

Thursday, January 29, 2009.

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:

Eternal God, we place our hope and confidence in You and Your ways which serve as guidelines for us as we carry out our daily activities, routines and responsibilities. Each day, our intention is to serve You, our various constituencies and our families in a conscientious and thoughtful manner. As elected leaders, we are expected to address and even resolve the current, most complex and sensitive legislative issues and public policy questions of the moment. Grant us the patience and maturity to reason and to dialogue together in a respectful and objective way in a common search for solutions and answers to our current and future societal needs. Inspire us to remain faithful to our personal ideals, lofty goals and basic principles and values. In this era of worldwide violence against the most dependent and innocent individuals in our society, teach us as a nation to remain faithful to both the letter and spirit of our Constitution which guarantees protection and the rights of all.

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.

*Messages from the Governor.*

A message from His Excellency the Governor submitting the annual budget of the Commonwealth for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 (House, No. 1) was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, January 28.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying schedules, to the committee on Ways and Means.

A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to providing emergency measures to assist the Commonwealth's fiscal recovery (House, No. 101) was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, January 28.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Ways and Means.

A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to providing for disposition of surplus state real property based on smart growth land use policies (House, No. 102) was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, January 28.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

County sheriffs,—transfer.

A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to transferring county sheriffs to the Commonwealth (House, No. 103) was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, January 28.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on the Judiciary. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Municipalities,—Commonwealth's partnership.

A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to strengthening the Commonwealth's partnership with municipalities (House, No. 104) was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, January 28.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Sick leave banks.

A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relating to sick leave banks (House, No. 105) was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, January 28.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Public Service. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

*Message from the Governor — Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 2009.*

Reorganization Plan No. 1,—HUD and Professional Licensure.

A message from His Excellency the Governor submitting (under Article LXXXVII of the Amendments to the Constitution) Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 2009, reorganizing certain agencies of the Executive Department (House, No. 106) was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, January 28.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Article LXXXVII and Joint Rule 23A, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

*Resolutions.*

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

Stephen M. Baptiste.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Gifford of Wareham) congratulating Stephen M. Baptiste on his many accomplishments and contributions to the community; and

Robert K. and Shirley A. Johnson.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Wolf of Cambridge and Brownsberger of Belmont) congratulating Robert K. and Shirley A. Johnson on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary;

Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the temporary 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. Reinstein of Revere, the resolutions were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

*Communication.*

A communication from the Department of Transitional Assistance (under item 4403-2120 contained in Section 2 of Chapter 182 of the Acts of 2008) of a determination by the Secretary of Health and Human Services that available appropriations for the emergency assistance program administered by said department will be insufficient to meet projected expenses, was placed on file.

Emergency assistance program,—deficiencies.

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