
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022.

[87]

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, August 25, 2022.

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, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of
allegiance.

Silent Tribute.

At the request of Representatives Higgins of Leominster and Kushmerek of Fitchburg the members, guests and employees stood for a moment of silence in honor of Leominster Health Director Jeffrey Stephens of Leominster, who passed away on August 11th, after an illness. He was only 50 years old.

Jeffrey
Stephens.

A 1990 graduate of Fitchburg High School, Jeffrey leaves behind a legacy of public service of more than two decades. Jeffrey was a Fitchburg High School Athletic Hall of Fame track and field athlete. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Fitchburg State University, and first served as the City of Fitchburg's Health Inspector for 15 years. He then went on to serve as the Director of Environmental Services and then Health Director in Westford, before joining the City of Leominster to serve as their Health Director in September of last year.

Jeffrey also dedicated his time to a number of local organizations including directing the Upper Merrimack Valley Medical Reserves Corps, leading its 600 volunteers, as well as chairing the Board of Governors of the Montachusett Branch of the YMCA. He was a member of the Leominster Elks and President of the Bass Point Club, and he played and coached both ice and street hockey in many Leominster DekHockey and Fitchburg Street Hockey leagues.

Jeffrey is survived by his wife of nearly 21 years, Deana, and their two children — Bridget and Peter.

Guests of the House.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), declared a brief recess and introduced, seated in the House Chamber, the Canton U12 Softball Team, visiting the State House today on the invitation of Mr. Galvin of Canton. The team, led by coaches Neil Quersher, Keith Burke, Kara MacEachern, and Pat Murphy, were the state champions this year and represented Massachusetts in the Little League Softball World Series Regional Tournament.

Canton U12
Softball Team.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Scanlon of North Attleborough) honoring Joann Cathcart for her many years of service to the town of North Attleborough; and

Joann
Cathcart.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Ultrino of Malden and other members of the House) recognizing the month of September 2022 as Student Professional Development Month;

Student
Development
Month.

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 the same member, 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. Gordon of Bedford) 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 Public Service be granted until Saturday, December 31, 2022, within which time to make its final report on current Senate document numbered 3071.

Public Service
committee,—
extension
of time for
reporting.

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 the same member, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Communications.

Communications

From the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (see Section 131Q of Chapter 140 of the General Laws) submitting a report on the recovery of crime guns in the Commonwealth during calendar year 2021;

Crime guns,—
recovery.

From the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (see Section 131Q of Chapter 140 of the General Laws) submitting the 2021 Crime Gun annual report of the Department of the Massachusetts State Police;

Id.

From the Secretary of Health and Human Services (see Section 30 of Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022) submitting an update on progress towards achieving the goals of the comprehensive COVID-19 vaccination equity plan; and

COVID-19,—
vaccination
equity plan.

From the Department of Children and Families (see item 4000-0051 contained in Section 2 of Chapter 24 of the Acts of 2021) submitting the program evaluation report of the Massachusetts Family Resource Center Network for calendar year 2021;

Family Resource
Center Network.

Severally were placed on file.

Reports.

Reports

Of the Group Insurance Commission (under Section 3 of Chapter 32A of the General Laws) submitting its annual report for fiscal years 2020 and 2021;

GIC.

Of the House Post Audit Bureau to the House committee on Post Audit and Oversight (see sections 63 and 64 of Chapter 3 of the General Laws) in relation to the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA); and

Interscholastic
Athletic
Association.

Of the Department of Unemployment Assistance (under Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) submitting the July 2022 Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Report;
Severally were placed on file.

Unemployment
Insurance
Trust Fund.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred, as follows:

By Representative Berthiaume of Spencer and Senator Gobi, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5241) of Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr., and Anne M. Gobi (by vote of the town) relative to abolishing the town of Hardwick Sewer Commission and delegating to the select board control over the Hardwick sewer redevelopment project; and

Hardwick,—
sewer
commission.

By the same members, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5242) of Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr., and Anne M. Gobi (by vote of the town) relative to establishing the position of the treasurer-collector in the town of Hardwick;

Hardwick,—
treasurer-
collector.

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.
Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Paper from the Senate.

A petition (accompanied by bill) of Anne M. Gobi and Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr., for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Michael Zaniewski, an employee of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Public Service.

Michael
Zaniewski,—
sick leave
bank.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3109) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Public Service.

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 Lindsay N. Sabadosa and Joanne M. Comerford (with the approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to further regulate the conveyance of certain state owned land to the city of Northampton. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Galvin, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the joint petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Northampton,—
state owned
land.

Report of the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, ought NOT to pass (under Joint Rule 10) on the joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4874) of Michael J. Finn and Adam Gomez (with the approval of the mayor and town council) that the city known as the town of West Springfield be authorized to grant 7 additional licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises in said town

West
Springfield,—
liquor
licenses.

