
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024.

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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.

Member-elect to be Qualified.

The Speaker announced the appointment of Representatives Donato of Medford, Garballey of Arlington and Wong of Saugus as a special committee of the House to conduct Representative-elect John J. Marsi, Jr., member-elect from the Sixth Worcester District, to the Council Chamber to be qualified at such time as may be convenient to the Governor and Council.

Representative-elect John J. Marsi, Jr., of Dudley,—qualification.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representatives Wong of Saugus and other members of the House) reaffirming the friendship between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Taiwan upon the forty-fifth anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Taiwan.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Orders.

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

Order (filed by Mr. Parisella of Beverly) relative to extending until Thursday, May 30, 2024 the time within which the committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies is authorized to report on a current House document (House, No. 4511).

Extension of time for committees to make reports.

Order (filed by Mr. Parisella of Beverly) relative to extending until Thursday, May 30, 2024 the time within which the committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies is authorized to report on a current Senate document (House, No. 4512).

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 Mr. Wong of Saugus, the orders were considered forthwith; and they were adopted. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Papers from the Senate.

The Senate Bill to provide for competitiveness and infrastructure investment in Massachusetts (Senate, No. 2554), came from the Senate with the endorsement that said branch had non-concurred with the House in its amendment (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House, No. 4446; and by inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:

Infrastructure.

“Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purposes, which are to enhance the competitiveness of the commonwealth in winning federal funds and to provide for the infrastructure needs of the commonwealth, each of which is immediately necessary to accomplish important public purposes, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.”).

The bill bore the further endorsement that the Senate had asked for a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches; and that Senators Rodrigues, Cronin and O’Connor had been appointed the committee on the part of the Senate.

Committee of conference.

On motion of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, the House insisted on its amendment, concurred in the appointment of a committee of conference; and Representatives Michlewitz, Lewis of Framingham and Muratore of Plymouth were joined as the committee on the part of the House. Sent to the Senate to be noted.

Id.

The House Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2024 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (House, No. 4466), came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2711.

Supplemental appropriations.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, the amendment was considered forthwith. The House then non-concurred with the Senate in its amendment; and, on further motion of the same member, asked for a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches. Representatives Michlewitz, Ferrante of Gloucester and Smola of Warren were appointed the committee on the part of the House. Sent to the Senate to be joined.

Committee of conference.

The House Bill changing the name of the board of selectmen of the town of Uxbridge to the select board (House, No. 3986, amended) [Local Approval Received] (its title having been changed by the Senate committee on Bills in the Third Reading), came from the Senate, passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment striking out the words “, zoning by-laws and the charter” (as inserted by amendment by the House) and inserting in place thereof the words “and zoning by-laws”. The amendment was referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Uxbridge,—
select board.

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 petition of Marjorie C. Decker relative to annual lists and manufacturing corporations. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the

Manufacturing corporations.

report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Revenue. 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 creating a task force to study the use of the internet by sex offenders (House, No. 67);

Of the Bill establishing a special commission on blockchain and cryptocurrency (House, No. 69); and

Of the Bill establishing a task force on the use of deepfake and digital content forgery (House, No. 4406);

And recommending that the same severally be referred to the House committee on Rules.

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

By Ms. Garlick of Needham, for the committee on Education, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4229) of John Francis Moran relative to the right of students to freedom of expression in public schools,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

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 councils on aging (printed as Senate, No. 398);

Relative to seeds (House, No. 104);

Improving housing opportunities (House, No. 233);

Relative to starter home school cost reimbursement (House, No. 240);

Clarifying the role of Governor's Councillor on the ballot (House, No. 665);

Relative to youth voter engagement (House, No. 705);

Relative to youth soccer referees (House, No. 1852);

Prohibiting employment discrimination based on legal use of cannabis (House, No. 4426);

Promote the inclusion of American Sign Language in the Commonwealth's public schools (House, No. 4428); and

Establishing a sick leave bank for Joel Larochelle (House, No. 4495);

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 Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on Senate, No. 1340 and House, No. 2121, a Bill relative to preceptorship programs for students of chiropractic (House, No. 2121).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to patient access to information regarding breast reconstructive surgery (House, No. 2169).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill requiring automatic external defibrillator devices in health clubs (House, No. 2173).

Sex offenders,—
internet use.

Blockchain and
cryptocurrency.

Digital
forgery.

Students,—
rights.

Aging councils.
Cannabis seeds.
Zoning.
Smart growth.
Councillors.
Youth voters.
Soccer referees.
Cannabis,—
discrimination.

Schools,—
sign language.

Joel
Larochelle,—
sick leave.

Chiropractic
students,—
preceptorship.

Breast
reconstructive
surgery.

