

Thursday, March 15, 2007.

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:

God of Goodness and Truth, we depend upon Your guidance on this and every day as we take up the items on our personal and legislative agenda. You help us to make right choices and thus achieve personal happiness and meaning in our lives. This weekend we observe and celebrate a county holiday as well as St. Patrick's Day, a day of remembrance, prayer and enjoyment. May the sentiment of this venerable Irish blessing remain with us on St. Patrick's Day and always:

*May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warmly on your face,
May the rains fall softly on your fields,
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

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.

Message from the Governor.

A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to providing for the immediate capital improvement needs of the Commonwealth (House, No. 2915) was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, March 14.

Capital improvements.

The message was read; and it was referred, on motion of Mr. Flynn of Bridgewater, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Appointment to a Special Commission.

The Speaker announced the appointment of Representative Richardson of Framingham as the designee of the House Chair of the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities to the special commission established (under section 2 of chapter 45 of the Acts of 2005) to make an investigation and study of methods to better coordinate, expand, finance, and improve accessible, affordable, quality out-of-school time programming for school age children in all settings.

After and Out-of-School-Time Commission.

Guests of the House.

Yael Dayan
and
Rony Yedidia.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford) declared a brief recess and introduced Yael Dayan, Deputy Mayor of Tel Aviv, Israel and a former member of the Israeli Knesset and Rony Yedidia, Counsel to the Consulate General of Israel to New England. They were the guests of Ms. Balser of Newton.

Resolutions.

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

Bernard M.
Gordon.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Murphy of Burlington) in honor of Bernard M. Gordon, Chairman of the Board, Lahey Clinic, on the occasion of his eightieth birthday;

James Patrick
Carley.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Nyman of Hanover) congratulating James Patrick Carley on his eighty-eighth birthday;

Charlotte A.
Stewart.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Nyman of Hanover) congratulating Charlotte A. Stewart on her one hundredth birthday;

Columbus
Civic
Association.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Pedone of Worcester) congratulating the Columbus Civic Association in recognition of the organization's fiftieth anniversary; and

Summit
Montessori
School.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Sannicandro of Ashland and Richardson of Framingham) congratulating the Summit Montessori School of Framingham;

Mr. Scaccia 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 Ms. Balser of Newton, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Emergency Measure.

Karen
White,—
sick leave.

The engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Karen White, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth (see House, No. 1659, 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 4 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Bill
enacted.

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.

Recess.

Recess.

At twenty-nine minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Peterson of Grafton (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed until half past twelve o'clock noon; and at twenty-two minutes before one o'clock P.M. the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Rodrigues of Westport, for the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of South Hadley to grant additional alcoholic beverages licenses (House, No. 3752, changed in section 1 by striking out the paragraph contained in lines 27 to 33, inclusive, and inserting in place thereof the following two paragraphs:

South Hadley,—
liquor
license.

“(f) Notwithstanding any General or special law or any rule or regulation to the contrary, the local licensing authority shall not approve the transfer of said license to any other location. Said license may be re-issued by the local licensing authority at the same location if an applicant for said license files with said authority a letter in writing from the department of Revenue indicating that said license is in good standing with said Department and that any and all applicable taxes have been paid.

If any license in the municipality is cancelled, revoked, or no longer in use, said license shall be returned physically, with all of the legal rights, privileges or restrictions pertaining thereto, to the local licensing authority. Notwithstanding Section 17 of Chapter 138, or any other general or special law or rule or regulation to the contrary, the local licensing authority may grant said license to a new applicant.”) [Local Approval Received]. Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Mr. Donato of Medford, for said committee, reported that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. deMacedo of Plymouth, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

By Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the committee on Rules, on House, No. 2026, a Bill authorizing the town of Franklin to grant an additional liquor license for the sale of wine and malt beverages not be drunk on the premises (House, No. 3962) [Local Approval Received].

Franklin,—
liquor
license.

By Mr. Kaufman of Lexington, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Janice Brown an employee of the Appellate Tax Board (House, No. 44).

Janice
Brown,—
sick leave.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to civil service examinations for appointment as police officers (House, No. 2666).

Police officers,—
civil service
exams.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Antoinette Romes, an employee of the Department of Transitional Assistance (House, No. 3941, changed in section 1 by striking out the words “trial court,” and inserting in place thereof “department of transitional assistance.”).

Antoinette
Romes,—
sick leave.

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

Order.

On motion of Mr. DiMasi of Boston,—

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

Next
sitting.

At seventeen minutes before one o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Peterson of Grafton (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.