

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2024.

[107]*

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, November 14, 2024.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M., 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.

During the session (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), at the request of Representative Tyler of Boston and the entire Boston delegation, the members, guests, and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute in respect to the memory of former Representative Gloria Fox of Boston.

Gloria
Fox.

Representative Fox was born on March 18, 1942 and spent her life in the Boston and Everett area - beating many odds as a young Black woman. This includes her huge victory in 1986 when she won her race to be seated as the official State Representative of the 7th Suffolk District (Roxbury).

Representative Fox excelled in every leadership role here on the hill including Ways and Means, Housing, and Elder Affairs - to name a few. She also served as a key member of the Massachusetts Black and Latino Caucus, the Boston Delegation, the Women's Caucus, and the National Caucus of State Legislators. She was well known for her compassion, giving many their first job and being there for her community at all times. She did all of this while being a super mom, grandmother, sister, aunt, friend, and mentor to her loved ones. Please join me in a moment of silence for the longest serving woman of this Great and General Court- The Honorable State Representative Gloria Fox.

During the session (the Speaker being in the Chair), at the request of Representatives Cahill of Lynn, Capano of Lynn and Armini of Marblehead, the members, guests, and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute to honor the memory of Agnes Ricko, who passed away on October 31, 2024. Agnes leaves behind a profound legacy of community service, political leadership, and an unwavering dedication to the people of Lynn and beyond.

Agnes
Ricko.

Agnes began her career as an elementary school teacher in Lynn before serving as Director of Beautification for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation under Governor Dukakis. She later worked as a community liaison for MassPort and as Chief of Staff to former Lynn Mayor Patrick McManus.

A political powerhouse, Agnes devoted over five decades to local, state, and national causes. She served on the Lynn Democratic City Committee and the Massachusetts State Democratic Committee for more than 40 years, was a delegate to three National Democratic Conventions, and was known for her legendary ability to get things done.

Agnes was honored with numerous accolades, including the prestigious Roosevelt Award. Her loss is deeply felt by her family, friends, the city of Lynn, and the Democratic Party.

Appointment to a Special Commission.

Mr. Day of Stoneham, for the committee on the Judiciary, announced that he had appointed Representative Lipper-Garabedian of Melrose as his designee to the special legislative commission established (under Section 148 of Chapter 135 of the Acts of 2024) to study and investigate emerging firearm technology.

Emerging
firearm
technology
commission.

Statement Concerning Representative Blais of Deerfield.

A statement of Mr. Michael Moran of Boston concerning Ms. Blais of Deerfield 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 one of our colleagues, Representative Blais of Deerfield, was unable to be present in the House Chamber for today's sitting because she was attending a conference outside of the country. If she could have been present, she would have been recorded as follows: Roll Call 200 – Yes, Roll Call 201 – Yes, Roll Call 202 – Yes, and Roll Call 203 – Yes. Her missing of roll calls today was due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement
concerning
Ms. Blais
of Deerfield.

Statement Concerning Representative Meschino of Hull.

A statement of Mr. Moran of Lawrence concerning Ms. Meschino of Hull 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 one of our colleagues, Representative Meschino of Hull, was unable to be present in the House Chamber for a portion of today's sitting due to previously-scheduled travel. If she could have been present for Yea and Nay Nos. 201, 202 and 203, she would have voted in the affirmative, in each instance. Her missing of roll calls today was entirely due to the reason stated.

Statement
concerning
Ms. Meschino
of Hull.

Guests of the House.

During the session, Representative Lawn of Watertown took the Chair introduced from Donegal, Republic of Ireland: Mayor Niamh Kennedy, Chief Executive John McLaughlin, and Chair of the Executive Development Council Garry Martin; and from Derry, Northern Ireland: Mayor Lilian Seenoi-Barr, Chief Executive John Kelpie, and Derry City Communication Officer Joanne McCarroll. The delegation was attending the 16th Annual Golden Bridges 2024, which was being held at Babson College. They were the guests of Representatives Lawn of Watertown and Murphy of Weymouth.

Golden
Bridges 2024,—
delegation.

Petition.

Representative Scanlon of North Attleborough presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Adam Scanlon for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for

Daniel
McKim,—
sick leave.

Daniel McKim, an employee of Worcester County Sheriff's Office; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Report of a Committee.

By Representative Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, asking to be discharged from the petition (accompanied by House, No. 5097) of John H. Rogers that the Department of Public Health be authorized and directed to maintain the provision of health care services in the towns of Norwood and Foxborough,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Health Care Financing. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Norwood and Foxborough,— health care services.

Recess.

At two minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Barrows of Mansfield (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House recessed until five minutes before twelve o'clock noon; and at two minutes before twelve o'clock noon, the House was called to order with Mr. Garballey in the Chair.

Recess.

Joint Session of the Two Houses to Consider Specific Legislative Amendments to the Constitution.

At twelve o'clock noon, the two branches met in

JOINT SESSION

and were called to order by the Honorable William N. Brownsberger.

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger), members, guests and employees then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Mr. Brady moved that the convention of the two branches be dissolved.

