

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Monday, December 17, 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:

Gracious God, our hearts and minds are filled with hope and joy during this holiday and religious season of the year. Help us to recognize the fact that our personal fulfillment and deepest desires for happiness are found only in You, Your ways and values. In these changing and uncertain times, inspire us to face our daily responsibilities and challenges in a thoughtful, patient and mature manner. As we prepare for a peaceful, secure and prosperous future for the people of the Commonwealth, teach us to be open to, and aware of, the lessons of past history. Grant us the intellectual and moral strength to cope with and to resolve fairly the concerns of the electorate, so that the common good will be well-served.

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.

Papers from the Senate.

The engrossed Bill relative to the Amherst town government (see Senate, No. 1855) came from the Senate with an amendment striking out section 4 (as engrossed) as follows:

“SECTION 4. Chapter 512 of the acts of 1972 is hereby repealed.”; and inserting in place thereof the following section:

“SECTION 4. Sections 6, 7, 8 and 9 of chapter 512 of the acts of 1972 are hereby repealed.”.

Under suspension of Rule 35, on motion of Ms. Story of Amherst, the amendment (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) was considered forthwith; and it was adopted, in concurrence.

A Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2002 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (Senate, No. 2203) (reported from the Senate committee on Ways and Means, pursuant to Senate Rule 19), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Bills

Relative to the rights of adopted persons under a certain instrument (Senate, No. 825) (on a petition);

Authorizing affordable housing covenants in the town of Nantucket (Senate, No. 2006, amended in section 2, in lines 9 and 10, in line 12 and in line 16; and also in section 3, in line 1, by striking out the words “low and moderate” and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the word “middle”) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received] [Representative Gomes of Harwich, for the committee on Housing and Urban Development, dissenting];

Severally passed to be engrossed by the Senate, were read; and they were referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Report of Committees.

By Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the committee on Rules and the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the petition of Brian Knuutila and other members of the General Court relative to authorizing the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to convey certain easements to the city of Gardner. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Hynes of Marshfield, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on State Administration. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Relative to the position of treasurer-collector in the town of Kingston (see House, No. 4298);

Authorizing the town of Needham to establish a post retirement insurance liability fund (see House, No. 4306); and

Relative to the charter of the town of Swampscott (see House, No. 4720);

(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 Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Orders of the Day.

Senate bills

Relative to the water supply of the city of Brockton (Senate, No. 1848); and

Authorizing the town of East Bridgewater to issue an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (Senate, No. 2175);

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, in concurrence.

House bills

Relative to voter registration certificates (House, No. 430) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading);

Authorizing the town of Maynard to issue an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4200);

Authorizing the town of Truro to hold a license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4475);

Relative to affordable housing in the town of Truro (House, No. 4476); and

Authorizing the town of Truro to establish an affordable housing trust fund (House, No. 4477);

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.

Recess.

At twenty-two minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., the Speaker declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair; and at twenty-two minutes after twelve o'clock noon the House was called to order with Mr. Greene of Billerica in the Chair.

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Greene of Billerica, for the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches, with reference to the Senate amendments (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2166; and inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:

“*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to reduce unemployment insurance rates beginning January 1, 2002, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.”) of the House Bill relative to unemployment insurance rates (House, No. 4531, amended), reported that the House recede from its non-concurrence with the Senate in its amendment (inserting an emergency preamble) and concur therein; and that the House concur with the Senate in its amendment (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2166) with a further amendment by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered (House, No. 4817); and that the Senate concur in the further amendment.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Pedone of Worcester, the report (having been approved by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading) was considered forthwith; and it was accepted. The report then was sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Recess.

At sixteen minutes after one o'clock P.M., the Chair (Mr. Greene of Billerica) declared a recess until a quarter after three o'clock P.M.; and at twenty minutes after three o'clock the House was called to order with Mr. Greene in the Chair.

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed Bill relative to unemployment insurance rates (see House, No. 4531, amended), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was considered, the question being on adopting the emergency preamble.

A separate vote was taken, as required by the provisions of Article XLVIII (as amended by Article LXVII) of the Amendments to the Constitution; and the preamble was adopted, by a vote of 2 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Subsequently, the Senate having concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, the bill (which originated in the House) was passed to be enacted; 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 Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.