
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2020.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Tuesday, June 30, 2020.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M., under emergency rules, 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.

Silent Prayer.

At the request of the Mr. Pignatelli of Lenox and other members of the House, the members and employees stood for a moment of silent tribute in memory of Robert Libin, General Counsel to the joint committee on the Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture, who passed away on Saturday, June 27, 2020.

Robert
Libin.

Robert Libin was a loving husband to Irene, father and grandfather who will be remembered for his many years of service to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. If you ask almost anyone in the State House, they can tell you a story about Bob. He was all of the things a public servant should be and more. He was a wealth of knowledge and resource for those who needed it, a loyal employee who never missed a day of work, and most importantly, a friend to everyone. Whether you interacted with Bob in the hallways of the State House, sought out his legal expertise for certain legislation, or worked with him through the committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture, he would always remember your name and ask how you were doing.

In his time working for the State Legislature, Bob has played a role in writing the Massachusetts smoke-free workplace law, the 2018 Environmental Bond Bill, and several hundreds of bills on a variety of topics in the Environment Committee from waste reduction to animal rights, climate change, land preservation, and more. Bob has been the staple of the joint committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture, and in his time working for the State Legislature has helped hundreds of advocates, constituents, and residents of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with a kind heart and pure intentions.

Many have mentioned fond memories of Bob due to his quick wit and dry sense of humor. When he told a good story, his laughter was infectious. Today we remember Bob for his brilliant mind, for the care and detail that he put into all of our legislation, for his guidance, for his dedicated work as an employee, and most importantly, for his friendship.

Appointment of the Speaker.

The Speaker, under the provisions of House Rule 8, announced that he had appointed Mr. Madaro of Boston to replace Ms. Peake of Provincetown as monitor of the Fourth Division for today's session.

Monitor of
the House.

Appointments to a Temporary Special Standing Committee.

The Speaker announced that he had appointed Representatives Moran of Boston and Peake of Provincetown to the temporary special standing committee of the House (established under House order No. 4757) on COVID-19 Economic Response and Recovery Efforts.

COVID-19
economic
response
committee.

Order.

The following order (filed by Ms. Cronin of Easton) 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 the Judiciary be granted until Friday, July 31, 2020 within which time to make its final report on current House documents numbered 4652 and 4659.

The Judiciary
committee,—
extension
of time for
reporting.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4813), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Cronin of Easton, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Ms. Barber of Somerville, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Christine P. Barber and others for legislation to address estate recovery issues due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19,—
estate
recovery.

By Mr. Hawkins of Attleboro, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of James K. Hawkins and others relative to a moratorium on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) in response to the COVID-19 emergency.

COVID-19,—
MCAS
moratorium.

By Representative Miranda of Boston and Senator Collins, a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Liz Miranda, Nick Collins and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to race in the Commonwealth.

Race,—
commission.

By Representative Miranda of Boston and Senator Creem, a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Liz Miranda, Cynthia Stone Creem and others for legislation to address public safety issues including the use and reporting of physical force including choke holds, so-called, by law enforcement officers and the use of warrants and electronic weapons.

Law
enforcement,—
physical force.

By Messrs. Moran of Lawrence and Rogers of Cambridge, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Frank A. Moran, David M. Rogers and others relative to the right to record law enforcement.

Law
enforcement,—
recording.

By the same members, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Frank A. Moran, David M. Rogers and others for legislation to provide for private rights of action against persons intentionally summoning police officers without reason to suspected violations of criminal law.

Police,—
inappropriate
summonsing.

By Representatives Robinson of Framingham and Williams of Springfield, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Maria Duaine Robinson, Bud L. Williams and others for legislation to designate Juneteenth Independence Day as a legal holiday in the Commonwealth.

Juneteenth,—
holiday.

Severally, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Papers from the Senate.

The House Bill authorizing the city of Lynn to use certain park land in said city for combined sewer overflow control purposes (House, No. 4362), came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with amendments striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document number 2783; and striking out the title and inserting in place thereof the following title: "An Act authorizing the city of Lynn to change the use of portions of certain park land for combined sewer overflow control purposes". The amendments were referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Lynn,—
park land.

Bills

Authorizing the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to release its interest by deed or to grant an easement in a certain parcel of land in the city of Fall River (Senate, No. 2780) (on Senate bill No. 2472);

Fall River,—
land.

