

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Monday, August 25, 2008.

Met at ten minutes after 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:

Lord, we pray that our hearts and minds be filled with hope, wisdom and enthusiasm as we begin this first day of the new work-week. We look to You for Your guidance and assistance in our sincere efforts to serve You, constituents and the Commonwealth in a responsible and creative manner. Inspire us to be open and faithful to You, Your ways and Your spiritual values and principles in our desire to address to complex human societal and political issues in these uncertain times. Teach us to reason and work together in setting common good priorities as we plan for a future with employment and education opportunities for all in our competitive world.

Prayer.

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.

Pledge of
allegiance.

Distinguished Guests of the House.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), declared a brief recess, and introduced His Excellency Elie Michel Marouni, the recently appointed Lebanese Minister of Tourism. Minister Marouni was accompanied by his sister Nada Marouni and his niece Rozi Marouni. They were the guests of the Speaker and also were accompanied by Senator Baddour.

Lebanese
Minister
Elie Marouni.

The Chair (Mr. Donato) also introduced Mary Gabrielle (Gay) Thompson, Deputy Speaker and labor member of the South Australian House of Assembly, district of Reynell. Deputy Speaker Thompson was visiting the Commonwealth regarding health care issues. She was the guest of Mrs. Walrath of Stow.

Deputy
Speaker
Mary
Gabrielle
Thompson.

Papers from the Senate.

Bills

Designating the Fitchburg District Courthouse as the Gelinas Courthouse (Senate, No. 2846) (on a petition); and

Fitchburg,
courthouse.

Relative to public parking in the city of Fitchburg (Senate, No. 2866) (on Senate, No. 2702);

Fitchburg,
public
parking.

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.

*Motions to Discharge Certain Matters in the
Orders of the Day.*

Suicide,
study.

Mr. Walsh of Boston moved that the House Bill relative to the study on methods to reduce incidents of suicide (House, No. 2165), be discharged from its position in the Orders of the Day and considered forthwith, under suspension of Rule 47; and the motion prevailed.

The bill then was read a third time.

The committee on Bills in the Third Reading reported recommending that the bill be amended by substitution of a Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to suicide prevention (House, No. 5084), which was read.

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted resolve was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Boston,
polling
places.

Mr. Sánchez of Boston moved that the House Bill relative to polling places in the city of Boston (House, No. 4983), be discharged from its position in the Orders of the Day and considered forthwith, under suspension of Rule 47; and the motion prevailed.

The bill (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading), reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, then was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Quorum.

Quorum.

Mr. McMurtry of Dedham then asked for a count of the House to ascertain if a quorum was in attendance.

A quorum not being present, under the provisions of Rule 82, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), at eighteen minutes before twelve o'clock noon, declared an adjournment of the House until Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.