
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021.

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Thursday, April 15, 2021.

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

During the session, the Speaker took the Chair, and addressed the House, as follows:

One Boston
Day.

Today we mark the anniversary of the tragic events surrounding the 117th Boston Marathon.

As we sit in the Chamber today, we take the opportunity to remember the survivors and the families of all those impacted; to thank the heroes of that day; and to reflect on our community's strength and resiliency.

In the past eight years, we have proven that in the face of unthinkable inhumanity there is unrelenting good.

Please join me in a moment of silence.

Ms. Hogan of Stow being the Chair,— At the request of Mr. Oliveira of Ludlow, the members and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute to the memory of former Ludlow Fire Chief Homer R. Dubois, who passed away this month at the age of 98. He served as Ludlow Fire Chief for more than two decades and was a member of the department for more than 40 years. He was a United States Navy Veteran who proudly served during WWII in the South Pacific. He leaves behind his wife of 71 years, May Dubois, his children, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Homer
Dubois.

Southeast Asian New Year.

During the session, Mr. Wong of Saugus took the Chair and, at the request of Representatives Wong, Chan of Quincy, Schmid of Westport, Mom of Lowell, Nguyen of Andover, Robinson of Framingham, Howard of Lowell and Uytterhoeven of Somerville, the members and employees made special recognition that on Wednesday, April 14th, Southeast Asian New Year was celebrated by millions of Asian Americans in the United States and that it is widely celebrated in Cambodia, Thailand, Laos, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and the Maldives. This will be the 2,564th year of the Buddhist calendar. Southeast Asian New Year is characterized by the gathering of families, playful water fights, local games, and it is a very spiritual occasion with unique traditional rituals, community activities, and cultural performances.

Southeast
Asian
New Year.

It is traditionally a time to wish upon others good fortune, health, prosperity, and happiness. In observance of this Southeast Asian New Year, the Year of the Ox, the Massachusetts House of Representatives recognizes the cultural and historical significance of Southeast Asian New Year and wishes Asian Americans and all individuals who observe this holiday a happy, peaceful, and prosperous new year.

Appointments of the Speaker.

The Speaker announced that he had made the following appointments:

That Doug Spicer of Newton had been appointed as his designee (under Section 69 of Chapter 3 of the General Laws) to the permanent commission on the Status of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren;

Grandparents.

That Karla Baehr had been appointed as his designee (under Section 15 of Chapter 132 of the Acts of 2019) to the Twenty-First Century Education Advisory Council;

Education
Advisory
Council.

That Representative Blais of Sunderland had been appointed as his designee (under Section 22 of Chapter 132 of the Acts of 2019) to the special commission to study and make recommendations concerning the long-term fiscal health of rural school districts that are facing or may face declining student enrollment; and

School
districts,—
enrollment.

That Sarah Sian and Thomas Weber had been appointed as his designees (under Section 106 of Chapter 227 of the Acts of 2020) to the Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission.

Economic
Review
Commission.

Reports of Committees.

Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, on House, No. 1, reported, in part, a Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2022 for the maintenance of the departments, boards, commissions, institutions and certain activities of the Commonwealth, for interest, sinking fund and serial bond requirements and for certain permanent improvements (House, No. 4000) [Total appropriation: \$47,649,047,965.00]. Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

General
Appropriation
Bill.

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

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith. Pending the question on ordering the bill to a third reading, the same member moved that further consideration thereof be postponed until Monday, April 26; and the motion prevailed.

Recess.

At seven minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House recessed until one o'clock P.M.; and at twelve minutes after one o'clock, the House was called to order by Ms. Hogan of Stow.

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 160 members were recorded as being in attendance.

Quorum,—
yea and nay
No. 18.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 18 in Supplement.](#)]

Therefore a quorum was present.

Orders of the Day.

The Speaker being the Chair,—

The Senate Bill validating the results of the annual town meeting and the annual town election held in the town of Hubbardston (printed in Senate, No. 24), 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.

Ms. Hogan of Stow being the Chair,—

The House Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Stephen Melchin, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth (House, No. 100), was read a second time; and it was ordered to a third reading.

Second
reading
bill.

The Speaker being the Chair,—

The House Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Peter J. Fallon, an employee of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (House, No. 97), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Peter
Fallon,—
sick leave.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Ms. Garlick of Needham 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 establish forthwith a sick leave bank for a certain employee of the department of transportation, 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. 97, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Ms. Hogan of Stow being the Chair,—

The House Bill financing the reconstruction of the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke (House, No. 3701), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Holyoke
Soldiers' Home.

After debate on the question on passing the bill to be engrossed (the Speaker being in the Chair), the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays at the request of Miss Gregoire of Marlborough; and on the roll call 160 members voted in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

Bill passed to
be engrossed,—
yea and nay
No. 19.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 19 in Supplement.](#)]

Therefore the bill was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Order.

On motion of Ms. Hogan of Stow,—

Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Tuesday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

At two o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (the Speaker being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Tuesday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.