

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2024.

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Monday, June 24, 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.

Message from the Governor.

A message from Her Excellency the Governor submitting requests for making certain appropriations for fiscal year 2025 before final action on the General Appropriation Bill (House, No. 4786), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Thursday, June 20.

State funds,—
emergency
expenditures.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Statement of Representative Cusack of Braintree.

A statement of Representative Cusack of Braintree was spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call to the attention of the House the fact that I was absent from the House Chamber for the session held on Thursday, June 20. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted in the affirmative on passing to be engrossed House bill No. 4773, An Act promoting access to midwifery care and out-of-hospital birth options.

Statement of
Mr. Cusack
of Braintree.

Guests of the House.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), declared a brief recess, and introduced 5-year old Chase Ramos-Forrestall and his family from Anaheim, California, formerly residents of Massachusetts. Chase, who has plans of visiting as many state Capitol Buildings as he can (starting with Massachusetts) was invited to the Rostrum for photographs with the Chair and other members of the House who were in attendance. Chase and his family were the guests of the Chair.

Chase Ramos-
Forrestall.

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill to reduce plastics (Senate, No. 2833) (on Senate bill No. 2830) [Senator Fattman, of the committee on Senate Ways and Means, dissenting], passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Plastics,—
reduce.

A petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Cynthia Stone Creem for legislation relative to adoptions outside of the Commonwealth, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on the Judiciary.

Adoption.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2835) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on the Judiciary.

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:

Relative to loading and alighting vehicles from car carriers on public ways (House, No. 3472);

Car carriers,—
public ways.

Authorizing the town of Carlisle to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 4560) [Local Approval Received];

Carlisle,—
exemption.

Authorizing the town of Palmer to grant additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages (House, No. 4688) [Local Approval Received];

Palmer,—
Liquor licenses.

Relative to uniformity of ballots in polling places (House, No. 4689);

Ballots,—
uniformity.

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. Cusack of Braintree, for the committee on Revenue, on Senate, Nos. 1758, 1772, 1808, 1810, 1818, 1825, 1840, 1843, 1846, 1848, 1860, 1872, 1912, 1919, 1922, 1937, 1942, 1944 and 1957 and House, Nos. 2695, 2696, 2699, 2722, 2723, 2724, 2731, 2732, 2735, 2770, 2784, 2796, 2849, 2901, 2902, 2920, 2926, 2930, 2933, 2942, 2945, 2946, 2966, 2974, 2975, 2976, 2979, 3766, 3767, 3947 and 4017, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Revenue to make an investigation and study of certain Senate and House documents concerning vehicle excise tax, means-tested tax credits, and other related issues (House, No. 4727) [Senator Fattman dissenting].

Vehicle
excise tax,
means-tested
tax credits,
and other
related
issues,—
study.

By Mr. Cusack, for the same committee, on Senate, Nos. 1768, 1779, 1792, 1793, 1798, 1801, 1804, 1809, 1812 and 1814 and House, Nos. 2736, 2750, 2752, 2761, 2762, 2773, 2782, 2789, 2790, 2795, 2797, 2802, 2808, 2811, 2829, 2831, 2837, 2848, 2860, 2863, 2868, 2871, 2886, 2897, 2898, 2899, 2900, 2925, 2928, 2932, 2934, 2940, 2957, 2959, 2964, 2970, 2973, 3658, 3659 and 3664, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Revenue to make an investigation and study of certain Senate and House documents concerning tax credits, deductions, and other revenue issues (House, No. 4728) [Senator Fattman dissenting].

Tax credits,
deductions,
and other
revenue
issues,—
study.

Severally referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, reported, in each instance, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the orders; 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 Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Bill relative to strengthening Massachusetts' economic leadership (House, No. 4722), ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefore a bill with the same title

Economic
infrastructure,—
bond bill.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

(House, No. 4789) [Bond Issue: General Obligation Bonds: \$2,860,000,000.00]. Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, with the amendment pending.

By Mr. Madaro of Boston, for the committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, on a petition, a Bill establishing peer-run respite centers throughout the Commonwealth (House, No. 3602). Referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

Mental health,—
respite centers.

By Mr. Cusack of Braintree, for the committee on Revenue, on so much of Senate, No. 2571 (as relates to sections 8, 22, 26, 27, 38 to 75, inclusive, 85 and 86), a Bill empowering municipalities and local governments (House, No. 4788).

Local
governments.

By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on House, No. 7 and on a part of House, No. 5, a Bill relative to technical corrections in Chapter 30B (House, No. 7).

Chapter
30B.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 3108 and 3113, a Bill to promote American manufacturing (House, No. 3108).

Manufacturing,—
state purchasing.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to convey a certain parcel of land in the town of Stoneham (House, No. 4641).

Stoneham,—
land.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, Nos. 1970, 2002, 2011, 2017, 2024, 2043 and 2063 and House, Nos. 2981, 2998, 2999, 3014, 3025, 3040, 3109, 3110, 3121, 3671 and 4030, a Bill to modernize participation in public meetings (House, No. 4771).

Public
meetings.

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 relative to further increasing the fines for cruelty to animals, and establishing a fund dedicated to improvements for local animal shelters (House, No. 2022).

Animal
shelters.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Bedford to adopt alternative methods for notice of public hearings (House, No. 2062) [Local Approval Received].

Bedford,—
public
hearings.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the city known as the town of Franklin to utilize alternative methods for notice of public hearings (House, No. 2108) [Local Approval Received].

Franklin,—
public
hearings.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to dangerous dogs (House, No. 2117).

Dangerous
dogs.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill allowing print free digital legal notices for the town of Arlington (House, No. 4027) [Local Approval Received].

Arlington,—
digital legal notices.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Dracut to adopt alternative methods for notice of public hearings (House, No. 4430) [Local Approval Received].

Dracut,—
public
hearings.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill regarding the appointment of officials and employees of the town of Andover (House, No. 4639, changed, in section 1, in line 10, by inserting after the word “officials.” the following sentence: “The Town manager shall appoint, upon merit and fitness alone, and may, subject to the provisions of chapter 31 of the general laws where applicable, remove for cause all other town employees.”) [Local Approval Received].

Andover,—
appointments.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill allowing “print-free” digital legal notices for the town of Lexington (House, No. 4650) [Local Approval Received].

Lexington,—
digital legal
notices.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill allowing “print-free” digital legal notices for the town of Lincoln (House, No. 4664) [Local Approval Received].

Lincoln,—
digital legal
notices.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 2087 and 2098, a Bill relative to access to local journalism (House, No. 4787).

Local
journalism.

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Public Service, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Gabriella Ruocco (House, No. 4755).

Gabriella
Ruocco.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 4482, a Bill authorizing the city of Springfield to continue the employment of police officer Lawrence E. Akers (House, No. 4768) [Local Approval Received].

Springfield,—
Lawrence
Akers.

By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on Senate, No. 1976 and House, No. 2989, a Bill establishing Indigenous Peoples day (House, No. 2989) [Senator Collins dissenting].

Indigenous
Peoples day.

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

Orders of the Day.

The House Bill designating a portion of state highway Route 23 west and 41 south in the town of Egremont as the George McGurn memorial highway (House, No. 4619), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Egremont,—
McGurn
highway.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it in line 4 by inserting after the word “erect” the words “and maintain”.

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 4619, amended) was passed to be engrossed. 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 Wednesday next at eleven o’clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

At ten minutes after eleven o’clock A.M., on motion of Mr. McKenna of Sutton (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Wednesday at eleven o’clock A.M.