

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Monday, August 21, 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:

Prayer.

God of Beauty and Warmth, we give You thanks for this fine weather and for the natural beauty of our Commonwealth. May today's partial solar eclipse help us appreciate our varied and beautiful scenic vistas.

We pray for all who make this Chamber and the surrounding offices their workplace. Give them good health of mind and body as they conduct the affairs of government.

Today we give thanks for a town in Worcester County that is celebrating its 350th anniversary, Mendon. The large land area in the original township has been divided over the years to create eight other towns. For this reason Mendon is sometimes called "Mother Mendon".

The Nipmuc tribes once occupied the territory and the first Massachusetts colonists' deaths in the King Phillip's War occurred in Mendon. Robert Taft, patriarch of the Taft family that includes President Howard Taft settled here (in what is now Uxbridge) in 1680.

Mendon is also the 1712 birthplace of America's first legal woman voter, Lydia Chapin Taft.

May God continue to bless our Commonwealth.

Pledge of allegiance.

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.

Communication from Representative Whipps of Athol.

Ms. Whipps of Athol,— party change.

A communication from Representative Susannah M. Whipps of Athol that she had officially changed her party affiliation from Republican to Unenrolled, was placed on file.

Communication from the Office of the Speaker.

Neo-nazi [sic] resolutions,— additional supporters.

A communication was received from the Office of the Speaker of the House (on Friday, August 18) containing the names of additional members of the House expressing support of Resolutions (filed by Speaker DeLeo of Winthrop, Representatives Rushing of Boston, Benson of Lunenburg and 134 other members of the House) addressing neo-nazi [sic] and white nationalist hate organizations [adopted by the House on Thursday, August 17], was placed on file.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Dykema of Holliston) congratulating Joseph Cohen on the occasion of his retirement; and

Joseph Cohen.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Hogan of Stow) congratulating Lucy Matthews on the occasion of her retirement from the Marlborough District Court;

Lucy Matthews.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, 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 Mr. Kafka of Stoughton, 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. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the House Bill designating a certain bridge as the Lance Corporal William Joseph Donovan[sic] Jr. memorial bridge (House, No. 3685), be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Donovan memorial bridge.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Kafka of Stoughton, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

By Mr. Parisella of Beverly, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Cam-ly Escobar, an employee of the Department of Children and Families (House, No. 3884). Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Cam-ly Escobar,— sick leave.

Order.

On motion of Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop,—
Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next sitting.

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 Thursday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.