

# JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

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Wednesday, February 8, 2017.

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 Father Rick Walsh of the Paulist Center of Boston, Chaplain of the House, as follows:

God of Compassion and Companionship, we pray for our members of the House and for all who are employed here. We pray as well for all who enter the doors of our State House; may they be greeted and welcomed with respect and an eagerness to be assisted by their elected officials and their staff. Prayer.

Today we remember one such legislator who died on this day in 1991. Silvio Conte was once a State Senator and then a popular Congressman who represented his native Pittsfield and Western Massachusetts in Washington for over 30 years. A member of the Republican Party who often voted his conscience, Silvio Conte is remembered as one of the most beloved politicians to have served Massachusetts. Medical research, literacy training, special needs education, health care for the poor and environmental issues were some of the issues he fought for. We give thanks today for his example.

May God continue to bless our Commonwealth.

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.

### *Appointments of the Minority Leader.*

Notice was received that the Republican Caucus had ratified the appointments by the Minority Leader of Representatives Hill of Ipswich to the position of Assistant Minority Leader, Poirier of North Attleborough to the position of Second Assistant Minority Leader, Gifford of Wareham to the position of Third Assistant Minority Leader, Frost of Auburn to the position of Third Assistant Minority Leader and Smola of Warren as the ranking minority party member on the committee on Ways and Means. Assistant minority leaders and ranking Ways and Means member.

### *Resolutions.*

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Mr. Ashe of Longmeadow) celebrating the 125th anniversary of the game of basketball, were referred, under Rule 85, to the temporary committee on Rules. Basketball,— anniversary.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Goldstein-Rose of Amherst, the resolutions (certified by House Counsel to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

*Emergency Measure.*

Robert  
Hackett,—  
sick leave.

The engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Robert Hackett, an employee of the Department of Revenue (see House, No. 55, amended), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was considered, the question being on adopting the emergency preamble.

A separate vote was taken, as required by the provisions of Article XLVIII (as amended by Article LXVII) of the Amendments to the Constitution; and the preamble was adopted, by a vote of 4 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

*Order.*

On motion of Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop,—

Next  
sitting.

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

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