

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Friday, December 21, 2001.

Met at seventeen minutes after 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, we pause for a moment of prayer and reflection at the opening of today's session. While the first day of the winter season reminds us of the cold days and nights ahead, the lights of the feast of Christmas and the lengthening of daylight time offers us hope for the future and for our spirits. We are grateful for the spiritual and intellectual light which You offer us daily as we struggle with today's complex legislative and administrative issues. By working together in a constructive and cooperative manner, we hope to meet the needs of people and responsibilities of the Commonwealth in these changing times. May our hearts and minds be filled with joy, love and hope on this Christmas Day.

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.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Kujawski of Webster, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the Senate Bill authorizing the town of Milton to transfer land to the Milton school department (Senate, No. 2098) [Local Approval Received] be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Timilty of Milton, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

By Mr. Wagner of Chicopee, for the committee on Election Laws, on a petition, a Bill relative to voting precincts in the town of Framingham (House, No. 4805) [Local Approval Received], which was read.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Gobi of Spencer, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill relative to the salary of the mayor of the city of Medford (see House, No. 4740) (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; and it was signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Recesses.

At twenty-eight minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., the Speaker declared a recess until the hour of twelve o'clock noon; and at ten minutes after twelve o'clock the House was called to order with Ms. Balser of Newton in the Chair.

The Chair thereupon declared a further recess until a quarter before one o'clock P.M.; and at the hour of one o'clock the House was called to order with the Speaker in the Chair.

At seven minutes after one o'clock the Speaker declared a further recess, subject to the call of the Chair; and at fourteen minutes after four o'clock P.M., the House was called to order with Mr. Dempsey of Haverhill in the Chair.

Papers from the Senate.

The House Bill providing for an early retirement incentive program for certain state employees (House, No. 4823) came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2209.

Under suspension of Rule 35, on motion of Ms. Gobi of Spencer, the amendment (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) was considered forthwith.

Mr. Jones of North Reading then moved that the House concur with the Senate in its amendment with a further amendment striking out all after the enacting clause (inserted by amendment by the Senate) and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 4825.

The further amendment was adopted. The House then concurred with the Senate in its amendment, as amended. Sent to the Senate for concurrence in the further amendment.

The House Bill providing for an early retirement incentive program for certain employees of the Judiciary (House, No. 4824) came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with amendments striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2210; and striking out the title and inserting in place thereof the following title: "An Act providing for a judiciary retirement incentive program."

Under suspension of Rule 35, on motion of Ms. Gobi of Spencer, the amendments (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith.

Mr. Jones of North Reading then moved that the House concur with the Senate in its amendments with a further amendment by striking out all after the enacting clause (inserted by amendment by the Senate) and inserting in place thereof the text of House document number 4826.

The further amendment was adopted. The House then concurred with the Senate in its amendments, as amended. Sent to the Senate for concurrence in the further amendment.

Recess.

At twenty minutes after four o'clock P.M., the Chair (Mr. Dempsey of Haverhill) declared a

recess, subject to the call of the Chair; and at seventeen minutes before five o'clock P.M., the House was called to order with Mr. Dempsey in the Chair.

Emergency Measures.

The engrossed Bill providing for an early retirement incentive program for certain state employees (see House, No. 4823, 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.

The engrossed Bill providing for a judiciary retirement incentive program (see House, No. 4824, 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. Jones of North Reading,—

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

At six minutes before six o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Jones of North Reading (Mr. Dempsey of Haverhill being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet on Wednesday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.

