
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020.

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Wednesday, March 18, 2020.

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).

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

Pledge of allegiance.

Order.

The following order (filed by Mr. Roy of Franklin) was referred, under Joint Rule 30, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently:

Ordered, That, notwithstanding the provisions of Joint Rule 10, the committee on Higher Education be granted until Thursday, April 30, 2020 within which time to make its final report on current Senate documents numbered 737, 741, 744, 752, 754, 758, 765, 769 and 1089, and House documents numbered 43, 481, 1202, 1210, 1211, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1221, 1229, 1230, 1231, 1240, 1245, 1247 and 1248.

Higher Education committee,— extension of time for reporting.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4576), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Roy of Franklin, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill authorizing waiver of the one week waiting period for unemployment benefits (Senate, No. 2599) (on a part of Senate, No. 2598), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read.

Unemployment benefits,— waiting period.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Ultrino of Malden, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

Under suspension of the rules, on further motion of the same member, the bill (having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to correctly drawn), was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

Petitions were referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, as follows:

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2601) of Melanie LaRocca for legislation relative to rabies and other vaccination requirements and licensing. To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Licensing,— rabies and vaccinations.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2602) of Michael O. Moore and New England Police Benevolent Association for legislation relative to emergency hazard health duty. To the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security.

Responders,— emergency hazards.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2603) of John F. Keenan for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Jessica Zamansky, an employee of the Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance; and

Jessica Zamansky,—
sick leave.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2604) of Cindy F. Friedman for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Trek Reef, an employee of the Department of Conservation and Recreation;

Trek Reef,—
sick leave.

Severally to the committee on Public Service.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2605) of Eva Korpi for legislation to reduce the environmental impact of cigarette butts in streams, rivers, and in the ocean by increasing the tax on cigarettes by 100%. To the committee on Revenue.

Cigarettes,—
tax.

Engrossed Bills.

Bills

Authorizing the city known as the town of Watertown to grant 15 additional licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (see House, No. 4241);

Bills
enacted.

Authorizing the town of Reading to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (see House, No. 4243); and

Relative to the town treasurer, town tax collector and town clerk of the town of Chester (see House, No. 4283);

(Which severally originated in the House);

Severally having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, were passed to be enacted; and they were signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Recess.

At seven minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at twenty-two minutes after eleven o'clock the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Recess.

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed Bill authorizing waiver of the one week waiting period for unemployment benefits (see Senate, No. 2599), 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.

Unemployment
benefits,—
waiting period.

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 7 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Subsequently, the Senate having concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, the bill (which originated in the Senate) was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill
enacted.

Order.

On motion of Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop,—

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

Next
sitting.

Representatives Ferrante of Gloucester and Hill of Ipswich then moved that when the House adjourns today, it do so in respect to the memory of David J. Lane, a member of the House from Essex from 1973 to 1978, inclusive; and the motion prevailed.

Accordingly, at four minutes after twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following day at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.