Authorizing the release of an agricultural preservation restriction of certain land in Plymouth (Senate, No. 2781) (on Senate bill No. 2335); and

Plymouth,—
land.

Authorizing the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to dispose of certain parcels of land in the city of Brockton (Senate, No. 2782) (on Senate bill No. 2352);

Brockton,—
land.

Severally passed to be engrossed by the Senate were read; and they were referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

A Bill authorizing the city of Gloucester to use certain lands for municipal school purposes (Senate, No. 2628) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received], passed to be engrossed by the Senate was read; and it was referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Gloucester,—
land.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that the Bill relative to parking and pedestrian safety (House, No. 1779), ought to pass. Referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Parking and
pedestrian
safety.

By Ms. Cronin of Easton, for the committee on the Judiciary, on Senate, No. 956 and House, No. 1346, a Bill removing the liability cap for malpractice resulting in serious injury or death (House, No. 1346).

Malpractice,—
liability cap.

By Mr. Hay of Fitchburg, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on House, No. 4738, a Bill relative to manufacturing and factory worker protection from COVID-19 (House, No. 4822).

COVID-19,—
worker
protections.

Severally referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

By Mr. Hay of Fitchburg, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on House, No. 4748, a Bill establishing unemployment expansion during public health emergencies (House, No. 4823). Read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Unemployment
expansion.

By Mr. Hay of Fitchburg, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on House, No. 4736, a Bill relative to employee definition harmonization (House, No. 4821).

Employee definitions.

By Mr. Parisella of Beverly, for the committee on Public Service, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Alexandra Jordankova, an employee of the Department of Developmental Services (House, No. 4816).

Alexandra Jordankova,—
sick leave.

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

Recess.

At one minute after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Smola of Warren (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed until one o'clock P.M.; and at five minutes after one o'clock the House was called to order with the Speaker in the Chair.

Recess.

Quorum.

As required under the provision of Emergency Rule 2(4), a roll call was taken for the purpose of ascertaining the presence of a quorum; and on the roll call 159 members were recorded as being in attendance.

Quorum,—
yea and nay
No. 189.

[See Yea and Nay No. 189 in Supplement.]

Therefore a quorum was present.

Orders of the Day.

The House Bill to reduce racial inequities in maternal health (House, No. 4818), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Maternal health,—
inequities.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Speliotis of Danvers moved to amend it in lines 9 and 10 by striking out the following: “23 members: the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on public health, or their designees, who shall serve as co-chairs” and inserting in place thereof the following: “25 members: the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on public health, or their designees, who shall serve as co-chairs; the ranking minority members of the house and senate on the joint committee on public health, or their designees”. The amendment was adopted.

After debate on the question on passing the bill, as amended, to be engrossed, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays at the request of Ms. Khan of Newton; and on the roll call 159 members voted in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

Bill passed to be engrossed—
yea and nay
No. 190.

[See Yea and Nay No. 190 in Supplement.]

Therefore the bill (House, No. 4818, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair,—
House bills

Authorizing the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to transfer certain parcels of land to the city of Northampton (House, No. 4123); and

Third reading bills.

Relative to the conveyance of a certain parcel of land in the city of Lowell (House, No. 4819);

Severally reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Reports of Committees.

The Speaker being in the Chair,—

Mr. Lawn of Watertown, for the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches with reference to the Senate amendment (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2764) of the House Bill relative to voting options in response to COVID-19 (House, No. 4778), reported a bill with the same title (House, No. 4820). Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

COVID-19,—
voting
options.

Mr. Petrolati of Ludlow, for said committee, then reported, that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Lawn of Watertown, the report was considered forthwith.

After debate on the question on acceptance of the report, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, at the request of the same member; and on the roll call 157 members voted in the affirmative and 1 in the negative.

Conference
committee
report
accepted,—
yea and nay
No. 191.

[See Yea and Nay No. 191 in Supplement.]

Therefore the report of the committee of conference was accepted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill financing improvements to municipal roads and bridges (see House, No. 4803, amended) (which originated in the House), in respect to which the Senate had concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, was put upon its final passage.

Municipal
roads and
bridges.

After remarks on the question on passing the bill to be enacted, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays (this being a “loan” bill as defined by Section 3 of Article LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution); and on the roll call (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair) 159 members voted in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

Bill enacted
(state loan),—
yea and nay
No. 192.

[See Yea and Nay No. 192 in Supplement.]

Therefore the bill was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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-five minutes after two o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Smola of Warren (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.