The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2024.

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Monday, November 18, 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.

Message from the Governor.

A message from Her Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to commercial driver's licenses (House, No. 5109), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Friday, November 15.

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

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representatives Biele of Boston, Hunt of Boston, Ryan of Boston, Madaro of Boston, Chan of Quincy and Fluker Oakley of Boston) in recognition of John McGahan on his retirement, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, 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.

Communication.

A communication from the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (see Section 20 of Chapter 23N of the General Laws) submitting its research plan for a prospective study of the feasibility and impact of sports wagering kiosks in retail locations, was placed on file.

Petition.

Representative Diggs of Barnstable and Senator Cyr presented a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Kip A. Diggs and Julian Cyr relative to the transportation of marine vessels; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Pledge of allegiance.

Commercial driver's licenses.

John McGahan.

Sports wagering, retail kiosks.

Marine vessels, transportation.

Paper from the Senate.

A report of the committee on Public Health, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2979) of Michael F. Rush for legislation to protect Norwood healthcare access,— and recommending the same be referred to the committee on Health Care Financing,— accepted by the Senate, was considered forthwith, under Rule 42; and it was accepted, in concurrence.

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 Colleen M. Garry that the Dracut water supply district be authorized to supply and sell water for domestic and other purposes. To the committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Adam Scanlon for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Daniel McKim, an employee of Worcester County Sheriff's Office. To the committee on Public Service.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Brian W. Murray and others relative to disqualification from operating commercial motor vehicles; and

Joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Smitty Pignatelli and Paul W. Mark that the Massachusetts Department of Transportation be directed to designate a portion of state highway Route 7A in the town of Lenox as the Ross B. Dindio memorial highway;

Severally to the committee on Transportation.

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

Report of the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, ought NOT to pass (under Joint Rule 10), on the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4986) of Christopher M. Markey (by vote of the town) that town of Dartmouth be authorized to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises in said town.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Barrows of Mansfield, the report was considered forthwith. Pending the question on acceptance of the report, the petition was recommitted, on motion of Mr. Chan of Quincy.

Reports

Of the committee on Public Service, ought NOT to pass (under Joint Rule 10), on the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4081) of Paul A. Schmid, III (by vote of the town) that the town of Acushnet be authorized to continue the employment of the call deputy fire chief of said town;

Of the same committee, ought NOT to pass (under Joint Rule 10), on the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5071) 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;

Norwood and Foxborough, health care services.

Dracut, water supply.

Daniel McKim, sick leave.

Commercial drivers.

Lenox,— Dindio highway.

Dartmouth, liquor license.

Acushnet, employment.

Thomas Brian Donnelly, retirement.

Of the same committee, ought NOT to pass (under Joint Rule 10), on the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5072) of Alyson M. Sullivan-Almeida that the Boston Retirement Board be authorized to retire Brian C. McPherson, an employee of the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department;

Of the same committee, ought NOT to pass (under Joint Rule 10), on the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5074) 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;

Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on a motion of Mr. Barrows of Mansfield, the reports were considered forthwith. Pending the question on acceptance of the reports, the petitions were recommitted, on motions of Mr. Gordon of Bedford.

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 the Regional Commissions on the Status of Women (House, No. 5051);

Designating Pastene Day in Massachusetts (House, No. 5052);

Relative to further regulating a certain alcoholic beverage license in the town of Southampton (printed in House, No. 5079); and

Authorizing the town of Tyngsborough to grant 3 additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5094) [Local Approval Received];

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

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Election Laws, on House, No. 5068, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Election Laws to make an investigation and study of a certain House document relative to ranked choice voting in Easthampton (House, No. 5108). Referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Subsequently, Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committees, reported asking to be discharged from further consideration of the order; and recommending that the same be referred to the House committee on Rules.

Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted.

By Representative Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill authorizing Gabriel Rosa to take the civil service examination for the position of police officer in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 5069) [Local Approval Received].

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing Juan Jimenez to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 5070) [Local Approval Received].

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 4590, a Bill exempting the office of chief of police in the city of Worcester from the civil service law (House, No. 5107) [Local Approval Received] [Senator Fattman dissenting].

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

Brian McPherson, retirement.

Nathan Hagglund, retirement.

Hull, commission.

Pastene day. Southampton, liquor license.

Tyngsborough, liquor licenses.

Easthampton, study.

Haverhill,— Gabriel Rosa.

Haverhill,— Juan Jimenez.

Worcester, civil service.

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Cherylann Collaro-Surrette, an employee of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (see House, No. 5057), 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.

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

Orders of the Day.

The Senate Bill authorizing the town of Andover to convert a certain parcel of land for general municipal purposes (Senate, No. 2955), 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, in concurrence.

House bills

Relative to providing for recall elections in the town of North Brookfield (House, No. 4272);

Amending the town charter in the town of Grafton relative to appointments by the town select board and the town administrator and the reference to the town's website (House, No. 4682);

Amending the town charter in the town of Grafton relative to the town school committee and the Grafton housing authority (House, No. 4683);

Authorizing Jason Restituyo to take the civil service examination for the position of police officer in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 4952);

Authorizing Michael E. Jarvis, Jr. to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 4953);

Relative to the recall of elected officials in the town of Williamstown (House, No. 5002) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading); and

Establishing a sick leave bank for Stephen Brophy, an employee of the Department of Correction (House, No. 5075) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading);

Severally reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The House Bill changing the Holyoke treasurer position from elected to appointed (House, No. 5062), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Cherylann Collaro-Surrette, sick leave.

Bill enacted.

Third reading bill.

Third reading bills.

Holyoke, treasurer.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it (as changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading) by adding the following section:

"SECTION 5. Section 4 of this act shall take effect upon its passage."

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 5062, 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 Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next sitting.

At twenty-six minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Barrows of Mansfield (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Thursday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.