
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, October 10, 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.

Appointments of the Minority Leader.

The Minority Leader announced that he had made the following appointments:

That (under Section 152 of Chapter 178 of the Acts of 2024) he had appointed Melissa Alden of Yarmouth Port as his designee on the special commission to study and develop proposals for ways to improve the quality of life of veterans in the Commonwealth; and

Veterans
Quality of Life
Commission.

That (under Section 214 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) he had appointed Kevin Flanagan of Milford as his designee on the special commission to study and examine opportunities for collaboration and consolidation among the Department of Correction, the County Sheriffs, the Parole Board and to the Office of Community Corrections.

Corrections
Consolidation
Commission.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Fluker Oakley of Boston) recognizing the Heart of a Giant Foundation in celebrating the second Saturday of October as Heart of a Giant Day in Massachusetts;

Heart of a
Giant Day.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Garlick of Needham and Vaughn of Wrentham) congratulating Carrigan Allenby on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of the Boy Scouts of America;

Carrigan
Allenby.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Garlick of Needham) congratulating Lisa Donovan on her retirement from the Medfield Housing Authority;

Lisa
Donovan.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Garlick of Needham and Vaughn of Wrentham) congratulating Caeli Sheehan on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of the Boy Scouts of America;

Caeli
Sheehan.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Sullivan-Almeida of Abington) congratulating Deputy Fire Chief Thomas G. Ford on the occasion of his retirement from the Whitman Fire Department; and

Thomas
Ford.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Williams of Springfield and other members of the House) commending the Massachusetts Sickle Cell Association for recognizing September 2024 as Sickle Cell Awareness Month;

Sickle Cell
Awareness
Month.

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

Communications.

Communications

From the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (see Section 8(g) of Chapter 161B of the General Laws) submitting its financial statements and supplementary information for fiscal years ending June 30, 2023, and June 30, 2024;

Berkshire
Transit
Authority.

From the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (see Section 8(g) of Chapter 161B of the General Laws) submitting financial statements, supplementary information, and a schedule of expenditures of federal awards and OMB uniform guidance auditors' reports for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024;

Id.

From the Franklin Regional Transit Authority (see Section 8(g) of Chapter 161B of the General Laws) submitting its financial statements and supplementary information for fiscal years ending June 30, 2023, and June 30, 2024;

Franklin
Transit
Authority.

From Franklin Regional Transit Authority (see Section 8(g) of Chapter 161B of the General Laws) submitting financial statements, supplementary information, and a schedule of expenditures of federal awards and OMB uniform guidance auditors' reports for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024;

Id.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see item 1599-1213 contained in Section 2A of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the Temporary Respite Center monthly report from September 5, 2024 to October 3, 2024;

Temporary
Respite
Center.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see item 1599-0514 of Section 2 of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023 and Section 19 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the October 3, 2024 biweekly report on the Emergency Housing Assistance Program; and

Emergency
Housing
Assistance
Program.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see Section 138 of Chapter 126 of the Acts of 2022) submitting a report from the Department of Public Health entitled: "An Examination of Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths among Massachusetts Residents;

Opioid-related
overdose
deaths.

Severally were placed on file.

Quarterly Report.

A quarterly report of the Sheriff's Department of Plymouth County (under Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Plymouth County Correctional Facility for the third quarter of calendar year 2024, was placed on file.

Plymouth
County
Correctional
Facility.

Petitions.

Representative Carey of Easthampton presented a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5068) of Daniel R. Carey (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Easthampton be authorized to amend the charter of said city relative to ranked choice voting; and the same was referred to the committee on Election Laws. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Easthampton,—
charter.

Representative Cabral of New Bedford and Senator Rodrigues presented a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Antonio F. D. Cabral, Michael J. Rodrigues and others for the annual issuance of a proclamation by the Governor setting apart July 2 as Machado-Joseph disease awareness day; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Machado-Joseph
disease
awareness day.

Paper from the Senate.

The Senate Bill relative to the uniform child custody jurisdiction and enforcement act (Senate, No. 2961, amended in section 3, in line 620, by striking out the date: “December 31, 2024” and inserting in place thereof the date: “April 1, 2025”) (on Senate bill No. 2754), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Child custody,—
jurisdiction and
enforcement.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, that Joint Rule 7B be suspended on the petition of Alyson M. Sullivan-Almeida (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the Boston Retirement Board be authorized to retire Brian C. McPherson, an employee of the Suffolk County Sheriff’s Department. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 7B was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Public Service. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Brian C.
McPherson,—
retirement.

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 Paul K. Frost for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Stephen Brophy, an employee of the Department of Correction;

Stephen
Brophy.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Paul K. Frost and David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf that the Worcester County Retirement Board be authorized to credit Nathan Hagglund, a member of the Worcester regional retirement system, with certain creditable service in the town of Leicester; and

Nathan
Hagglund,—
creditable
service.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Susan Williams Gifford that the Teachers’ Retirement Board be directed to grant Thomas Brian Donnelly one year of creditable service and recalculate his superannuation retirement allowance.

Thomas
Donnelly,—
creditable
service.

Severally to the committee on Public Service.

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

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 amending the charter of the city known as the town of Southbridge (Senate, No. 2943) [Local Approval Received]; and

Southbridge,—
charter.

The House Bill establishing the recall of elected officials in the town of Williamstown (House, No. 5002) [Local Approval Received];

Williamstown,—
recall elections.

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

Orders of the Day.

The House Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Eric J. Iwaniec, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth (House, No. 5053) (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.

Eric Iwaniec,—
sick leave.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:

“Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to establish forthwith a sick leave bank for a certain employee of the trial court of the commonwealth, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.”

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 5053, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The House Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Mary Katherine Sheehan, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth (House, No. 5058) (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.

Mary Katherine
Sheehan,—
sick leave.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:

“Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to establish forthwith a sick leave bank for a certain employee of the trial court of the commonwealth, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.”

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 5058, 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 Tuesday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

At eight minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Orrall of Lakeville (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.