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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2023.**

[118]

# JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, December 28, 2023.

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

Pledge of  
allegiance.

## *Petitions.*

Representative Decker of Cambridge presented a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4234) of Marjorie C. Decker (with the approval of the city council) for legislation to further regulate the fair housing ordinance of the city of Cambridge; and the same was referred to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Cambridge,—  
fair housing.

A petition (subject to Joint Rules 12 and 9) of James Arciero that the town of Littleton be authorized to provide drinking water to the inhabitants of the town of Boxborough (having been returned by the State Secretary with memoranda relative thereto), was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Littleton,—  
drinking water.

## *Reports of Committees.*

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:

To increase safety on public ways (House, No. 3299); and

Designating a certain bridge in the town of Falmouth as the Deputy John Robert Kotfila Jr. memorial bridge (House, No. 3466);

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

Towing.  
Falmouth,—  
Kotfila bridge.

By Ms. Fiola of Fall River, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the city of New Bedford to grant a utility easement to the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (House, No. 3935) [Local Approval Received].

New Bedford,—  
easement.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the county of Nantucket to convey certain land situated in the town and county of Nantucket for purposes of conveyance to the town of Nantucket (House, No. 4120) [Local Approval Received].

Nantucket,—  
land.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the city of Lynn to use certain park land for school purposes (House, No. 4127) [Local Approval Received].

Lynn,—  
land.

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. Fiola of Fall River, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill authorizing sewer and water user discounts in the town of Hopkinton (House, No. 2017) [Local Approval Received].

Hopkinton,—  
sewer and  
water.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Nantucket to convey a certain parcel of land situated in the town of Nantucket held for park purposes to the Nantucket Conservation Foundation Inc. for open space, recreational, and conservation purposes (House, No. 4046) [Local Approval Received].

Nantucket,—  
land.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to changing the term of the elected office of moderator for the town of Stoneham (House, No. 4075) [Local Approval Received].

Stoneham,—  
moderator.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Nantucket to convey certain land situated in the town of Nantucket held for open space, recreational or conservation purposes to the Nantucket Islands Land Bank for the purposes pursuant to its legislation (House, No. 4077) [Local Approval Received].

Nantucket,—  
land.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill increasing the membership of the select board of the town of Merrimac from 3 members to 5 members (House, No. 4097) [Local Approval Received].

Merrimac,—  
select board.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the city of Newton to lease the Warren Junior High School for a term of years not exceeding 99 years (House, No. 4126) [Local Approval Received].

Newton,—  
lease.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the conservation commission of the town of Westford to transfer certain easements to the select board of the town of Westford (House, No. 4140) [Local Approval Received].

Westford,—  
easements.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill providing for alternate members of the Mattapoissett conservation commission (House, No. 4156) [Local Approval Received].

Mattapoissett,—  
conservation  
commission.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the town of Lanesborough employee training (House, No. 4158) [Local Approval Received].

Lanesborough,—  
employee  
trainings.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill providing for an alternate member of the town of Mattapoissett finance committee (House, No. 4159) [Local Approval Received].

Mattapoissett,—  
finance  
committee.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Sharon to change the use of a certain parcel of land acquired for outdoor recreational purposes to a use for general municipal purposes (House, No. 4170) [Local Approval Received].

Sharon,—  
land.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill amending the charter of the city of Chelsea (House, No. 4184) [Local Approval Received].

Chelsea,—  
charter.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Mashpee to lease certain town land to the Boys and Girls Club of Cape Cod, Inc. (House, No. 4185) [Local Approval Received].

Mashpee,—  
land.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill relative to the charter in the town of Groton (House, No. 4194) [Local Approval Received].

Groton,—  
charter.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the administrative assistant to the board of assessors of the city of New Bedford to be a non-resident (House, No. 4201) [Local Approval Received].

New Bedford,—  
residency.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill amending the charter of the town of Westborough (House, No. 4202) [Local Approval Received].

Westborough,—  
charter.

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

*Engrossed Bill.*

The engrossed Bill establishing a trust to administer a length of service award program for the Swansea fire department (see House, No. 4047) (which originated in the House), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill  
enacted.

*Orders of the Day.*

House bills

Expanding the exemption for residential property in the town of Wellfleet (House, No. 2914); and

Third  
reading  
bills.

Relative to the office of town clerk and town treasurer in the town known as Southwick (House, No. 4079);

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 six minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Tuesday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.