
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2023.

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Monday, November 6, 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.

Message from the Governor.

A message from Her Excellency the Governor recommending legislation to rename the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, Massability, to reflect the self-determination and limitless possibilities of people with disabilities (House, No. 4161), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Thursday, November 2.

Rehabilitation
commission,—
rename.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Communications.

Communications

From the Office of the Comptroller providing an updated status on the filing of the 2023 Statutory Basis Financial Report, which has been delayed pending passage of the supplemental appropriation bill; and

Statutory Basis
Financial
Report.

From the Civil Service Unit of the Human Resources Division (see Section 25 of Chapter 31 of the General Laws) submitting notification of recent Police Promotional Series eligible list maintenance;

Police
promotional
eligibility list.

Severally were placed on file.

Reports.

A report of the Committee for Public Counsel Services (under Section 17 of Chapter 211D of the General Laws, as added by Section 61 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its Title IV-E report; and

Public Counsel
Services,—
Title IV-E.

An annual report of the Department of Youth Services (under Section 16 of Chapter 123A of the General Laws) relative to sexually dangerous persons in the custody of the department during fiscal year 2023 [copies of said report were forwarded to the committee on Ways and Means and the committee on the Judiciary as required by said law]; and

Sexually
dangerous
persons.

A quarterly report of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (under item 1790-3009 of Section 2 of Chapter 151 of the Acts of 2020) submitting its eighth quarterly report relative to the comprehensive modernization and

Labor and
Workforce
Development,—
online benefit
delivery.

transformation for the deployment of an online delivery system for unemployment insurance compensation benefits;

Severally were placed on file.

Papers from the Senate.

The House Bill changing the board of selectmen of the town of Avon to a select board (House, No. 3746, changed) (its title having been changed by the Senate committee on Bills in the Third Reading), 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 2494. The amendment was referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Avon,—
select board.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2493) of Ryan C. Fattman and Joseph D. McKenna (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Sutton to grant real property abatements to certain military personnel, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Revenue.

Sutton,—
active duty
military.

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 joint petition of Dylan A. Fernandes and Julian Cyr relative to disclosure and regulation of campaign expenditures and contributions for certain town meeting articles. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Galvin, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Election Laws. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Campaigns,—
expenditures and
contributions.

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 establishing the Eastham community fund in the town of Eastham (House, No. 2097) [Local Approval Received];

Eastham,—
community fund.

Relative to restricted vital records (House, No. 3092);

Vital records.

Authorizing Jacob M. White to purchase creditable service from the Barnstable County Retirement Board (House, No. 3641); and

Jacob White,—
retirement.

Designating a certain overpass in the town of Stoneham as the State Trooper Tamar A. Bucci memorial bridge (House, No. 4123);

Stoneham,—
Bucci bridge.

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

By Mr. Cusack of Braintree, for the committee on Revenue, on a petition, a Bill advancing renewable heating solutions for the Commonwealth (House, No. 2938).

Renewable
heating.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate Nos. 1815, 1882, 1900, 1929, 1931, 1932, 1962, 2411 and House, Nos. 2692, 2706, 2815, 2819, 2822, 2912, 2924, 2929 and 2954, a Bill relative to property tax relief for 100% disabled veterans (House, No. 4162).

Disabled
veterans,—
tax relief.

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

By Mr. Cusack of Braintree, for the committee on Revenue, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Charlemont to establish a tax on commercial recreation services (House, No. 2713) [Local Approval Received].

Charlemont,—
taxes.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill relative to the town of Blandford volunteer fire department (House, No. 2716).

Blandford,—
fire department.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Norwell to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 2765) [Local Approval Received].

Norwell,—
senior tax
exemption.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Lincoln to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption program (House, No. 2810) [Local Approval Received].

Lincoln,—
senior tax
exemption.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill expanding the exemption for residential property in the town of Wellfleet (House, No. 2914) [Local Approval Received].

Wellfleet,—
property
exemption.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing for payments in lieu of taxes by the South Essex sewerage district in the city of Salem (House, No. 3733) [Local Approval Received].

Salem,—
sewerage
payments.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Truro to establish a program to reduce property tax liability in exchange for volunteer services for persons with disabilities (House, No. 3735) [Local Approval Received].

Truro,—
volunteer
tax benefits.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Holliston to establish a means-tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 3826) [Local Approval Received].

Holliston,—
senior tax
exemption.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Lunenburg to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 3911) [Local Approval Received].

Lunenburg,—
senior tax
exemption.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing attainable housing and Chatham elementary school special revenue accounts for the town of Chatham (House, No. 3971) [Local Approval Received].

Chatham,—
revenue
accounts.

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

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill relative to the charter of the town of Dedham (see House, No. 2081, amended) (which originated in the House), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill
enacted.

Orders of the Day.

The House Bill dissolving the Hampshire County Regional Housing Authority and incorporating its functions into the Northampton Housing Authority (House, No. 3810), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading 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.

The House Bill further amending the charter of the town of Middleton (House, No. 3970, changed), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Middleton,—
charter.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it in section 53, in line 158 and also in line 161, by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen”, in each instance, and inserting in place thereof the words “Select Board”.

The amendments were adopted; and the bill (House, No. 3970, changed and 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 Wednesday next at eleven o’clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

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