The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2024.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, March 28, 2024.

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.

Special Communication.

The following communication, together with returns of votes and schedules therein referred to, was received from the Secretary of the Commonwealth and, there being no objection, was placed on file, to wit:—

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY STATE HOUSE. BOSTON 02133

March 27, 2024.

To the Honorable House:

I have the honor to lay before you the returns of votes cast at the special election held in this Commonwealth on the fifth day of March, 2024, for Representative in the General Court, Sixth Worcester District, together with schedules showing the number of ballots which appear to have been cast for each person voted for.

These returns have been duly canvassed by the Governor and Council, and are now transmitted for examination by the House of Representatives, as required by the Constitution.

Returns of votes for Representative in the Sixth Worcester District.

Very truly yours, WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

The Chair (Mr. Garballey of Arlington) announced that the special committee of the House appointed at the preceding sitting, relative to the qualification of Representative-elect John J. Marsi, Jr., of Dudley, member-elect from the Sixth Worcester District had completed its duty; and that, on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, Representative Marsi had taken and subscribed the necessary oaths of office, and was now duly qualified as a member of the House.

Representative John J. Marsi, Jr., of Dudley, qualification.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Hogan of Stow) congratulating Emma Cryan on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of the Sudbury Scouts BSA Troop 65;

Resolutions (filed by Representative Cassidy of Brockton and other members of the House) commending the AdMeTech Foundation on recognizing the fifteenth annual Prostate Cancer Awareness Day on March 28, 2024; and

Resolutions (filed by Representative Philips of Sharon) congratulating Samaritans, Inc. on the fiftieth anniversary of its establishment;

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 Mr. Donato of Medford, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Emma Cryan. AdMeTech Foundation.

Samaritans, Inc.

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. Lawn of Watertown) relative to extending until Wednesday, May 1, 2024 the time within which the committee on Health Care Financing is authorized to report on current Senate and House documents (House, No. 4514);

Order (filed by Mr. Lawn of Watertown) relative to extending until Saturday, June 1, 2024 the time within which the committee on Health Care Financing is authorized to report on current Senate and House documents (House, No. 4515).

Order (filed by Mr. Lawn of Watertown) relative to extending until Wednesday, July 3, 2024 the time within which the committee on Health Care Financing is authorized to report on current Senate and House documents (House, No. 4516);

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.

Extension of time for committees to make reports.

Communications.

Communications

From the Office of the Inspector General (see Section 12 of Chapter 12A of the General Laws) submitting a report entitled: Post-Retirement Earning Limits for Massachusetts Public Employees;

From the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency (MassDevelopment) (see Section 29A(k) of Chapter 23G of the General Laws) submitting the annual report of the Brownfields Redevelopment Fund for fiscal year 2023 [copies of the report were forwarded to the Speaker of the House and the House committee on Ways and Means, as required by said law];

From the Massachusetts Technology Transfer Center (Mass Ventures) (see

Retirees, earning limits.

Brownfields Redevelopment Fund.

Acorn

Section 45B of Chapter 75 of the General Laws) submitting the Acorn Innovation Fund Report for fiscal year 2024; and

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see item 1599-0514 of Section 2 of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023) submitting the March 25, 2024 biweekly report on the Emergency Housing Assistance Program;

Severally were placed on file.

Innovation Fund.

Emergency Housing Assistance Program.

Papers from the Senate.

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 with the endorsement that said branch had insisted on its amendment (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2711) (in which the House had non-concurred).

Supplemental appropriations.

The bill bore the further endorsement that said branch had concurred with the House in the appointment of a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches; and that Senators Rodrigues, Friedman and O'Connor had been joined as the committee on the part of the Senate.

Committee of conference.

A Bill authorizing the town of Easton to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (Senate, No. 2515) (on a petition) [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.

Easton, senior property tax exemption.

A report of the committee on Education, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2528) of Julian Cyr, Natalie M. Higgins, John Francis Moran, Rebecca L. Rausch and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to free expression, and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development,— accepted by the Senate, was considered forthwith, under Rule 42; and it was accepted, in concurrence.

School libraries,—book bans.

A petition of Marc R. Pacheco and Angelo L. D'Emilia for legislation to establish appointed positions of district clerk and district treasurer for the North Raynham Water District, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

North Raynham Water District.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2717) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Reports of Committees.

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 Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to protein innovation in Massachusetts (House, No. 402);

Of the Bill establishing a special commission on a statewide long-term care insurance program (House, No. 652);

Of the Bill relative to WorkShare working better (House, No. 1856); and

Protein innovation.

Long-term

WorkShare.

