The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2019.

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Thursday, May 9, 2019.

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 Fathers, Chaplain of the House, as follows:

God of Love and Strength, we pray today in a spirit of thanksgiving for the many blessings we receive living in the Bay State. Many of our citizens over the years have quietly contributed in varied ways to our popular culture in America.

Today we remember one such native son, William Moulton Marston, who was born in Saugus on this day in 1893. He was a psychologist who taught for a time at Tufts University and later moved to Hollywood where he eventually developed the comic strip character Wonder Woman.

We pray in a special way today for Ninth Essex District Representative Donald Wong and his staff.

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.

Appointment of the Speaker.

The Speaker announced that he had appointed Representative Campbell of Methuen to the special commission established (under Section 44 of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2018) to study the cost and feasibility of exempting veterans of the Commonwealth from tuition, fees and associated costs of attending public colleges and universities in the Commonwealth, due to recent changes in federal veteran services and benefits related to higher education.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Hill of Ipswich) congratulating Father John Govostes on his fiftieth year anniversary as a priest;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Brodeur of Melrose) congratulating Rabbi Arnold M. Fertig on the occasion of his retirement from Temple Beth Shalom;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Brodeur of Melrose) commending the Melrose High School marching band on their representation of the Commonwealth in the National Memorial Day Parade;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. McKenna of Webster) congratulating Edith Blanche Borelli of Webster on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday; Prayer.

Pledge of allegiance.

Veterans, higher education costs.

John Govostes.

Arnold Fertig.

Melrose,— High School marching band.

Edith Borelli. Resolutions (filed by Mr. Velis of Westfield) recognizing the month of May as Foster Care Awareness Month; and

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Whelan of Brewster) recognizing Cheryl A. Lieberwirth for her twenty-six years of dedicated service to the town of Dennis;

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

Foster care awareness.

Cheryl Lieberwirth.

Communications.

Communications

From the Commissioner of Insurance (see sections 4A and 4B of Chapter 175 of the General Laws) submitting the 2017 annual home insurance report of the Division of Insurance [copies of said report were forwarded to the committee on Financial Services and the Attorney General of the Commonwealth, as required by said law];

Home insurance.

From the Commissioner of Insurance (see Section 117C of Chapter 175 of the General Laws) relative to credit insurance for the year 2017 [a copy of said report was forwarded to the committee on Financial Services, as required by said law];

Credit insurance.

From the Department of Public Health (see Section 99 of Chapter 208 of the Acts of 2018) submitting recommendations to improve access to voluntary rehabilitative alternatives to traditional disciplinary actions, for licensed health care professionals who have substance use disorders;

Rehabilitative alternatives.

From the Department of Transitional Assistance (see Section 32 of Chapter 158 of the Acts of 2014) submitting a report entitled: Agency Paper Reduction Efforts;

DTA, paper decrease.

From the Department of Transitional Assistance (see Section 2 of Chapter 18 of the General Laws) submitting a report entitled: Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Photo Requirement Exemptions;

DTA,— EBT photo exemptions.

From the Department of Transitional Assistance (see Section 2 of Chapter 18 of the General Laws) submitting a report entitled: Fiscal Year 2019 Report on Standard Budgets of Assistance for Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children;

DTA, standard budgets.

From the Department of Transitional Assistance (see Section 2 of Chapter 18 of the General Laws) submitting a report entitled: Report on Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children – Eligible Noncitizen Status Clients [copies of said report were forwarded to the committee on Ways and Means, and the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, as required by said law];

DTA, noncitizen status clients.

From the Harm Reduction Commission (see Section 100 of Chapter 208 of the Acts of 2018) submitting a report of its findings and recommendations regarding harm reduction opportunities in addressing substance use disorders;

Harm reduction,— substance use.

From the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association (see item 0340-2100 of Section 2 Chapter 154 of the Acts of 2018) detailing by district, the amount of case referrals by the Disabled Persons Protection Commission for fiscal year 2018;

District attorneys,—
DPPC referrals.

From the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency (MassDevelopment) (see Section 45C of Chapter 75 of the General Laws) submitting the first annual report of the Innovation Voucher Program Fund;

Innovation vouchers,— annual report.

From the Massachusetts Food Policy Council (see Section 6C of Chapter 20 of

Food Policy Council,— the General Laws) submitting its annual report, including attachments, on the priorities from the council's ongoing work related to the Massachusetts Local Food Action Plan:

annual report.

From the Task Force on Regional Transit Authority Performance and Funding (see Section 72 of Chapter 154 of the Acts of 2018, as amended by Section 6 of Chapter 277 of the Acts of 2018) submitting the public review draft report of recommendations on proposed guidelines for the establishment of service standards, appropriate ridership, customer service, asset management and financial performance indicators; and

Regional transit, performance and funding guidelines.

From the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Conservancy, Inc. (see Section 7 of Chapter 306 of the Acts of 2008) submitting audited financial statements of said conservancy from December 31, 2018 and 2017, entitled "The Greenway";

Kennedy Greenway, annual report.

Severally were placed on file.

Reports.

Annual reports

Of the Chief Justice for Administration and Management of the Trial Court (under Section 5 of Chapter 205 of the Acts of 2008) relative to the prosecution and disposition of cases involving certain offenses against children for the fiscal year 2018:

Crimes,—against children.

Of the Department of Early Education and Care (under Section 3(g) of Chapter 15D of the General Laws) submitting the annual legislative report of said department [copies of said report were forwarded to the committee on Education, as required by said law];

Early education,— annual report.

Of the commissioner of the Department of Revenue submitting (under Section 40(d) of Chapter 64C of the General Laws) its Annual Report of the Multi-Agency Illegal Tobacco Task Force; and

Illegal Tobacco Task Force.

Of the Special Commission on the Status of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (under Section 69(h) of Chapter 3 of the General Laws) of its activities for the calendar year 2018; and

Grandparents raising grandchildren.

Of the State Lottery Charitable Gaming Division (under Section 38 of Chapter 10 of the General Laws) for the calendar year 2018;

Charitable gaming.

Reports

Berkshire Flyer.

Of the Berkshire Flyer Working Group (under Section 101 of Chapter 154 of the Acts of 2018) submitting the findings, recommendations, benefits and challenges of creating a seasonal rail service between New York City and the county of Berkshire; and

MBTA, per passenger mile ratios.

Of the Department of Transportation, Rail and Transit Division (under Subsection 11 of Section 151 of Chapter 127 of the Acts of 1999) submitting a report outlining the net operating investment per passenger mile ratio for fiscal years 2017 through 2021; and

Unemployment assistance.

A monthly report of the Department of Unemployment Assistance (under Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) relative to the condition of the Commonwealth's Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund through the end of February 2019;

Severally were placed on file.

Paper from the Senate.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2219) of Marc R. Pacheco and Angelo L. D'Emilia (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the appointing authority of the town of Bridgewater to appoint police cadets under certain circumstances to the police department of said town, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Public Service.

Bridgewater,—police cadets.

Reports of Committee.

By Mr. Petrolati of Ludlow, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the following House bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

Authorizing the city of Leominster to pay a certain unpaid bill (House, No. 1795) [Local Approval Received];

Designating a bridge in the town of Dalton as the Specialist Mitchell K. Daehling memorial bridge (House, No. 3077); and

Relative to certain municipal employees of the towns of Richmond and West Stockbridge (House, No. 3631);

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

Leominster, unpaid bill.

Dalton, bridge.

Richmond and West Stockbridge.

Order.

On motion of Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop,—

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

Next sitting.

At twenty-three 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 Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.