The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2020.

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Tuesday, April 21, 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.

Message from the Governor.

A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation to mitigate arbovirus in the Commonwealth (House, No. 4650), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Thursday, April 16.

Arbovirus, mitigation.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Public Health. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Petition.

Representatives Ciccolo of Lexington and Vitolo of Brookline presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Michelle L. Ciccolo, Tommy Vitolo and others relative to authorizing remote participation at representative town meetings due to the COVID-19 emergency; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Town meetings,—remote participation.

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill providing for virtual notarization to address challenges related to COVID-19 (Senate, No. 2645) (on Senate bill No. 2642, amended), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

COVID-19,—virtual notarization.

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2643) of Diana DiZoglio, Lenny Mirra, Patricia D. Jehlen, Adam G. Hinds and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish a Massachusetts paycheck protection program (PPP) for businesses ineligible for the comparable federal PPP. To the committee on Community Development and Small Businesses.

Paycheck protection program.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2644) of Walter F. Timilty, John C. Velis, Anne M. Gobi, Diana DiZoglio and other members of the General Court for legislation to protect institutions of higher education that provide emergency aid in response to COVID-19. To the committee on the Judiciary.

Personal protective equipment,—liability.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, 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 James M. Kelcourse and others relative to credit rating protections due to the financial impact from the COVID-19 pandemic;

Petition (accompanied by bill) of James M. Murphy and others relative to emergency financial protections and forebearance for consumers and small business during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Alan Silvia and others relative to anti-hoarding and return of bulk items purchased during the COVID-19 outbreak;

Severally to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure. Petition (accompanied by bill) of Susannah M. Whipps for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Rebecca L. Stratford, an employee of the Department of Correction. To the committee on Public Service.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of John Barrett, III and Smitty Pignatelli relative to establishing a COVID-19 nonprofit cultural organizations emergency relief fund. To the committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development.

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

By Ms. Balser of Newton, for the committee on Elder Affairs, on House, No. 4635, a Bill relative to long term care facility and elder housing COVID-19 reporting (House, No. 4663).

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

Subsequently under suspension of the rules, on further motion of Ms. Balser, the bill (having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn), was read a third time.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Ms. Balser of Newton moved to amend it by substitution of a bill with the same title (House, No. 4667), which was read.

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted bill was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Reports of the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, under the last sentence of Rule 7A, that the following bills be scheduled for consideration by the House (the time within which said committee is required to report having expired):

The Senate Bill authorizing the town of Salisbury to assume control of the Ring's Island Water District (Senate, No. 2597) [Local Approval Received]; and

The House Bill authorizing the town of Wakefield to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 4475) [Local Approval Received];

Under suspension of Rule 7A, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the bills severally were read a second time forthwith; and they were ordered to a third reading.

COVID-19,—credit ratings.

COVID-19, financial protections.

COVID-19,—bulk items.

Rebecca Stratford, sick leave.

COVID-19, nonprofit relief fund.

COVID-19,—reporting.

Salisbury, water district. Wakefield, property taxes.

By Mr. O'Day of West Boylston, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Hadley to convey certain [sic] a certain parcel of land dedicated for park purposes (House, No. 4589) [Local Approval Received].

Hadley,land.

By Mr. Parisella of Beverly, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Marta Romero, an employee of the Department of Disability Services (House, No. 4632).

Marta Romero.sick leave.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Kimberly Brantley, an employee of [sic] Department of Developmental Services (House, No. 4653).

Kimberly Brantley,sick leave.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Jessica Ocasio, an employee of [sic] Department of Transitional Assistance (House, No. 4654).

Jessica Ocasio,sick leave.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Amanda Caruso, an employee of the Massachusetts Department of Corrections [sic] (House, No. 4657)

Amanda Caruso,sick leave.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 4651, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Paula Euber, an employee of the Department of Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission [sic] (House, No. 4662).

Paula Euber,sick leave.

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Orders of the Day.

The House Bill relative to the disability retirement of Ryan Moore and Donald Demiranda, police officers in the town of Falmouth (House, No. 4158), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Falmouth,— Ryan Moore and Donald Demiranda.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Speliotis of Danvers moved to amend it by substitution of a bill with the same title (House, No. 4666), which was read.

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted bill was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Recess.

At nine minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mrs. Gifford of Wareham (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at fourteen minutes after three o'clock P.M. the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Recess.

Public Service

committee,-

extension

of time for

reporting.

Orders.

The following order (filed by Mr. Parisella of Beverly) 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 Public Service be granted until Friday, June 19, 2020 within which time to make its final report on current Senate document numbered 1487.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4661), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Parisella of Beverly, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

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 sixteen minutes after three 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.