
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024.

[98]

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, October 24, 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.

Silent Tribute.

At the request of Mr. Jones of North Reading, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute in respect to the memory of House Assistant Minority Whip Susan Williams Gifford, who passed away peacefully at her home on October 22 surrounded by loved ones.

House Assistant
Minority Whip
Susan Williams
Gifford.

Representative Gifford was first elected to the House of Representatives in November of 2002, and for more than two decades was a tireless advocate for the residents of the 2nd Plymouth District, faithfully serving her constituents in Carver, Middleboro and Wareham. As a member of the Wareham Board of Selectmen from 1999 to 2002, and later as a state legislator, she always made it a priority to “put people first,” consistently advocating for the Commonwealth’s seniors, veterans, and local fishermen and cranberry growers.

A graduate of St. Joseph High School in St. Joseph, Michigan, Representative Gifford received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Western Michigan University in 1982. Prior to joining the Legislature, she worked as an insurance consultant with Boston-based Insurance Overload Systems, where her work included managing workers’ compensation claims for World Trade Center victims.

Representative Gifford was appointed by Governor Mitt Romney to serve on the Buzzards Bay Oil Spill Commission and the Massachusetts Ocean Management Task Force and was later appointed by Governor Deval Patrick to serve as a member of the 1000 Great Places In Massachusetts Commission as well as the Tourism Fund Formula Commission. She also served as a member of the Cranberry Revitalization Task Force and the Massachusetts Seafood Marketing Commission Steering Committee.

Representative Gifford leaves behind an enduring legacy of public service and dedication to helping others. She is survived by her husband, Mark, as well as many family members, friends and colleagues who were fortunate to know her. The Massachusetts House of Representatives extends its sincere condolences to her family as they navigate through this difficult time.

Message from the Governor.

A message from Her Excellency the Governor recommending legislation (under Section 8 of Article LXXXIX of the Amendments to the Constitution) relative to

Southampton,—
liquor
license.

further regulating a certain alcoholic beverage license in the town of Southampton (House, No. 5079), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Monday, October 21.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Haddad of Somerset) honoring the Somerset Lions Club on their eightieth anniversary of service; and

Somerset,—
Lions Club.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Kushmerek of Fitchburg and other members of the House) honoring the Copernicus Institute in honoring October 2024 as Polish American Heritage Month;

Polish
American
Heritage 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 Ms. Ferguson of Holden, 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 Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see Section 22 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the monthly Working Training for Emergency Assistance Residents report for October, 2024;

Working
training.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see Section 226 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the transfer certification to the Medicare Savings Program from the prescription advantage program and the Health Safety Net Trust Fund for fiscal year 2024;

Health Safety
Net Trust
Fund.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (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 17, 2024 biweekly report on the Emergency Housing Assistance Program; and

Emergency
housing
assistance.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see item 4003-0123 of Section 2 of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023) submitting the monthly Resettlement Agency Report for September, 2024;

Resettlement
Agency.

Severally were placed on file.

Quarterly Report.

A quarterly report of the Office of the Inspector General (under item 1599-2051 of Section 2 of Chapter 102 of the Acts of 2021, as most recently amended by Section 54 of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its Pandemic Funding Oversight Quality Report for the third quarter of calendar year 2024, was placed on file.

Pandemic
Funding
Oversight.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Fluker Oakley of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5080) of Brandy Fluker Oakley (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Boston be authorized to appoint Adam Watt a police officer notwithstanding the maximum age requirement; Boston,—
Adam Watt.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5081) of Brandy Fluker Oakley (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Boston be authorized to appoint Jean E. Rosoney a police officer notwithstanding the maximum age requirement; and Boston,—
Jean Rosoney.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5082) of Brandy Fluker Oakley (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Boston be authorized to appoint Keny Gateau a police officer notwithstanding the maximum age requirement. Boston,—
Keny Gateau.

Severally to the committee on Public Service.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Representative Arena-DeRosa of Holliston presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of James C. Arena-DeRosa that the Massachusetts Department of Transportation be authorized to designate a certain bridge in the town of Hopkinton as the Major General Frank D. Merrill memorial bridge; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules. Hopkinton,—
Merrill bridge.

Reports of Committees.

By Ms. Fiola of Fall River, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Southborough to issue pension obligation bonds or notes (House, No. 5056) [Local Approval Received]. Read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means. Southborough,—
bonds.

By Ms. Fiola of Fall River, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a joint petition, a Bill to amend the Saugus Town Charter (House, No. 5059) [Local Approval Received]. Saugus,—
charter.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill changing the Holyoke Treasurer position from elected to appointed (House, No. 5062) [Local Approval Received]. Holyoke,—
treasurer.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing a special fund for the festival of the hills receipts for the town of Conway (House, No. 5066) [Local Approval Received]. Conway,—
fund.

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Alex Guzman (House, No. 5054) [Local Approval Received]. Boston,—
Alex
Guzman.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing Dave Michienzi to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 5061) [Local Approval Received]. Haverhill,—
Dave
Michienzi.

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

Recess.

At seven minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at twenty-seven minutes after two o'clock P.M., the House was called to order with Mr. Garballey in the Chair.

Recess.

Paper from the Senate.

A report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches with reference to the House amendment to the Senate Bill upgrading the grid and protecting ratepayers (Senate, No. 2838) (amended by the House by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of House document numbered 4884; and by striking out the title and inserting in place thereof a new title), reporting, a "Bill promoting a clean energy grid, advancing equity and protecting ratepayers" (Senate, No. 2967), accepted by the Senate, was referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Clean energy.

Quorum.

Mr. Jones of North Reading then asked for a count of the House to ascertain if a quorum was in attendance. A quorum not being present, under the provisions of Rule 82, the Chair (Mr. Garballey of Arlington), at twenty-six minutes before three o'clock P.M., declared an adjournment of the House until Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.

Quorum.