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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021.**

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# JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

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Thursday, January 21, 2021.

Met at seven minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Garballey of Arlington 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. Garballey), 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 Ms. Hogan of Stow, the members and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute in honor of the memory of Mr. Antonio Dias Chaves, a dear friend and remarkable public servant, who tragically passed away due to COVID-19 on December 31, 2020. Mr. Chaves' lifelong dedication to public service, and particularly the Portuguese community, made the town of Hudson, the Commonwealth, and the nation a better place.

Antonio  
Dias Chaves.

Mr. Chaves immigrated to the United States from the Azores in 1967. He proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. In 1978, he became the first Portuguese-American elected to the Hudson Board of Selectmen and just the second elected Portuguese-American in all of Massachusetts. Mr. Chaves had a profound impact on the Portuguese community in Massachusetts. He helped thousands of people make a new life for themselves and their families in America as both an immigration consultant and with the Massachusetts Office of Refugees and Immigrants. He was the heart of the Hudson Portuguese Club where he served as president of the general assembly celebrating traditions, culture, and history.

Throughout his life, Mr. Chaves was honored with numerous recognitions and awards, most notably, the Portuguese Government awarded Mr. Chaves the Order of Merit and the title of "Comendador," one of the highest civilian honors bestowed by the Portuguese Government.

Mr. Chaves' legacy will live on through his loving family and all of those who had the honor of calling him a friend. Mr. Chaves leaves behind his wife of 41 years, Zelia and his son, Derek.

## *Message from the Governor.*

A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to financing a program for improvements to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund and relief to employers in the Commonwealth (House, No. 55), was filed with the Clerk on Wednesday, January 13.

Unemployment  
Insurance.

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

*Appointment to a Special Joint Oversight Committee..*

The Speaker announced that he had appointed Ms. Duffy of Holyoke to the special joint oversight committee established (under House order No. 4835 of the 191st General Court) to make an investigation and study of the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke COVID-19 outbreak, to fill an existing vacancy.

Holyoke  
Soldiers' Home  
COVID-19  
outbreak  
oversight  
committee.

The membership on the part of the House of the special joint committee is as follows: Representatives Campbell of Methuen (Co-Chair), Wagner of Chicopee, Parisella of Beverly, Balser of Newton, Markey of Dartmouth, Finn of West Springfield, Arciero of Westford, Domb of Amherst, Duffy of Holyoke, Berthiaume of Spencer and DeCoste of Norwell.

*Resolutions.*

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Ms. Hogan of Stow) congratulating Stephen A. Weiner on the occasion of his retirement as Library Director at the Maynard Public Library, were referred under Rule 85, to the temporary committee on Rules.

Stephen  
Weiner.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Tucker of Salem, the resolutions (having been certified by House Counsel to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

*Paper from the Senate.*

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Alexis Orloff, an employee of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office (Senate, No. 6) (on a petition), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read.

Alexis  
Orloff,—  
sick leave.

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

*Emergency Measure.*

The engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for George Monfreda, an employee of the Department of Mental Health (see House, No. 54, 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.

George  
Monfreda,—  
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 4 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.

*Order.*

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—  
*Ordered,* That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next  
sitting.

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At twenty-one minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Hill of Ipswich (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.