
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023.

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Thursday, October 12, 2023.

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.

Silent Tribute.

At the request of Representatives Williams of Springfield, Puppolo of Springfield, González of Springfield, Ramos of Springfield and Ashe of Longmeadow, the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silent tribute to the memory of Sally Marie (McTaggart) Markey of Springfield who passed away on September 28, 2023, at the age of 82.

Sally
Markey.

A nurse, educator, and tremendously engaged citizen, Sally lived by the Irish saying that strangers are merely friends one has not yet met. She pursued what we now call social justice, which she would classify as just doing the right thing. In the 1970s her home was an emergency placement spot for emotionally troubled teenagers through the Downey Side Program. Teaching by example, imparting daily lessons that the world is full of beauty and grace, Sally served without fanfare as a backbone member of varied organizations such as Pax Christi, the Pioneer Valley Project, East Forest Park Civic Association, and the Massachusetts Democratic State Committee.

She was a mother of seven, grandmother of 17, and cherished friend to hundreds of people from all walks of life who were touched by her generosity and kindness. She is survived by her children, Patrick and his wife Jennifer of Springfield, Kevin and his wife Ann Hallock of Northampton, Joseph and his wife Bernadette of Hopkinton, Maureen and her husband Michael Evans of Portland, Oregon, Eileen and her husband Jarrett Murphy of the Bronx, Sean and his wife Camille of Newton, and Brian and his wife Camille of New Orleans.

Appointment of the Minority Leader.

The Minority Leader announced that he had re-appointed Dr. Danna Mauch as his designee (under Section 219 of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) to the Commission on Community Behavioral Health Prevention and Promotion.

Community
behavioral
health.

Petition.

Representative Orrall of Lakeville and Senator Rodrigues presented a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4125) of Norman J. Orrall and Michael J. Rodrigues (by vote of the town) relative to establishing recall methods for elected

Lakeville,—
recall
elections.

officials in the town of Lakeville; and the same was referred to the committee on Election Laws. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Papers from the Senate.

The House Bill relative to property tax classifications in the city of Watertown (House, No. 2910), 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 2461. Referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Watertown,—
property taxes.

A report of the committee on Elder Affairs, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2460) of Paul R. Feeney and William Francis Galvin, for legislation to protect seniors and adults with disabilities from financial exploitation,— and recommending the same be referred to the committee on Financial Services,— accepted by the Senate, was considered forthwith, under Rule 42; and it was accepted, in concurrence.

Financial
exploitation,—
elderly and
disabilities.

Petitions were referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, as follows:

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2463) of Paul W. Mark for legislation relative to the disability law insomuch as relates to call and volunteer firefighters and EMTs; and

Volunteer
firefighters,—
disability.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2464) of Paul W. Mark for legislation to authorize the continued employment of Jerry Shampang as an environmental police officer in the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs;

Jerry
Shampang,—
employment.

Severally to the committee on Public Service.

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 Daniel Cahill (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Lynn be authorized to use certain park land in said town for school purposes. To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Lynn,—
land.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of James Arciero and others for legislation to authorize municipalities to provide residential exemptions to senior citizens. To the committee on Revenue.

Senior citizens,—
exemptions.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Marjorie C. Decker and Steven Owens that the commissioner of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance be authorized to convey a certain parcel of land in the city of Cambridge to said city for school and other municipal purposes. To the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

Cambridge,—
land.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Owens of Watertown, the reports were considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 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 House bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

Establishing a department of public works in the town of Tyngsborough (House, No. 2052) [Local Approval Received];

To designate a certain bridge in the town of Lexington in honor of Henry N. “Hank” Manz (House, No. 3286); and

Amending the charter of the town of Northborough (House, No. 3903) [Local Approval Received]

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

Tyngsborough,—
public works.

Lexington,—
Manz bridge.

Northborough,—
charter.

By Mr. Cutler of Duxbury, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1934) of Alice Hanlon Peisch and Sally P. Kerans for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to employer-supported child care benefits,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Education. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Child care,—
benefits.

By Mr. Straus of Mattapoisett, for the committee on Transportation, on House, No. 4107, a Bill designating a certain overpass in the town of Stoneham as the State Trooper Tamar A. Bucci Memorial Bridge (House, No. 4123). Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Stoneham,—
Bucci bridge.

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill relative to the paid family and medical leave program (see House, No. 4053, amended) (which originated in the House), in respect to which the Senate had concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, 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.

Orders of the Day.

House bills

Creating the appointed positions of town treasurer and tax collector in the town of Westwood (House, No. 3879); and

Establishing a sick leave bank for Jaer J. Martinez, an employee of the Department of Transitional Assistance (House, No. 4110);

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 Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

At seven 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 Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.