
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2020.

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Met at eight minutes after 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.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Hecht of Watertown and Lawn of Watertown) congratulating Joseph Markarian on his one hundredth birthday; and

Joseph
Markarian.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Walsh of Peabody) congratulating Timothy E. Spanos on the occasion of his retirement as Peabody City Clerk;

Timothy
Spanos.

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. Garballey of Arlington, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Orders.

The following order (filed by Mr. Cullinane of Boston) 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 Health Care Financing be granted until Friday, May 1, 2020 within which time to make its final report on all matters referred to them.

Health Care
Financing
committee,—
extension
of time for
reporting.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4584), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Cullinane of Boston, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The following order (filed by Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop) was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules:

Ordered, that the precept to be issued by the Speaker, under the provisions of Section 141 of Chapter 54 of the General Laws, appointing a time for the election to fill the vacancy that shall exist in the office of Representative in the General Court from said Thirty-Seventh Middlesex District shall designate Tuesday, June 2, 2020, as the time ordered by the House of Representatives for said election; and be if further

Thirty-Seventh
Middlesex
Representative
District,—
time for
election
to fill
vacancy.

Ordered, That, this order shall supplant any previous order designating the date of an election to fill the vacancy that shall exist in the office of Representative in the General Court from said Thirty-Seventh Middlesex District.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4582), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

The following order (filed by Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop) was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules:

Ordered, that the precept to be issued by the Speaker, under the provisions of Section 141 of Chapter 54 of the General Laws, appointing a time for the election to fill the vacancy that shall exist in the office of Representative in the General Court from said Third Bristol District shall designate Tuesday, June 2, 2020, as the time ordered by the House of Representatives for said election; and be if further

Ordered, That, this order shall supplant any previous order designating the date of an election to fill the vacancy that shall exist in the office of Representative in the General Court from said Third Bristol District.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4583), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

Third Bristol Representative District,—
time for election to fill vacancy.

Communication.

A communication from the Division of Energy Resources of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (under the provisions of section 12 of Chapter 25A of the General Laws) submitting regulations to 225 CMR 21, Clean Peak Energy Portfolio Standard (CPS) (House, No. 4581), was referred to the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Clean energy portfolio,—
regulations.

Petition.

Mr. Puppolo of Springfield presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr., for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Paula Euber, an employee of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Paula Euber,—
sick leave.

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill granting authority to postpone 2020 municipal elections in the Commonwealth and increase voting options in response to the declaration of emergency to respond to COVID-19 (Senate, No. 2608) (on a part of House, No. 4398), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read.

Municipal elections,—
COVID-19 emergency declaration.

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

Under further suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Garballey of Arlington, 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.

Bills

Designating a certain bridge in the city of Taunton as the Private First Class Aaron Cordoba-Martinez bridge (Senate, No. 2132) (on a petition); and

Taunton,—
bridge.

Validating actions taken in connection with a special town election in the town of Oakham (printed in Senate, No. 2394) (on a message from the Governor);

Oakham,—
election.

Severally passed to be engrossed by the Senate, were read; and they were referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. O'Day of West Boylston, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on House, No. 4572, a Bill addressing challenges in municipal governance resulting from COVID-19 (House, No. 4580), which was read.

Municipal
governance,—
COVID-19
emergency
declaration.

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

By Mr. Petrolati of Ludlow, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Jose Lopez, an employee of the department of transportation [sic] (House, No. 4548), be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Jose Lopez,—
sick leave.

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

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed Bill granting authority to postpone 2020 municipal elections in the Commonwealth and increase voting options in response to the declaration of emergency to respond to COVID-19 (see Senate, No. 2608), 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.

Municipal
elections,—
COVID-19
emergency
declaration.

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 6 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 on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

At twenty-two minutes after one o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth (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.