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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023.**

[116]

# JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, December 21, 2023.

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.

## *Guests of the House.*

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford) declared a brief recess, and introduced the three time division 4 state champion Uxbridge High School field hockey team; and the division 7 state champion Uxbridge High School varsity football team. The Chair then congratulated the teams on their accomplishments and wished them success in all their future endeavors. The Chair also acknowledged the presence of former Representative and current Worcester County Sheriff Lewis G. Evangelidis. The teams and Sheriff Evangelidis were the guests of Representatives McKenna of Webster and Soter of Bellingham and were accompanied by Senator Fattman.

Uxbridge  
High School.

## *Communication.*

A communication from the Office of the Child Advocate (see Section 14 of Chapter 18C of the General Laws) submitting its annual report of the Childhood Trauma Taskforce for calendar year 2023, was placed on file.

Childhood  
Trauma Task  
Force.

## *Monthly Reports.*

### Monthly reports

Of the Executive Office of the Trial Court (under Section 15 of Chapter 239 of the General Laws, as added by Section 64 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its report on filings, actions, and dispositions of summary process cases relative to permanent rental protections; and

Permanent  
rental  
protections.

Of the Department of Unemployment Assistance (under Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) relative to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund for November 2023;

Unemployment  
Insurance Trust  
Fund.

Severally were placed on file.

## *Petitions.*

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Ciccolo of Lexington, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4223) of Michelle L. Ciccolo and Cindy F. Friedman (by vote of the town) that

Lexington,—  
ranked choice

the town of Lexington be authorized to establish ranked choice voting for certain offices in said town. To the committee on Election Laws.

voting.

By Representative Arena-DeRosa of Holliston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4224) of James C. Arena-DeRosa (by vote of the town) that the town of Sherborn be authorized to establish the position of the treasurer-collector in said town. To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Sherborn,—  
treasurer-  
collector.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Representative LaNatra of Kingston presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Kathleen R. LaNatra and Colleen M. Garry for legislation to further regulate police reports involving railroad fatalities; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Railroad  
fatalities,—  
reports.

A petition (subject to Joint Rules 12 and 9) of James C. Arena-DeRosa and Rebecca L. Rausch (by vote of the town) that the town of Sherborn be authorized to establish the North Sherborn Water and Sewer District in said town, was transmitted to the State Secretary under Chapter 3 of the General Laws.

Sherborn,—  
water and  
sewer district.

*Papers from the Senate.*

The House Bill authorizing Matthew K. Sonnabend to purchase creditable service from the Barnstable County Retirement Board (House, No. 3643), came from the Senate with the endorsement that it had been passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, by said branch with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document 2526. The amendment was referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Matthew  
Sonnabend,—  
retirement.

The House Bill relative to the select board of the town of Northborough (House, No. 3902), came from the Senate with the endorsement that it had been passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, by said branch with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2495. The amendment was referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Northborough,—  
select board.

Petitions were referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, as follows:

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2536) of Walter F. Timilty for legislation to further regulate the priority of claims of cities or towns for payment of municipal liens. To the committee on Financial Services.

Municipal  
liens,—  
payments.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2537) of Jacob R. Oliveira and Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr. for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Danielle Marie Cruz, an employee of the Trial Court. To the committee on the Judiciary.

Danielle  
Cruz,—  
sick leave.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2535) of Walter F. Timilty for legislation relative to technical rescue services. To the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security.

Technical  
rescue services.

A message from Her Excellency the Governor (under the provisions of Section 152 of Chapter 127 of the General Laws) submitting a list of pardons granted during

Governor,—  
pardons.

the calendar year 2023 (Senate, No. 2532), was read for the information of the House and returned to the Senate to be placed on file.

*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 Natalie M. Blais and Paul W. Mark for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Cheryl Thouin, an employee of the Hampshire County Sheriff's Office. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Soter of Bellingham, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Public Service. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Cheryl  
Thouin,—  
sick leave.

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

The Senate Bill authorizing the town of Wales to establish a department of public works (Senate, No. 1297, amended) [Local Approval Received]; and

Wales,—  
public works.

House bills

Relative to the maximum age requirement for police officers for the city of Methuen (House, No. 2548) [Local Approval Received];

Methuen,—  
civil service.

Exempting the police chief of the town of Wrentham from the civil service law (House, No. 2678) [Local Approval Received];

Wrentham,—  
civil service

Exempting the deputy police chief of the town of Wrentham from the civil service law (House, No. 2679) [Local Approval Received];

Wrentham,—  
civil service

Relative to civil service positions in the department of public works of the city of Northampton (House, No. 3719) [Local Approval Received];

Northampton,—  
public works.

Authorizing the town of Charlemont to continue the employment of fire department member Dennis Annear (House, No. 3988) [Local Approval Received];

Charlemont,—  
Dennis Annear.

Authorizing the town of Rowe to continue the employment of fire department member Dennis Annear (House, No. 3989) [Local Approval Received]; and

Rowe,—  
Dennis Annear.

Authorizing the town of Sunderland to continue the employment of fire department member Scott Smith (House, No. 4003) [Local Approval Received];

Sunderland,—  
Scott Smith.

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. Day of Stoneham, for the committee on the Judiciary, on a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Seila Chhav, an employee of the Trial Court (printed as Senate, No. 2525). Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Seila Chhav,—  
sick leave.

*Orders of the Day.*

House bills

Authorizing the town of Holliston to establish a means-tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 3826);

Third  
reading  
bills.

Authorizing the town of Lunenburg to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 3911);

Amending the charter of the city of Easthampton (House, No. 3959);

Establishing the appointed office of town clerk in the town of Bolton (House, No. 4056); and

Authorizing the continued employment of Glenn Davis, the fire chief of the town of Lynnfield (House, No. 4146);

Severally reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

*Order.*

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

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

Next  
sitting.

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At twelve minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. McKenna of Webster (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Tuesday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.