

Wednesday, December 16, 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:

Gracious God, Lord our Creator and Supreme Lawgiver to Whom we are answerable, we begin the legislative session with a prayer for guidance as we take up items on today's agenda. In Your kindness, help us to select options to make decisions which are reasoned, just ethical and serve the best interests of the people, our communities and culture. May we be as faithful in promoting and discussing the common good and the constitutional rights of all individuals as were our predecessors. Inspire us to be open to the suggestions and experiences of others as we work together in meeting the needs and the expectations of constituents. May this season of hope, peace, faith and goodwill towards all fill our hearts and minds as we plan for the present and future needs of our communities and the Commonwealth. Prayer.

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

*Quorum.*

Mr. Stanley of Waltham then asked for a count of the House to ascertain the presence of a quorum. Quorum.

A quorum not be present, under House Rule 82, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), at ten minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., declared an adjournment of the House, until the following day at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.