The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.


[101]
Thursday, October 22, 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 relative to making certain appropriations for fiscal year 2021 before final action on the General Appropriation Bill (House, No. 5065), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, October 21.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Cahill of Lynn) honoring Daniel J. Forte on the occasion of his retirement;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Naughton of Clinton and Speaker DeLeo of Winthrop) supporting the assignment of the F-35A aircraft to the Massachusetts Air National Guard 104th Fighter Wing in the city of Westfield; and

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Peake of Provincetown) congratulating Nancy Boynton Prindle on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday;

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

Orders.

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 Thursday, November 12, 2020 within which time to make its final report on current House document numbered 4978.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 5050), 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.

The following order (filed by Mr. Cusack of Braintree) 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 Revenue be granted until Monday, November 30, 2020 within which time to make its final report on current Senate document numbered 2913.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 5057), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Cusack of Braintree, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Communications.

Communications

From the Bristol County Registry of Deeds (see Section 2KKK of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting its plan for expenditure for technological improvements from the County Registers Technological Fund [copies of the communication were forwarded to the committees on Ways and Means and Post Audit and Oversight, as required by said law];

From the Cannabis Control Commission (see Section 74 of Chapter 55 of the Acts of 2017) submitting its status update on the joint report of the Department of Revenue and the Cannabis Control Commission relative to a study of the feasibility of alternative tax bases for calculating taxes on marijuana and marijuana products as required by statute;

From the Cannabis Control Commission and the Department of Revenue (see Section 63 of Chapter 55 of the Acts of 2017) submitting a joint report relative to the study and feasibility of alternative tax bases for calculating taxes on marijuana and marijuana products [copies of the communication were forwarded to the House committees on Cannabis Policy and Revenue, as required by said law];

From the Commissioner of Insurance (see Section 17 of Chapter 175 of the General Laws) submitting the 2017 Annual Report of the Division of Insurance;

From the Commissioner of Insurance (see Section 17 of Chapter 175 of the General Laws) submitting the 2018 Annual Report of the Division of Insurance;

From the Commissioner of Insurance (see Section 32 of Chapter 219 of the Acts of 2018) submitting an annual report of the Division of Insurance relative to claims involving dog-related incidents in the calendar year 2019;

From the Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation (see Section 6 of Chapter 40H of the General Laws) submitting its annual report for the fiscal year 2019;

From the Department of Public Health (see item 4000-0009 of Section 2 of Chapter 41 of the Acts of 2019) submitting its report entitled “Office of Health Equity within the Executive Office of Health and Human Services Development Report, 2019”;

From the Department of Public Health (see Section 24N of Chapter 111 of the General Laws) submitting a report entitled “Vaccine Purchase Trust Fund Fiscal Year 2019”;
From the Department of Public Health (see item 4516-1000 of Section 2 of Chapter 41 of the Acts of 2019) submitting a report entitled “MA State Public Health Laboratory Tuberculosis Report”;

From the Department of Public Health (see Section 1(f) of Chapter 93 of the Acts of 2020) submitting a report entitled “Chapter 93 of the Acts of 2020 Legislative Report”;

From the Division of Marine Fisheries (see item 2330-0100 of Section 2 of Chapter 154 of the Acts of 2018) submitting its report relative to a study of the impacts of the trawl fishery targeting longfin squid in waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth;

From the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (see Section 13 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 2018) submitting a report of the Justice Reinvestment Policy Oversight Board (JRPOB) entitled “Data Collection and Reporting in the Massachusetts Criminal Justice System”;

From the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency (MassDevelopment) (see Section 71 of Chapter 141 of the Acts of 2003) submitting the Emerging Technology Fund Quarterly Report for the period of January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020;

From the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (see Section 60 of Chapter 23K of the General Laws) submitting its recommendations on the distribution of the Race Horse Development Fund between thoroughbred and standardbred racing facilities to support the thoroughbred and standardbred industries;

From the Massachusetts Life Insurance Community Investment Initiative, LLC (see Section 2(e) of Chapter 259 of the Acts of 1998) for the calendar year 2019;

From the Office of the Child Advocate (see Section 14 of Chapter 18C of the General Laws, as added by Section 17 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 2018) submitting a report of the Childhood Trauma Task Force entitled “Protecting our Children’s Well-Being During Covid-19: Recommendations for Supporting Children and Families Who Have Experienced Trauma and Stress During the Pandemic”;

From the Office of the State Auditor (see item 0710-0200 of Chapter 41 of the Acts of 2019) submitting a quarterly report of the Bureau of Special Investigations from January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020 [received via electronic mail on July 14, 2020]; and

From the Special Commission to Plan, Develop and Implement Strategies to Support and Promote Minority-Owned Real Estate and Financial Services Organizations in the Commonwealth (see Section 61 of Chapter 228 of the Acts of 2018) submitting a report describing barriers and providing recommendations for consideration by the State Legislature;

Severally were placed on file.

