
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020.

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Monday, October 19, 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.

Petitions.

Mr. Hay of Fitchburg presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Stephan Hay and others for legislation to establish a minimum unemployment weekly benefit amount during a public health emergency; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Unemployment,—
weekly benefit.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules and the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, then reported recommending that Joint Rule 12 be suspended. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Labor and Workforce Development. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Mr. Murphy of Weymouth presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of James M. Murphy relative to certain insurance requirement relief during the Governor's COVID-19 emergency declaration; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

COVID-19,—
insurance
requirements.

Papers from the Senate.

The House Order (House, No. 4788) relative to extending until Thursday October 15, 2020 the time within which the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs is authorized to make its final report on current Senate documents numbered 2151, 2160, 2164, 2167, 2168, 2171, 2464, 2502 and 2702, and House documents numbered 3195, 3198, 3200, 3201, 3202, 3203, 3205, 3206, 3207, 3214, 3218, 3228, 3229, 3231, 3232, 3233, 3234, 3238, 3245, 4407, 4512 and 4513, came from the Senate with the endorsement that it had been adopted, in concurrence, with an amendment in line 2, striking out the date "October 15" and inserting in place thereof the date "December 31".

Veterans and
Federal
Affairs,—
extension of
time for
reporting.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mrs. Campbell of Methuen, the amendment was considered forthwith; and it was adopted, in concurrence.

A petition (accompanied by bill) of Patricia D. Jehlen and Eric P. Lesser for legislation relative to additional unemployment benefits for the neediest recipients currently excluded from the Lost Wages Assistance program, came from the Senate

Unemployment
benefits.

referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Labor and Workforce Development.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2927) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Labor and Workforce Development.

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 joint petition 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. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by resolve) was referred to the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Racism,—
study.

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:

Establishing a sick leave bank for Debra Hill [sic] an employee of the Department of Mental Health (House, No. 5036); and

Debra Hill,—
sick leave.

Establishing a sick leave bank for William Manning, an employee of the Department of corrections [sic] (House, No. 5044);

William
Manning,—
sick leave.

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.

By Mr. Mahoney of Worcester, for the committee on Public Health, on Senate, No. 2871 and House, No. 4979, a Bill relative to source plasma donation centers (House, No. 4979). Referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

Source plasma
donation
centers.

By Mr. Parisella of Beverly, for the committee on Public Service, on House, No. 4980, a Bill allowing Deina Abdelkader to become a member of the state employee retirement system (House, No. 5058).

Deina
Abdelkader,—
retirement.

By Miss Gregoire of Marlborough, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the lease of Commonwealth property in the town of Oak Bluffs to the Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group, Inc. for the property's continued use for shellfish propagation and other fisheries resources research and management activities (House, No. 4885).

Oak Bluffs,—
land.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 5020, a Bill authorizing the sale of real property in Brockton (House, No. 5059) [Representative Devers of Lawrence dissenting].

Brockton,—
property.

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Cusack of Braintree, for the committee on Revenue, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Harvard to establish a cap on property taxes for means tested

Harvard,—
property
taxes.

senior citizens (printed as Senate, No. 2839) [Local Approval Received]. Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Emergency Measures.

The engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Sharon L. Kelley, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth (see Senate, No. 2867, amended), 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.

Sharon Kelley,—
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 3 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.

The engrossed Bill authorizing the Nauset Regional School District to enter into renewable energy agreements (see House, No. 4830, amended), 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.

Nauset Regional School District,—
renewable energy.

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 3 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 House) was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill enacted.

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Sandwich as the Commander Francis T. Williams and Sandwich Veterans Memorial Bridge (see House, No. 4360, amended) (which originated in the House), in respect to which the Senate had concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill enacted.

Orders of the Day.

The Senate Bill authorizing the commissioner of the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to convey and acquire certain parcels of land in the town of Halifax (Senate, No. 2627, amended), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Halifax,—
land.

Pending the question on passing the bill, as amended, to be engrossed, in concurrence, Mr. Speliotis of Danvers moved to amend it by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 5060.

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (Senate, No. 2627, amended) was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence. Sent to the Senate for concurrence in the amendment adopted by the House.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Winchester to establish a senior property tax exemption (House, No. 4476), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Winchester,—
property
taxes.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Speliotis of Danvers moved to amend it by striking out section 6.

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 4476, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Plainville to grant additional licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages (House, No. 4692), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Plainville,—
liquor
licenses.

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. 5061), which was read.

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted bill 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 Thursday next at eleven A.M.

Next
sitting.

At twenty-two minutes after eleven o'clock A.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.