Health clubs,—
defibrillators.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to medical physics (House, No. 2175).	Medical physics.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to improve access to family physicians (House, No. 2198).	Health care applicants.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill ensuring the fair and appropriate distribution of vaccines during a public health emergency (House, No. 2207).	Vaccines,—distribution.
By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 1404 and House, No. 2213, a Bill relative to acute hospital governance (House, No. 2213).	Acute hospital governance.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing a physical therapy licensure compact (House, No. 2233).	Physical therapy.
By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 1329 and House, No. 2244, a Bill providing for consumer access to and the right to practice complementary and alternative health care services (House, No. 2244).	Complementary and alternative health care.
By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 1408 and House, No. 2245, a Bill to strengthen the direct care and dementia workforce (House, No. 2245).	Dementia workforce.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill reducing barriers to telehealth care (House, No. 2254).	Telehealth.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing Massachusetts entry into the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (House, No. 2256).	Medical licensure,—compact.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill creating an obesity task force (House, No. 2263).	Obesity task force.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to timely physician licensure (House, No. 2268).	Physician licensure.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to public health volunteer responders (House, No. 2279).	Public health volunteers.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill concerning the legal use of the plant medicine known as psilocybin for therapeutic, spiritual, and medicinal purposes (House, No. 3605) [Senator Keenan dissenting].	Psilocybin,—legal use.
By Ms. Decker, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to updating the licensure of optometrists (House, No. 3608).	Optometrists,—licensure.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to improve health care workforce development through graduate nursing practice (House, No. 3613).	Graduate nursing practice.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill expediting the diagnosis and treatment of certain infections (House, No. 3631).	Infections,—treatment.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill connecting veterans with access to breakthrough treatments (House, No. 4218).	Veterans,—therapies.
By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, Nos. 1356 and 1431 and House, No. 2197, a Bill to protect Massachusetts public health from PFAS (House, No. 4486).	PFAS protection.
By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 3630, a Bill relative to the Massachusetts maternal mortality and morbidity review committee (House, No. 4487).	Maternal mortality.
By Mr. Cusack of Braintree, for the committee on Revenue, on a petition, a Bill to increase health insurance affordability for small business (printed as Senate, No. 1899).	Small businesses,—health insurance.
Severally referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.	

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill establishing an advisory committee on the accessibility of fresh food retail in communities throughout the Commonwealth (House, No. 3632). Read; and referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Fresh food,—
committee.

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill protecting the health and safety of people in restaurants (House, No. 2130).

Choke response
training.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 1464 and House, No. 2200, a Bill regulating central service technicians (House, No. 2200).

Central service
technicians.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to abandoned remains (House, No. 2208).

Abandoned
remains.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill promoting radon testing (House, No. 2260).

Radon
testing.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 1328 and House, Nos. 2261 and 3627, a Bill to restrict the use of polystyrene (House, No. 3627).

Polystyrene,—
restrictions.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to automated external defibrillators in sporting facilities and stadiums (House, No. 3912).

External
defibrillators.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to AEDs for athletic fields (House, No. 3924).

Id.

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

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill relative to clinical laboratory testing (House, No. 2186).

Clinical
laboratories.

By Mr. Cusack of Braintree, for the committee on Revenue, on a petition, a Bill relative to charges associated with condominiums in tax title (printed as Senate, No. 1759).

Tax title,—
benefits.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the taxation of above ground conduits, wires, and pipes used in the transportation of natural gas (printed as Senate, No. 1917).

Natural gas
infrastructure,—
taxation.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the taxation of natural gas infrastructure (printed as Senate, No. 1918).

Id.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the valuation of long term residences (House, No. 2691).

Long term
residences.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to non-contiguous farm land (House, No. 2693).

Non-contiguous
farmland.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to ensuring fairness and equity in the assessment of the value of property (House, No. 2728).

Property,—
assessments.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to taxes due upon the death of active duty personnel and the elderly (House, No. 2738).

Death,—
taxes.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the electronic filing of certain forms used in property valuation (House, No. 2751).

Property
valuation.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 1855 and House, No. 2852, a Bill to promote urban agriculture and horticulture (House, No. 2852).

Urban
agriculture.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing for line-of-duty death benefits for firefighters (House, No. 2890).

Line of duty
death benefits.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to condominiums (House, No. 2892).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill reducing tax liability for grandparents raising grandchildren (House, No. 2904).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to charges associated with condominiums in tax title (House, No. 2905).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to property tax deferrals for seniors (House, No. 2919).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill regarding late payments and interest rates for real estate bills and personal property taxes (House, No. 2947).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to local control of boat excise revenue (House, No. 2955).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to preserving information content of historic resources with community preservation funds (House, No. 2972).

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

Condominiums,—
taxation.

Grandchildren,—
tax exemption.

Condominiums,—
tax titles.

Seniors,—
tax deferrals.

Late
payments,—
Interest rates.

Boat excise.

Historic
resources.

Engrossed Bills.

The engrossed Bill designating a certain bridge in the city of Leominster as the Honorable John Walter Olver memorial bridge (see Senate, No. 2609) (which originated in the Senate), in respect to which the Senate had concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill
enacted.

Recess.

At fourteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Ms. Ferguson of Holden (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at twenty-one minutes before twelve o'clock noon the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Recess.

Orders of the Day.

Senate bills

Changing the name of the board of selectmen in the town of Charlton to select board (Senate, No. 2487); and

Establishing a sick leave bank for Tiffany Brennan, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 2705);

Severally having been 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, in concurrence.

Third
reading
bills.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Somerset to acquire interests in land for sewer purposes (House, No. 4273), having been 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.

Third
reading
bill.

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 sixteen minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Ms. Ferguson of Holden (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.