Mr. Tarr objected to adjourning convention of the two branches and asked for a call of the yeas and nays, and an insufficient number of members joining with him, the yeas and nays were not ordered .

Subsequently, without action on the matters duly and constitutionally assigned for consideration, at one minute past twelve o'clock noon, the convention of the two branches was dissolved; and the Senate withdrew from the Joint Session, under the escort of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Joint convention.

Recess.

At two minutes after twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Barrows of Mansfield (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House recessed until one o'clock P.M.; and at twenty-six minutes after one o'clock P.M., the House was called to order with Mr. Garballey in the Chair.

Recess.

Reports of Committees.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported (under the provisions of House Rules 7B and 7C), an Order relative to amendments for H5105 (for order, see House, No. 5106). The order was considered forthwith; and after remarks it was adopted.

House
Rule 85A,—
procedures.

At twenty-eight minutes after one o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Barrows of Mansfield (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House recessed until two o'clock; and at five minutes after two o'clock P.M., the House was called to order with Ms. Hogan of Stow in the Chair.

Recess.

The Speaker being in the Chair,—

An Order (filed by Mr. Galvin of Canton) to amend House Rule 85A (House, No. 5105), having been reported from the committee on Rules, under the provisions of House Rule 7C, was considered.

House
Rule 85A.

After remarks on the question on adoption of the order, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, at the request of Miss Gregoire of Marlborough; and on the roll call 135 members voted in the affirmative and 10 in the negative.

Order
adopted,—
yea and nay
No. 200.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 200 in Supplement.](#)]

Therefore the order (House, No. 5105) was adopted.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Kane of Shrewsbury and other members of the House) commending the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network on their recognition of November 21, 2024 as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Day; and

Pancreatic
Cancer
Awareness
Day.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Roy of Franklin) congratulating Patrick Robert O'Toole on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of the Boy Scouts of America;

Patrick
O'Toole.

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

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches, with reference to the House amendment (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered

Clean
energy
grid.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

4884) of the Senate Bill upgrading the grid and protecting ratepayers (Senate, No. 2838),— recommending passage of a Bill promoting a clean energy grid, advancing equity and protecting ratepayers (Senate, No. 2967),— be scheduled for consideration by the House, the question being on acceptance, in concurrence.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Roy of Franklin, the report was considered forthwith.

After remarks on the question on acceptance of the report, in concurrence, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, at the request of the same member; and on the roll call 128 members voted in the affirmative and 17 in the negative.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 201](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the report of the committee of conference was accepted, in concurrence.

Conference committee report accepted,— yea and nay No. 201.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the report, in part, of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches, with reference to the Senate amendment (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2869) of the House Bill relative to strengthening Massachusetts' economic leadership (House, No. 4804),— recommending passage of a bill with the same title (House, No. 5100) [Bond Issue: General Obligation Bonds: \$3,958,517,000.00],— be scheduled for consideration by the House, the question being on acceptance.

Economic leadership.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Parisella of Beverly, the report was considered forthwith.

After remarks on the question on acceptance of the report, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, at the request of the same member; and on the roll call 137 members voted in the affirmative and 8 in the negative.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 202](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the report of the committee of conference was accepted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Conference committee report accepted,— yea and nay No. 202.

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Promoting a clean energy grid, advancing equity and protecting ratepayers (see Senate, No. 2967) (which originated in the Senate);

Bills enacted.

Amending the charter of the city of Greenfield (see House, No. 3725, changed and amended);

Increasing the membership of the board of sewer commissioners in the town of Northfield from 3 to 5 members (see House, No. 4404, amended);

Authorizing certain employment contracts for the town of Milford (see House, No. 4779); and

Authorizing the town of Warwick to continue the employment of David A. Shoemaker as police chief (see House, No. 4908);

(Which severally originated in the House);

Severally having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, were passed to be enacted; and they were signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Recess.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

At twelve minutes after three o'clock P.M., the Speaker declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair; and at twenty-two minutes before four o'clock the House was called to order with Mr. Garballey of Arlington in the Chair.

Recess.

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed Bill relative to strengthening Massachusetts' economic leadership (House, No. 5100), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was considered, the question being on adopting the emergency preamble.

Economic leadership.

A separate vote was taken, as required by the provisions of Article XLVIII (as amended by Article LXVII) of the Amendments to the Constitution; and the preamble was adopted, by a vote of 54 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Subsequently, the Senate having concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, the bill (which originated in the House) was put upon its final passage.

On the question on passing the bill to be enacted, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays (this being a "loan" bill as defined by Section 3 of Article LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution, and this also being a bill providing for the taking of land or other easements used for conservation purposes, etc., as defined by Article XCVII of the Amendments to the Constitution); and on the roll call (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair) 139 members voted in the affirmative and 4 in the negative.

Bill enacted (state loan land-taking),—yea and nay No. 203.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 203](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the bill was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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.

Representative Tyler of Boston then moved that when the House adjourns today, it do so in respect to the memory of Gloria L. Fox, a member of the House from Boston from 1985 to 2016, inclusive; and the motion prevailed.

Accordingly, without proceeding to the matters in the Orders of the Day, at eight minutes after four o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Jones of North Reading (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.