
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2024.

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Monday, February 5, 2024.

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, seated in the House Chamber, the Weston High School golf team, winners of the Division 3 State Championship this past fall, led by Coach Mary O'Brien. This is their second consecutive win. They were the guests of Representative Peisch of Wellesley.

Weston High
School Golf
Team.

Orders.

The following orders were referred, under Joint Rule 30, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently:

Extension of time
for committees
reporting.

Order (filed by Ms. Farley-Bouvier) relative to extending until Monday, April 8, 2024 the time within which the committee on Advanced Information Technology, the Internet and Cybersecurity is authorized to report on current Senate and House documents (House, No. 4299).

Order (filed by Mr. Schmid of Westport) relative to extending until Wednesday, May 1, 2024 the time within which the committee on Agriculture is authorized to report on current Senate and House documents (House, No. 4298).

Order (filed by Mr. Livingstone of Boston) relative to extending until Thursday, May 2, 2024 the time within which the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities is authorized to report on current Senate and House documents (House, No. 4303).

Order (filed by Mr. Mr. Livingstone of Boston) relative to extending until Thursday, May 2, 2024 the time within which the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities is authorized to report on current Senate and House documents (House, No. 4304).

Order (filed by Mr. Day of Stoneham) relative to extending until Tuesday, April 30, 2024 the time within which the committee on the Judiciary is authorized to report on current House documents (House, No. 4302).

Order (filed by Mr. Straus of Mattapoissett) relative to extending until Thursday, May 23, 2024 the time within which the committee on Transportation is authorized to report on current Senate and House documents (House, No. 4301).

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules, reported, that the orders ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Ms. Peisch of Wellesley, the orders were considered forthwith; and they were adopted. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Communications.

Communications

From the Executive Office of Economic Development (see Section 16G(i) of Chapter 6A of the General Laws) submitting its Office of Performance Management report for fiscal year 2023;

Performance management.

From the Center for Health Information and Analysis (see Section 24 of Chapter 12C of the General Laws) submitting its continuous skilled nursing (CSN) care biennial report;

Continuous skilled nursing care.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see item 1599-0514 of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023) submitting the January 29, 2024 biweekly report on the Emergency Housing Assistance Program; and

Emergency Housing Assistance.

From the Executive Office of Veterans Services (see Section 3 of Chapter 144 of the Acts of 2022) submitting its State of the Commonwealth's Veterans Homes report;

Veterans homes.

Severally were placed on file.

Annual and Quarterly Reports.

Annual reports

Of the Executive Office of Economic Development (under Section 17 of Chapter 23D of the General Laws) submitting the Center for Employee Ownership report for calendar year 2023;

Center for Employee Ownership.

Of the Pension Reserves Investment Management Board (under Section 23 of Chapter 32 of the General Laws) relative to divestment from companies that derive certain revenues from the sale of tobacco products;

PRIM Board,— tobacco sale divestment.

Of the Pension Reserves Investment Management Board (under Section 64 (f) of Chapter 42 of the Acts of 2022) relative to divestment from Russian restricted securities;

PRIM Board,— Russian securities.

Of the Pension Reserves Investment Management Board (under Section 6 of Chapter 232 of the Acts of 2010) relative to the divestment from Iran restricted securities; and

PRIM Board,— Iran securities divestment.

Of the Pension Reserves Investment Management Board (under Section 4 of Chapter 151 of the Acts of 2007) relative to divestment from Sudan restricted securities; and

PRIM Board,— Sudan securities.

The third quarterly report of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (under Section 2 of Chapter 35 of the Acts of 2021) submitting its Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (SAECK) report for the quarter ending October 31, 2023;

Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit.

Severally were placed on file.

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill authorizing the town of Norwell to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (Senate, No. 1921) [Local Approval Received], passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Norwell,— senior property taxes.

Petitions were referred, in concurrence, as follows:

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2580) of Barry R. Finegold (by vote of the town) for legislation relative to the residency requirement for the town manager of the town of Andover; and

Andover,—
town manager.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2581) of Barry R. Finegold (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Andover to convert a certain parcel of land from school purposes to general municipal purposes;

Andover,—
land
conversion.

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

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 following petitions:

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Frank A. Moran relative to the Greater Lawrence Regional Vocational Technical High School. To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Greater
Lawrence
high school.

Joint petition (accompanied by bill) of James Arciero (by vote of the town) that the town of Westford be authorized to release agricultural preservation restrictions over certain land owned by Westford Gateway, LLC. To the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

Westford,—
land.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Peisch of Wellesley, the reports were considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 then was suspended, in each instance. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the Bill to establish a Massachusetts children's cabinet (House, No. 189),— and recommending that the same be referred to the House committee on Rules. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted.

Children's
cabinet.

