

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, September 19, 2002.

Met according to adjournment, at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Sullivan of Braintree 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, each day we seek Your assistance and guidance as we address the legislative and personal issues and challenges of the day. We depend upon You. May legislative and people needs remain constant, but new realities often demand our thoughtful attention. In dealing with the daily barrage of terrorist threats, inspire us to remain patient and tranquil as we try to continue living meaningful, happy and productive lives in this changing world. May we always be mindful of the biblical teaching of the unity of the human family and the dignity, value and destiny of each human person.

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

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

Message from the Acting Governor —

Bill Returned with Recommendation of Amendments.

A message from Her Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, Acting Governor, returning with recommendation of amendment the engrossed Bill establishing a distinctive registration plate process [see House, No. 5028, amended] (for message, see House, No. 5336) was filed this day in the office of the Clerk.

The message was read; and, under the provisions of Article LVI of the Amendments to the Constitution, the bill was thereupon “before the General Court and subject to amendment and re-enactment”.

Pending the question on adoption of the amendments recommended by the Acting Governor, the bill was referred, on motion of Ms. Polito of Shrewsbury, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Subsequently the amendments were adopted in the following form (as approved by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading):

In section 1, in paragraph (b), by striking out the following: “2 law enforcement officers; 2 firefighters” and inserting in place thereof the following: “2 representatives from the law enforcement community; 2 representatives from the firefighting community”, and by striking

out paragraph (c) and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:

“(c) Amounts credited to the Commonwealth Security Trust Fund and interest earnings thereon shall be available for expenditure and not subject to appropriation at the direction of the chair of the board of trustees upon the approval of the board for the following purposes: (i) for providing grants to local police and fire departments for the purpose of enhancing emergency response including responses to acts of terrorism; (ii) toward the design, construction and maintenance of a law enforcement memorial dedicated to Massachusetts law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty; and (iii) toward the design, construction and maintenance of a firefighters memorial dedicated to Massachusetts firefighters killed in the line of duty.”; and

By striking out section 2 (as engrossed) and inserting in place thereof the following section:

“SECTION 2. Section 2E of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2000 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:—

(c) The registrar shall furnish, upon application, to the owners of private passenger motor vehicles distinctive registration plates which shall display on their face a design commemorating the victims and heroes of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack with the image of the American flag and the words ‘United We Stand.’ There shall be a fee of not less than \$40 for such plates in addition to the established registration fee for private passenger motor vehicles, such fee being payable at the time of registration of such vehicle and at each renewal thereof. The portion of the total fee remaining after the deduction of the costs directly attributable to the issuance of such plates shall be deposited in a registry retained revenue account and of the remaining portion of such fee, 50 per cent shall be directed to the Massachusetts 9/11 Fund, Inc. and distributed by such fund at its discretion for the benefit of the relatives of the Massachusetts victims of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on America or toward the design, construction and maintenance of a permanent memorial to such Massachusetts victims, or both; 25 per cent shall be deposited within 90 days of receipt thereof to the Rewards for Justice Fund, to be contributed to the United States State Department’s Rewards for Justice program and used solely to apprehend terrorists and bring them to justice; and 25 per cent shall be deposited in the Commonwealth Security Trust Fund established in section 67 of chapter 10.”.

Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Cleven of Chelmsford) congratulating Mary E. St. Hilaire on the occasion of her retirement;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop) in recognition of the establishment of the George Caporale, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund;

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Haddad of Somerset) congratulating Detective Lieutenant John D.

O'Neil on the occasion of his retirement from the Somerset Police Department;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Keenan of Southwick) congratulating the NE Mastocytosis Support Group's 8th annual TMS Conference;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Kennedy of Brockton) congratulating Dominic Byrne on the joyous observance of his 80th birthday;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Koczera of New Bedford) honoring Rodney Cejka;

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Polito of Shrewsbury) honoring Kenneth C. Largess; and

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Teahan of Whitman) congratulating Aleramo "Skiddy" Casoni on his 96th birthday;

Mrs. Harkins of Needham, 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. Sullivan of Fall River, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Paper from the Senate.

The House Bill relative to the unemployment insurance system (House, No. 4452, amended) came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with certain amendments inserting after section 16 the following section:

"SECTION 16A. Notwithstanding section 14 of chapter 151A of the General Laws, the experience rate of an employer qualifying for it under subsection (b) of said section 14 of said chapter 151A shall be the rate which appears in the column designated 'B' for calendar year 2003."; and in section 17 (as amended by the House) adding at the end thereof the following sentence: "Section 16A shall take effect on January 1, 2003."

Under suspension of Rule 35, on motion of Mr. Pedone of Worcester, the amendments were considered forthwith.

The committee on Bills in the Third Reading reported recommending that the House non-concur with the Senate in its amendments; and the report was accepted.

The House then non-concurred with the Senate in its amendments; and the bill was returned to that branch endorsed accordingly.

Orders of the Day.

The Senate Bill relative to acceptance of the Community Preservation Act in the town of Marblehead (printed in Senate, No. 2476), 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.

The House Bill relative to parking violations in the city of Worcester (House, No. 5230) (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. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill relative to acceptance of the Community Preservation Act in the town of Marblehead (see Senate bill printed in Senate, No. 2476) (which originated in the Senate), 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. Finneran of Boston,—

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

At six minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Murphy of Burlington (Mr. Sullivan of Braintree being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.