Annual, Quarterly and Monthly Reports.

Annual reports

Of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (under Section 94(p) of Chapter 71 of the General Laws) submitting the fiscal year 2018 virtual schools report to the General Court [a copy of the report was forwarded to the committee on Education, as required by said law];

Of the Department of Public Utilities (under Section 1G of Chapter 164 of the General Laws) submitting its annual report concerning self-generation for fiscal year 2019;

From the Department of Public Health (see item 4516-1000 of Section 2 of Chapter 41 of the Acts of 2019) submitting a report entitled “MA State Public Health Laboratory Tuberculosis Report”;

From the Department of Public Health (see Section 1(f) of Chapter 93 of the Acts of 2020) submitting a report entitled “Chapter 93 of the Acts of 2020 Legislative Report”;

From the Division of Marine Fisheries (see item 2330-0100 of Section 2 of Chapter 154 of the Acts of 2018) submitting its report relative to a study of the impacts of the trawl fishery targeting longfin squid in waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth;

From the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (see Section 13 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 2018) submitting a report of the Justice Reinvestment Policy Oversight Board (JRPOB) entitled “Data Collection and Reporting in the Massachusetts Criminal Justice System”;

From the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency (MassDevelopment) (see Section 71 of Chapter 141 of the Acts of 2003) submitting the Emerging Technology Fund Quarterly Report for the period of January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020;

From the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (see Section 60 of Chapter 23K of the General Laws) submitting its recommendations on the distribution of the Race Horse Development Fund between thoroughbred and standardbred racing facilities to support the thoroughbred and standardbred industries;

From the Massachusetts Life Insurance Community Investment Initiative, LLC (see Section 2(e) of Chapter 259 of the Acts of 1998) for the calendar year 2019;

From the Office of the Child Advocate (see Section 14 of Chapter 18C of the General Laws, as added by Section 17 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 2018) submitting a report of the Childhood Trauma Task Force entitled “Protecting our Children’s Well-Being During Covid-19: Recommendations for Supporting Children and Families Who Have Experienced Trauma and Stress During the Pandemic”;

From the Office of the State Auditor (see item 0710-0200 of Chapter 41 of the Acts of 2019) submitting a quarterly report of the Bureau of Special Investigations from January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020 [received via electronic mail on July 14, 2020]; and

From the Special Commission to Plan, Develop and Implement Strategies to Support and Promote Minority-Owned Real Estate and Financial Services Organizations in the Commonwealth (see Section 61 of Chapter 228 of the Acts of 2018) submitting a report describing barriers and providing recommendations for consideration by the State Legislature;

Severally were placed on file.

Annual, Quarterly and Monthly Reports.

Annual reports

Of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (under Section 94(p) of Chapter 71 of the General Laws) submitting the fiscal year 2018 virtual schools report to the General Court [a copy of the report was forwarded to the committee on Education, as required by said law];

Of the Department of Public Utilities (under Section 1G of Chapter 164 of the General Laws) submitting its annual report concerning self-generation for fiscal year 2019;
Of the Division of Banks (under Section 13 of Chapter 167 of the General Laws) for the year 2019;

Of the Division of the Massachusetts Property and Casualty Insurance Company Community Investment Initiative (under Section 3(e) of Chapter 259 of the Acts of 1998) for the fiscal year 2019 [copies of said report were forwarded to the House committee on Ways and Means and the committees on Financial Services and Revenue, as required by said law];

Of the MetroWest Regional Transit Authority (under Section 8(g) of Chapter 161B of the General Laws) submitting financial statements, supplementary information, and a schedule of expenditures of federal awards and OMB uniform guidance auditors’ reports for the fiscal year 2019; and

Of the Operational Services Division (under Section 6 of Chapter 7C of the General Laws) submitting its Supplier Diversity Office Comprehensive Annual Report for the fiscal year 2019 [copies of said report were forwarded to the House committees on Ways and Means and the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, as required by said law]; and

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 May 2020; and

A quarterly report of the Sheriff’s Department of Plymouth County (under Section 84 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 2018) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Plymouth County Correctional Facility for the second quarter of 2020;

Severally were placed on file.

