
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2020.

[81]

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, August 13, 2020.

Met at ten minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mrs. Haddad of Somerset 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 (Mrs. Haddad), the members, guests and employees joined with her 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 relative to providing for the terms of certain bonds for capital improvements to be issued by the Commonwealth (House, No. 4946), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Tuesday, August 11.

IT bond,—
terms.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 17G, to the committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Mr. Linsky of Natick) congratulating Esther Fine on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday, were referred under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Esther
Fine.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Order.

The following order (filed by Mr. Lawn of Watertown) 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 Election Laws be granted until Thursday, December 31, 2020 within which time to make its final report on current House document numbered 4902.

Election
Laws,—
extension
of time for
reporting.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4945), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, 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 Representative Blais of Sunderland and Senator Hinds, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4948) of Natalie M. Blais and Adam G. Hinds (by vote of the town) that the town of Ashfield be authorized to change the name of the board of selectmen to select board; and

Ashfield,—
select board.

By Mr. Pignatelli of Lenox, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4949) of Smitty Pignatelli and Adam G. Hinds (by vote of the town) that the town of Lenox be authorized to transfer certain property in Kennedy Park in said town in exchange for the dedication of certain conservation land;

Lenox,—
land.

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Ms. Sullivan of Abington presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Alyson M. Sullivan and others relative to public safety, improving court security efficiency and the reduction of prisoner transportation costs; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Court
security.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, asking to be discharged from further consideration

Of the Bill relative to the rural policy advisory commission (House, No. 364);

Of the Bill relative to a 5G technology task force (House, No. 383); and

Of the Bill relative to a loan forgiveness task force (House, No. 384);

And recommending that the same severally be referred to the House committee on Rules.

Rural policy.
5G technology.
Loan releases.

Under Rule 42, the reports severally were considered forthwith; and they were accepted.

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:

Relative to change [sic] the name of the board of selectmen of the town of Billerica to select board to exhibit gender neutrality (House, No. 4847) [Local Approval Received]; and

Billerica,—
select board.

Relative to change [sic] the name of the board of selectmen of the town of North Andover to select board to exhibit gender neutrality (House, No. 4903) [Local Approval Received];

North
Andover,—
select board.

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.

A report of the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, under the last sentence of Rule 7A, that the Senate Bill classifying the Taunton Fire Department mechanic Michael Perry, in connection with the determination of retirement benefits (Senate, No. 2624) [Local Approval Received], be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Taunton,—
Michael
Perry.

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

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, that the Bill relative to PILOT compensation to towns with a high percentage of state owned land (House, No. 2658), ought to pass. Referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

State land,—
compensation.

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Paul McBrien, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth (see House, No. 4795), 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.

Paul
McBrien,—
sick leave.

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 5 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Relative to the gender neutral redraft of the home rule charter of the town of Easton (see House, No. 3984, amended); and

Bills
enacted.

Authorizing the town of Lunenburg to grant an additional license for the sale of wines and malt beverages on the premises (see House, No. 4644);

(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.

Orders of the Day.

The Senate Bill revising the town charter of Lunenburg (Senate, No. 2754), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

Third
reading
bill.

The House Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Sandwich as the Commander Francis T. Williams & Sandwich Veterans Memorial Bridge (House, No. 4360), reported by committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Sandwich,—
memorial
bridge.

Pending the question on passing the bill to engrossed, Mr. Speliotis of Danvers moved to amend it by inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:

“Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to designate forthwith a certain bridge in the town of Sandwich as the Commander Francis T. Williams and Sandwich Veterans Memorial Bridge, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.”.

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 4360, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

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-one minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. O'Day of West Boylston (Mrs. Haddad of Somerset being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.