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3542) of Kenneth I. Gordon for legislation to revive and continue the special legislative commission established (under Section 107 of Chapter 253 of the Acts of 2020) to study and examine the civil service law,— and recommending that the same be referred to the House committee on Rules. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence, inasmuch as relates to the discharge of the joint committee.

Civil
service
law.

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 provide collective bargaining rights to employees of the mosquito control projects and mosquito control districts (House, No. 1844); and

Mosquito
control.

To prohibit hunting on property owned by the Department of Correction and located at 28A Union Turnpike in the town of Concord (House, No. 4200);

Concord,—
hunting.

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

By Mr. Schmid of Westport, for the committee on Agriculture, on a petition, a Bill relative to food justice with jobs (House, No. 855).

Jobs,—
food justice.

By Mr. Cahill of Lynn, for the committee on Environment and Natural Resources, on a petition, a Bill ensuring safe drinking water in schools (House, No. 760).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing the blue communities program (House, No. 792).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to funding water infrastructure and addressing economic target areas (House, No. 803).

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 534 and House, No. 847, a Bill to establish a blue economy workforce pipeline (House, No. 847).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill ensuring safe drinking water in schools (House, No. 851).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to maintaining adequate water supplies through effective drought management (House, No. 861).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill protecting the rights of municipalities and districts (House, No. 879).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill responding to the threat of invasive species (House, No. 890).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill advancing water access equity through utility reporting requirement (House, No. 922).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to protect water supplies and the environment (House, No. 3550).

By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on a petition, a Bill relative to the employment of persons with disabilities (House, No. 2990).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the technology fund (House, No. 3021).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to convey certain land in the town of Lancaster to Robert F. Kennedy Community Alliance, Inc. (House, No. 3070).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill enhancing the effectiveness of nonprofits' core mission work through full cost funding (House, No. 3122).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to convey certain parcels of land to the city of Framingham (House, No. 3830).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the commissioner of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to convey certain parcels of land to the city of Lowell (House, No. 4117).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the commissioner of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to convey a certain parcel of land to the city of Cambridge (House, No. 4129).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to dispose of certain parcels of land in the town of Bolton (House, No. 4183) [Local Approval Received].

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 3672, a Bill authorizing the commissioner of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to convey a certain parcel of land in the town of Lancaster (House, No. 4300) [Local Approval Received].

Schools,—
drinking
water.

Blue
communities.

Water
infrastructure.

Blue economy
workforce.

Schools,—
drinking water.

Water supplies,—
drought
management.

Municipalities
and districts.

Invasive
species.

Water
access equity.

Water
supplies.

Persons with
disabilities,—
employment.

Technology
fund.

Lancaster,—
land.

Nonprofits,—
full cost
funding.

Framingham,—
land.

Lowell,—
land.

Cambridge,—
land.

Bolton,—
land.

Lancaster,—
land.

By Mr. Straus of Mattapoisett, for the committee on Transportation, on House, Nos. 3343 and 3436, a Bill relative to vehicle inspection exemptions for vintage automobiles 45 years or older (House, No. 3343).

Vintage automobiles,—
inspection.

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

By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on a petition, a Bill relative to Rosa Parks day (House, No. 3075).

Rosa
Parks
day.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill designating domestic workers' rights day (House, No. 3091).

Domestic
workers' day.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill designating January 30 of each year as Fred Korematsu day of civil liberties and the Constitution in Massachusetts (House, No. 3119).

Fred
Korematsu
day.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing Massachusetts learning disability screening day (House, No. 4210).

Learning
disabilities.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to establish Noah Fernandes Mitochondrial disease awareness day (House, No. 4240).

Mitochondrial
disease.

By Mr. Straus of Mattapoisett, for the committee on Transportation, on a petition, a Bill relative to increasing the fine for handicap parking violations for city/town implementation and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (House, No. 3261).

Municipalities,—
handicap
parking.

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 Jonathan Corey, an employee of the Suffolk County sheriff's department (see House, No. 4250), 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.

Jonathan
Corey,—
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 3 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.

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Establishing a special purpose revolving fund in the town of North Andover (see Senate, No. 2454) (which originated in the Senate);

Bills
enacted.

Further regulating at-large town meeting members in the town of Milford (see House, No. 2089);

Increasing the membership of the select board in the town of Sterling (see House, No. 3727); and

Authorizing the city of Somerville to appoint an alternate member to the licensing commission (see House, No. 4205);

(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.

House bills

Authorizing sewer and water user discounts in the town of Hopkinton (House, No. 2017); and

Amending Chapter 336 of the Acts of 1939 concerning the establishment of the Lynnfield Center Water District (House, No. 3808);

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.

Third
reading
bills.

Order.

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

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

Next
sitting.

At twenty-eight minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Thursday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.