Petitions.

Mr. Boldyga of Southwick presented a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5069) of Nicholas A. Boldyga (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city known as the town of Agawam be authorized to exempt certain public school system positions from the civil service law; and the same was referred to the committee on Public Service. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Ms. Fiola of Fall River presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Carole A. Fiola for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Emily Texeira, an employee of the Bristol County Sheriff’s Office; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Paper from the Senate.

A petition (accompanied by bill) of Anne M. Gobi, Kimberly N. Ferguson, Michael O. Moore and David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf for legislation to designate a certain boat launch area in the town of Rutland as the Detective John D. Songy Boat Launch, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2932) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.
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 Mark J. Cusack and others for legislation to establish the Tri-Town water district in the towns of Braintree, Holbrook and Randolph; and

Joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Patricia A. Haddad, Michael J. Rodrigues and Steven S. Howitt relative to elections of the Swansea water district;

Several to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

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

By Mr. Petrolati of Ludlow, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the House Bill authorizing the town of North Attleborough to issue an additional liquor license (House, No. 4990) [Local Approval Received], be scheduled for consideration by the House.

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

By Mr. Rogers of Cambridge, for the committee on Cannabis Policy, on House, No. 4274, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Cannabis Policy to make an investigation and study of certain a House document concerning further regulating eligibility for medical use marijuana (House, No. 5051).

By Mr. Coppinger of Boston, for the committee on Community Development and Small Businesses, on House, Nos. 178, 182 and 187, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Community Development and Small Businesses to make an investigation and study of certain House documents concerning small business (House, No. 5052) [Representative Provost of Somerville dissenting].

By Ms. Peisch of Wellesley, for the committee on Education, on House, No. 465, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Education to make an investigation and study of a certain House document concerning MassHealth school-based care reimbursements (House, No. 5053).

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, on House, No. 30 and on a part of House, No. 27, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Financial Services to make an investigation and study of a certain House document concerning public monies deposits (House, No. 5054).

By Miss Gregoire of Marlborough, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on House, Nos. 2760 and 2761, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight to make an investigation and study of certain House documents concerning use of force accounts and promoting Massachusetts manufacturers (House, No. 5055) [Representative Orrall of Lakeville dissenting].

By Mr. Straus of Mattapoisett, for the committee on Transportation, on House, No. 3104, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Transportation to make an investigation and study of a certain House document concerning Route 128 interchange improvements (House, No. 5056).
Severally referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Subsequently, Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committees, reported, in each instance, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the orders; and recommending that the same severally be referred to the House committee on Rules. Under Rule 42, the reports severally were considered forthwith; and they were accepted.

By Mr. Hay of Fitchburg, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on House, No. 5064, a Bill relative to additional unemployment benefits for the neediest recipients currently excluded from the Lost Wages Assistance Program (House, No. 5066). Read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Chan of Quincy, for the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, on House, No. 4953, a Bill pertaining to liquor licenses in the town of Brookline (House, No. 5067) [Local Approval Received].

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 4271, a Bill authorizing the town of Dedham to grant one additional license for the sale of wine and malt to be drunk on premises (House, No. 5068) [Local Approval Received].

By Mr. O’Day of West Boylston, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Stow to take easements and rights of way for the reconstruction of the Box Mill Road bridge (House, No. 4991) [Local Approval Received].

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill amending the charter for the town of Chatham (House, No. 4992) [Local Approval Received].

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to increased city council oversight of finances in the city of Methuen (House, No. 5009) [Local Approval Received] [Senator DiZoglio dissenting].

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the board of selectmen of the town of Maynard (House, No. 5010) [Local Approval Received].

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the select board of the town of Clinton (House, No. 5016) [Local Approval Received].

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing for alternate members of the Conservation Commission of the town of Freetown (House, No. 5029) [Local Approval Received].

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill amending the town of Plymouth Environmental Affairs Fund (House, No. 5034) [Local Approval Received].

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the management of Fuller Field in the town of Clinton (House, No. 5035) [Local Approval Received].

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the termination of the motor vehicle fine revolving fund in the town of Whitman (House, No. 5046) [Local Approval Received].

By Mr. Parisella of Beverly, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Brian Thompson, an employee of department of corrections (House, No. 5063).

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

House bills
Establishing a sick leave bank for Debra Hill, an employee of the Department of Mental Health (House, No. 5036) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading); and
Establishing a sick leave bank for William Manning, an employee of the Department of Correction (House, No. 5044) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading);
Severally having been reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to engrossed. Severally 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.

At ten 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.