JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE. Thursday, August 21, 2003.

Met according to adjournment, at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Donato of Medford 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, this moment of personal reflection and prayer unites us in heart, mind and intention in our resolve to serve You and the best current and future requirements of the people who depend upon our sound decisions in legislative matters. As a people, our material, human and spiritual needs are numerous, but our greatest needs are to remain faithful to our high ideals, time tested principles and to our personal and religious commitments. May this Chamber be a beacon of hope, vision, truth and integrity to the people, as we try to cope with the political and cultural challenges of these unusual times. With Your guidance our efforts will be successful.

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

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

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Jones of North Reading and other members of the House) requesting that the U.S. Congress repeal the Government Pension Offset Rule;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Connolly of Everett) congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Connolly on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary;

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Haddad of Somerset) congratulating Antone Silvia on the occasion of his retirement from the Somerset Fire Department;

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Poirier of North Attleborough) congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Delmont and Ruth Abells on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary; and

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Rogers of Norwood) congratulating Reverend William Wolkovich on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination;

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 Mrs. Walrath of Stow, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Petition.

Mr. Walsh of Boston presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Martin J. Walsh for legislation to require the printing of certain information on the wrappers or labels of fresh meat

products packaged for sale; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Kujawski of Webster, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the Senate Bill designating the chief of police of the town of East Bridgewater as the appointing authority for the police department (Senate, No. 2000) [Local Approval Received] be scheduled for consideration by the House.

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

By Mr. Bosley of North Adams, for the committee on Government Regulations, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Hingham to issue an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 3886) [Local Approval Received]. Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling. Mr. Kujawski of Webster, for said committee, reported that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mrs. Teahan of Whitman, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

Orders of the Day.

The House Bill designating a certain bridge in the city known as the town of Methuen as the Patriots Bridge (House, No. 3472) (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.

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.

Mr. Rodrigues of Westport then moved that as a mark of respect to the memory of Charles E. Silvia, a member of the House from Fall River from 1981 to 1988, inclusive, the House adjourn; and the motion prevailed.

Accordingly, at ten minutes after eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.