempsey of Haverhill, for the committee on Public Service, on House, No. 4951, a Bill providing for local government workforce reduction through an early retirement incentive program for certain employees (House, No. 4978). 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 petition, a Bill relative to borrowing for school construction projects by cities and towns (House, No. 4901). Read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the committee on Rules, that the following bills ought to pass:

Providing for the equitable apportionment of certain liens (House, No. 1818); and

Relative to the descent and distribution of property (House, No. 4412);

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

By Mr. Hall of Westford, for the committee on State Administration, on a petition, a Bill providing for the annual observance in the month of April for those afflicted by autism (House, No. 4942). Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill relative to the terms of certain notes issued by the Commonwealth (see House bill printed in House, No. 4765) (which originated in the House), in respect to which the Senate had concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Orders of the Day.

The Senate Bill relative to the debt limit of the town of Holliston (Senate, No. 2155), 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 child passenger safety (House, No. 4199);

Increasing the penalty for passing a school bus (House, No. 4405);

Authorizing the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to convey certain easements to the city of Gardner (House, No. 4821); and

Authorizing the city of Easthampton to issue an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4871);

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.

The House Bill relative to consumer and merchant protection (House, No. 4329), reported by the

committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Ms. Lewis of Dedham moved that it be amended in line 6 by inserting after the word “year” the words “of in-store sales”.

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 4329, amended) 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 thirteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Timilty of Milton (Mrs. Walrath of Stow being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.