Of the Bill creating a commission to reform Section 12 (House, No. 2012);

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

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

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 providing for the designation of polling locations in the city of Gloucester (Senate, No. 2544) [Local Approval Received]; and

House bills

Relative to the town of Avon (House, No. 409);

Relative to improving pesticide protections for Massachusetts schoolchildren (House, No. 811);

Relative to the Honorable George V. Kenneally, Jr. (House, No. 1269);

Relative to student mental health (House, No. 1999);

Regarding late payments and interest rates for real estate bills and personal property taxes (House, No. 2947);

Increasing access to medical care for veterans (House, No. 3527);

Relative to courtesy retail parking spaces designed for non-handicapped veterans (House, No. 3533); and

Facilitating site plan review (House, No. 3551);

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

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that the Resolve establishing a commission on infrastructure resilience (House, No. 3128), ought to pass. Referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Finn of West Springfield, for the committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets, that the Bill financing improvements to municipal roads and bridges (House, No. 4488), ought to pass [Bond Issue: General Obligation Bonds: \$375,000,000.00]. Read and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, on a petition, a Bill relative to preserving fertility (House, No. 1041).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to breast cancer equity and early detection (House, No. 1043).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to epinephrine injectors (House, No. 1054).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to emergency insulin access (House, No. 1061).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing health insurance coverage for scalp and facial hair prosthesis (House, No. 1066).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing insurance coverage for biennial echocardiogram and concussion analysis for persons under the age of 18 (House, No. 1067).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to further define medical necessity determinations (House, No. 1068).

Emergency restraint.

Gloucester, polling places.

Economic area. Schools, etc.,—pesticides.

Kenneally.
Students.
Late payments —

Late payments,—interest rates.

Veterans.
Veterans,—
parking.
Site plan

review.

Infrastructure resilience.

Municipal roads and bridges,—bonds.

Fertility preservation.

Breast cancer detection.

Epinephrine injectors.

Insulin access.

Hair prosthesis insurance.

Concussion analysis insurance.

Medical necessity.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to increase access to nurse-midwifery services (House, No. 1069).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to behavioral health and nutrition counseling (House, No. 1072).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to telehealth parity for nutrition counseling (House, No. 1073).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill ensuring support groups are part of the pathway of care following the annual mental health wellness exam (House, No. 1075).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill mandating access to cancer screenings for firefighters through health care benefits plans or programs provided by the public employer (House, No. 1080).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to applied behavioral analysis therapy (House, No. 1084).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to address barriers to HIV prevention medication (House, No. 1085).

Severally referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

By Mr. Chan of Quincy, for the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, on House, No. 102, a Bill relative to farmer-distilleries (House, No. 4473).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 275, a Bill relative to funeral directors (House, No. 4475).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 364, a Bill relative to small distillers (House, No. 4476).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 372, a Bill relative to a model carrier reporting requirement (House, No. 4478).

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 183 and House, Nos. 338, 341 and 3562, a Bill relative to health club memberships reform (House, No. 4479).

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, on a petition, a Bill protecting consumers' privacy in mortgage applications (House, No. 1049).

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

By Mr. Chan of Quincy, for the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, on a petition, a Bill relative to license suspensions (House, No. 322).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the sale of malt beverages produced by a pub brewery (House, No. 401).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 264, 298, 389 and 398, a Bill relative to consumer rights of renters (House, No. 4474).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 371, a Bill relative to termination of sales to wholesalers by suppliers of alcoholic beverages (House, No. 4477).

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Election Laws, on a message from Her Excellency the Governor, a Bill validating the results of the annual election held in the town of Whitman on May 20, 2023 (printed as Senate, No. 2698).

Nursemidwifery.

Health and nutrition.

Nutrition counseling.

Mental health groups.

Cancer screenings,—firefighters.

Behavioral analysis.

HIV prevention,—barriers.

Farmerdistilleries.

Interest rate parity.

Small distillers.

Liquor deliveries.

Health clubs, membership.

Mortgage applications,—privacy.

License suspensions.

Pub brewery malt sales.

Renters,—rights.

Alcohol wholesalers.

Whitman,—election.

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, on a petition, a Bill relative to the cleanup of accidental home heating oil spills (House, No. 1046).

Home heating oil spills.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to insurance company rebates (House, No. 1077).

Insurance rebates.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill making changes to certain references in the banking laws of the Commonwealth (House, No. 1078).

Banking law changes.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing for temporary emergency licensing of appraisers of motor vehicle damage covered by auto insurance policies (House, No. 1079).

Motor vehicle appraisers,— licenses.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill expanding the use of video and telephone conferencing (House, No. 1086).

Virtual conferencing.

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 Tiffany Brennan, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth (see Senate, No. 2705), 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.

Tiffany Brennan, 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 4 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Bill enacted.

Subsequently, the Senate having concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, the bill (which originated in the Senate) was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Engrossed Bills.

The engrossed Bill authorizing the town of Holliston to continue the employment of Mark Dellicker as deputy fire chief (see House, No. 3998, amended) (which originated in the House) (which had been returned by Her Excellency the Governor with recommendation of amendment), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be re-enacted, in its amended form; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill re-enacted.

Engrossed bills

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

Bills enacted.

Exempting the positions of police chief and fire chief in the city known as the town of Greenfield from the civil service law (see House, No. 4072) (which 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 amendment of the House Bill establishing at-large and ward school committee members in the city of Revere (House, No. 2058), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was adopted, in concurrence.

Revere, school committee.

The House Bill relative to the charter of the town of Wrentham (House, No. 4237) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading), reported by said committee 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 Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next sitting.

At twenty-seven minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Ms. Ferguson of Holden (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.