

Monday, October 29, 2007.

Met according to adjournment, at twelve o'clock noon, 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 Our Creator, Your guidance helps us to recognize the needs and to promote the material and spiritual well-being of all the people in our varied communities. Your gifts of patience and wisdom enables us to dialogue and reason together with constituents in addressing the current concerns of voters. In addressing and resolving issues, inspire us to select those options which are right, just and ethical, not only for today but for the years ahead and for our children. As elected leaders may we encourage all, especially our young people, to strive for excellence in all areas of intellectual endeavor and public administration.

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.

*Message from the Governor — Bill Returned with
Recommendation of Amendment.*

A message from His Excellency the Governor returning with recommendation of amendment the engrossed Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Dalton as the Benjamin-Muraca Memorial Bridge [see House, No. 3503, changed] (for message, see House, No. 4330) was filed in the office of the Clerk on Friday October 26.

Dalton,—
bridge.

The message was read; and, under the provisions of Article LVI of the Amendments to the Constitution, the bill was thereupon "before the General Court and subject to amendment and re-enactment".

Pending the question on adoption of the amendment recommended by His Excellency, the bill was referred, on motion of Mr. Golden of Lowell, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Statement of Representative Rogers of Norwood.

A statement of Mr. Rogers of Norwood was spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call to the attention of the House the fact that I was unable to be present in the House Chamber for the sitting of Thursday last due to a medical procedure. Any roll calls that I may have missed that day was due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of
Representative
Rogers of
Norwood.

Resolutions.

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

Rev. Dr. Andrew
Rosenberger. Resolutions (filed by Mr. Hargraves of Groton) honoring Reverend Doctor Andrew G. Rosenberger for outstanding leadership, service, and advocacy on behalf of the Protestant Guild for Human Services;

Jane Doe, Inc. Resolutions (filed by Mr. Koutoujian of Waltham) honoring Jane Doe, Inc. on its observance of October 2007 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month;

John J.
Meehan, Jr. Resolutions (filed by Mr. Moran of Boston) honoring John J. Meehan, Jr., National President of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, for work and devotion to the order and the country;

Cape Cod
Lions Club. Resolutions (filed by Ms. Peake of Provincetown) congratulating the Lower Cape Cod Lighthouse Lions Club on the occasion of its charter; and

Richard
Lafrance. Resolutions (filed by Mr. Rodrigues of Westport and other members of the House) congratulating Richard Lafrance for receiving the 2007 Roger Valcourt Memorial Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award;

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 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.

Reports 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 following petitions:

Children,—
Adam Walsh
Act. Joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera and Karen E. Spilka for legislation to authorize the Department of Social Services to maintain certain information for the protection of children in compliance with the federal “Adam Walsh and Safety Act”; and

Foster
children,—
placement. Joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera and Karen E. Spilka relative to compliance by the Commonwealth with federal regulations for child and family services and the placement of foster children;

Severally to the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. O’Day of West Boylston, the reports were considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 then was suspended, in each instance. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Oceans. By Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the Bill relative to oceans (Senate, No. 2346, amended),— and recommending that the same be referred to the

House committee on Rules. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted.

By Ms. Coakley-Rivera of Springfield, for the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, on House, Nos. 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 74, 82, 83, 89, 93, 94, 112, 121, 128, 138, 145 and 4191, a Bill relative to child abuse and neglect (House, No. 4191). Referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing. Child abuse and neglect.

By Mr. Correia of Fall River, for the committee on Elder Affairs, on House, No. 602, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Elder Affairs to make an investigation and study of a certain House document concerning prescriptions for members of prescription advantage, so-called (House, No. 4326). Prescription advantage,—study.

By Mr. Turkington of Falmouth, for the committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development, on House, No. 3393, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development to make an investigation and study of a certain House document concerning museums and archives repositories (House, No. 4327). Museums,—study.

By Mr. Verga of Gloucester, for the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs, on House, Nos. 3701, 3715, 3716 and 3727, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs to make an investigation and study of certain House documents concerning veterans' expenditures and benefits (House, No. 4328). Veterans' benefits,—study.

Severally referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Subsequently Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for said committees, reported, in each instance, asking to be discharged from further consideration of said orders; and recommending that the same severally be referred to the House committee on Rules.

Under Rule 42, the reports severally were considered forthwith; and they were accepted.

By Mrs. Walrath of Stow, for the committee on Health Care Financing, that the Resolve relative to the study on methods to reduce incidents of suicide (House, No. 2165) ought to pass. Suicide,—study.

By Mr. Pedone of Worcester, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on House, No. 3749 (as relates to sections 9 to 19, inclusive, 21, 34, 35 and 36), a Bill relative to borrowing by cities and towns (House, No. 4329). Cities and towns,—borrowing.

Severally read; and referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

By Mr. Welch of West Springfield, for the committee on Community Development and Small Business, on a petition, a Bill establishing professional services for small businesses (House, No. 188). Small businesses.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to small business technical assistance grants (House, No. 190). Id.

Weymouth,—
billboards.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to outdoor advertising in the town of Weymouth (House, No. 4019).

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Infant
deaths.

By Mrs. Walrath of Stow, for the committee on Health Care Financing, that the following bills ought to pass.

Establishing a sudden infant death syndrome advisory council (House, No. 1678); and

Physician
credentialing.

Relative to the physician credentialing process (House, No. 4145);

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

Small Business
Advisory
Council.

By Mr. Welch of West Springfield, for the committee on Community Development and Small Business, on a petition, a Bill relative to the reauthorization of the Small Business Advisory Council (House, No. 191).

Dennis,—
Caleb Chase
trust fund.

By Mr. Binienda of Worcester, for the committee on Revenue, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing the Caleb Chase trust fund revenue account in the town of Dennis (House, No. 3153) [Local Approval Received].

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

Orders of the Day.

Third reading
bill amended.

The House Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Hinsdale as the Hinsdale veteran memorial bridge (House, No. 3504, changed) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading) was read a third time.

Said committee reported recommending that the bill be amended in section 2 by striking out the last sentence.

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 3504, changed and amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Third
reading
bill.

The House Bill relative to the Charter of the town of Chelmsford (House, No. 4007) (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.

Next
sitting.

On motion of Mr. DiMasi of Boston,—

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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2007.

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At thirteen minutes after twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Lepper of Attleboro (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet on Wednesday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.