

Tuesday, January 17, 2012.

Met according to adjournment, at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Kafka of Stoughton in the Chair (having been appointed by the Speaker, under authority conferred by Rule 5, to perform the duties of the Chair).

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Kafka), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Pledge of allegiance.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Ms. Malia of Boston and other members of the House) recognizing November 16, 2011 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Aging Project Appreciation Day, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules. LGBT,— appreciation day.

Mr. Binienda of Worcester, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Mr. deMacedo of Plymouth, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Initiative Petitions.

Initiative petition of Arthur W. Kinsman and others for the passage of An Act to protect motor vehicle owners and small businesses in repairing motor vehicles (House, No. 3882) (received on January 10, 2012, from the Secretary of the Commonwealth, having been transmitted by him to the Clerk of the House of Representatives as required by Article XLVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution), was referred, under said Article and Rule 24, to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure. Sent to the Senate for concurrence. Motor vehicle,— repair.

Initiative petition of Jennifer Marie Rush and others for the passage of An Act promoting excellence in public schools (House, No. 3883) (received on January 10, 2012, from the Secretary of the Commonwealth, having been transmitted by him to the Clerk of the House of Representatives as required by Article XLVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution), was referred, under said Article and Rule 24, to the committee on Education. Sent to the Senate for concurrence. Public schools,— excellence.

Initiative petition of Marcia Angell and others for the passage of An Act relative to death with dignity (House, No. 3884) (received on January 10, 2012, from the Secretary of the Commonwealth, having been transmitted by him to the Clerk of the House of Representatives as required by Article XLVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution), was referred, under said Article and Rule 24, to the committee on the Judiciary. Sent to the Senate for concurrence. Death with dignity.

Medical
marijuana.

Initiative petition of Richard Elliot Doblin and others for the passage of An Act for the humanitarian medical use of marijuana (House, No. 3885) (received on January 10, 2012, from the Secretary of the Commonwealth, having been transmitted by him to the Clerk of the House of Representatives as required by Article XLVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution), was referred, under said Article and Rule 24, to the committee on Public Health. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

Transportation
workers,—
retirement.

By Mr. Garballey of Arlington, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Sean Garballey for legislation to include certain employees of the Department of Transportation in Group 2 of the public employees retirement system.

Cyrus E.
Dallin,—
official
sculptor.

By Mr. Garballey of Arlington, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Sean Garballey for legislation to designate Cyrus E. Dallin as the official sculptor of the Commonwealth.

Unemployment
insurance,—
rates.

By Representative Jones of North Reading and Senator Tarr, a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., Bruce E. Tarr and others relative to mitigating increasing costs to small businesses by freezing the unemployment rate.

Severally, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Papers from the Senate.

Becket,—
William
Elovirta.

The engrossed Bill authorizing the town of Becket to continue the employment of the chief of police, William Elovirta (see House, No. 3509), came from the Senate with the endorsement that it had been amended by said branch by striking out the emergency preamble.

Under suspension of Rule 35, on motion of Mr. Mark of Peru, the amendment (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) was considered forthwith; and it was adopted, in concurrence.

Taunton,—
affordable
housing.

A Bill relative to certain affordable housing in the city of Taunton (Senate, No. 2062) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received], passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Victims,—
employment
leave.

A Bill to establish employment leave and safety remedies to victims of domestic violence, stalking and sexual assault (Senate, No. 918, amended in section 1, in line 13, inserting after the figure "24B" the following " , 26D, 50 and 51" (as changed by the Senate committee on Bills in the Third Reading); and inserting after line 112 the following paragraph:

"(7) This section shall not be construed to exempt an employer from complying with chapter 258B, section 14B of chapter 268 or any other general or special law or to limit the rights of any employee under said chapter 258B, said section 14B of chapter 268 or any other general or special law." (on a petition), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2106) of Stanley C. Rosenberg and Peter Kocot (with the approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation relative to the charter of the city of Northampton, was referred, in concurrence, to the Municipalities and Regional Government. Northampton,—
town charter.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Binienda of Worcester, 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:

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Daniel P. Winslow that excavations for modifications or maintenance of Title V existing septic systems be exempt from permitting requirements. To the committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture. Title V
excavations,—
permitting.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Brian S. Dempsey for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Catherine Blais, an employee of the Trial Court. To the committee on the Judiciary. Catherine
Blais,—
sick leave.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Martin J. Walsh for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Richard Hughes, an employee of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. To the committee on Public Service. Richard
Hughes,—
sick leave.

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

By Mr. Kafka of Stoughton, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the House Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2012 for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (House, No. 3878), be scheduled for consideration by the House. Supplemental
appropriations.

Under suspension of the Rule 7A, 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. Kafka of Stoughton, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the following House bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

Requiring school bus operators and monitors to be mandated reporters of suspected child abuse or neglect (House, No. 50); and Child abuse,—
bus operators.

Relative to extending the deadline for mailing quarterly tax bills (House, No. 3854); Quarterly
tax bills.

Severally placed in the Orders of the Day for the next sitting for a second reading.

Orders of the Day.

The Senate Bill requiring authorization by a town meeting vote of certain contracts made by the town of Middleborough regarding the sale by the town of water or wastewater treatment services (Senate, No. 1948) (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, in concurrence. Third
reading
bill.

Order.

On motion of Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop,—

Next
sitting.

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

At eleven minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (Mr. Kafka of Stoughton being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following day at eleven o'clock A.M.