Under suspension of the rules, on a motion of Mr. Galvin of Canton, the report was considered forthwith. Pending the question on acceptance of the report, the joint petition was recommitted, on motion of Mr. Chan of Quincy.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the following House bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

Relative to certain affordable housing in the South Boston section of the city of Boston (House, No. 5036) [Local Approval Received];

Authorizing the town of Hinsdale to continue employment of police chief Susan Rathbun (House, No. 5062) [Local Approval Received];

Relative to the charter of the town of Provincetown (House, No. 5081) [Local Approval Received]; and

Relative to certain affordable housing and branch library space in the Chinatown section of the city of Boston (House, No. 5097) [Local Approval Received];

Under suspension of Rule 7A, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Galvin of Canton, the bills severally were read a second time forthwith; and they were ordered to a third reading.

By Ms. Peisch of Wellesley, for the committee on Education, on House, Nos. 555, 586, 588, 591, 592, 594, 627, 637, 678, 694 and 711, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Education to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to school climate, safety, personnel, and technology matters (House, No. 5073) [Representative Pease of Westfield dissenting].

By Ms. Peisch, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 542, 553, 568, 570, 593, 603, 612, 613, 634, 640, 657, 659 and 713, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Education to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to accountability and assessments (House, No. 5074) [Representative Pease of Westfield dissenting].

By Ms. Peisch, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 551, 598, 656, 672, 696, 710, 712 and 718, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Education to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to charter schools (House, No. 5078).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 554, 606, 641, 642, 645, 646 and 650, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Education to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to at-risk students and English learners (House, No. 5093) [Representative Pease of Westfield dissenting].

By Ms. Peisch, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 558, 620, 621, 624, 625, 668 and 670, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Education to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to special education matters (House, No. 5099) [Representative Pease of Westfield dissenting].

By Ms. Peisch, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 537, 560, 562, 631, 632, 655, 704 and 2187, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Education to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to school finance and governance matters (House, No. 5101).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 42, 567, 571, 574, 578, 595, 607, 616, 622, 633, 662, 688, 703, 705, 716, 717 and 3877, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Education to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to curriculum (House, No. 5135) [Representative Pease of Westfield dissenting].

South Boston,—
housing.

Hinsdale,—
Susan Rathbun.

Provincetown.

Boston,—
Chinatown.

Education,—
school climate,
safety, personnel
and technology.

Education,—
accountability
and assessments.

Education,—
charter
schools.

Education,—
at-risk students
and English
learners.

Education,—
special
education.

Education,—
school finance
and governance.

Education,—
curriculum.

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, on House, Nos. 1033, 1117, 1127, 1128, 1130, 1151, 1158, 1183, 1185, 1186, 1187, 1188, 1227, 1230 and 1236, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Financial Services to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to auto matters (House, No. 5003).

Financial Services,—
auto matters.

By Mr. Straus of Mattapoisett, for the committee on Transportation, on House, Nos. 3396, 3407, 3420, 3425, 3490, 3507, 3514, 3540, 3552, 3554, 3568, 3806, 3807 and 3808, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Transportation to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to miscellaneous transportation matters (House, No. 5075) [Representative Howitt of Seekonk dissenting].

Transportation,—
miscellaneous matters.

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, for the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs, on House, Nos. 3647, 3650, 3651, 3671, 3682, 3691, 3699 and 4186, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to veterans' and federal affairs matters (House, No. 5070).

Veterans and Federal Affairs,—
miscellaneous matters.

Severally referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

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 committee on Rules.

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

By Mr. Chan of Quincy, for the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, on House, No. 5061, a Bill authorizing the town of Southampton to grant an additional license for the sale of alcoholic beverages (House, No. 5223) [Local Approval Received].

Southampton,—
liquor license.

By Mr. Tucker of Salem, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a joint petition, a Bill relative to the employment contract for the director of public works in the town of Upton (House, No. 5191) [Local Approval Received].

Upton,—
employment contract.

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Molly Urquhart an employee of the Department of Children and Families (House, No. 5230).

Molly Urquhart,—
sick leave.

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

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Heather Worster, and employee of the Department of Mental Health (see House, No. 4241), 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.

Heather Worster,—
sick leave bank.

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.

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Authorizing the appointment of retired firefighters as special firefighters in the city of Salem (see House, No. 4265);

Bills enacted.

Removing the residency requirement for the board of trustees of the Grand Army Building in the city of Lynn (see House, No. 4624); and

Authorizing the town of Needham to grant additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (see House, No. 4815);

(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 authorizing the town of Andover to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (Senate, No. 2512), 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 merging the Shelburne Housing Authority with and into the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority and restructuring the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority members (House, No. 4772), 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. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Id.

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.

At a quarter 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 Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.