
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2024.

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Monday, December 9, 2024.

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 Tributes.

At the request of Representatives Uytterhoeven of Somerville and Barber of Somerville, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute in respect to the memory of former State Representative and lifelong Somerville resident Marie E. Howe, who passed away on December 2nd, 2024, at the age of 85.

Marie E.
Howe.

A lifelong resident of Somerville, Representative Howe was elected to the House of Representatives for the 31st Middlesex District from 1965 to 1988. Representative Howe excelled in every leadership role on Beacon Hill including Ways and Means, Commerce and Labor, and Rules. She was a trailblazer for women's equality and served as the co-chair of the newly formed Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators. She was instrumental in supporting a stronger Lemon Law to protect consumers.

She was proud of her Irish Catholic heritage and deeply committed to the betterment of Somerville. Her longstanding commitment to peace and justice in Northern Ireland is one of the hallmarks of her illustrious career. She worked closely with Amnesty International and introduced a resolution declaring March 17 as Human Rights Day in Ireland.

At the request of Representative Peisch of Wellesley, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute in respect to the memory of Herlda Senhouse, a true inspiration and role model, who passed away November 16, 2024, at the age of 113.

Herlda
Senhouse.

Born in 1911, Herlda Senhouse was the longest living resident of the Commonwealth at the time of her passing. She lived in Wellesley for more than 45 years and remained engaged in the community and civic affairs. One of her last activities was to vote by mail in the 2024 Presidential election.

Ms. Senhouse continues to inspire even after her death as she made arrangements to have her brain donated to researchers to help further studies on longevity.

Guests of the House.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), declared a brief recess and introduced, seated in the Chamber, members of the Herring Pond Wampanoag Tribe in Plymouth, which was recently granted state recognition through Executive

Herring Pond
Wampanoag
Tribe.

Order by Governor Healey. They were the guests of Representatives Vieira of Falmouth, Muratore of Plymouth and Diggs of Barnstable.

Communications.

Communications

From the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (see Section 4 of Chapter 40V of the General Laws) submitting its Housing Development Incentive annual report for fiscal year 2021; Housing Development Incentive.

From the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (see Section 4 of Chapter 40V of the General Laws) submitting its Housing Development Incentive annual report for fiscal year 2022; Id.

From the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (see Section 4 of Chapter 40V of the General Laws) submitting its Housing Development Incentive annual report for fiscal year 2023; Id.

From the Executive Office of Veterans' Services (see Section 12 of Chapter 115A of the General Laws) submitting its 2023 report on the state of the Commonwealth's two Soldiers' Homes [a copy of said communication was forwarded to the committee on Veterans and Federal, as required by law]; Soldiers' homes.

From the Executive Office of Veterans' Services (see Section 115 of Chapter 140 of the General Laws) submitting the annual report of the Women Veterans Network (WVN) for fiscal year 2024; Women Veterans Network.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see item 1599-1213 contained in Section 2A of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the Temporary Respite Center monthly report from November 1, 2024 to November 27, 2024; Temporary respite centers.

From the Department of Early Education and Care (see item 3000-1045 of Section 2 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2023) submitting the second quarterly report on the distribution of funds from the Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3) operational grant program; Children's grant program.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see item 4000-0054 of Section 2 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2023) submitting the annual report of the Behavioral Health Trust for fiscal year 2024; and Behavioral Health Trust.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and the Executive Office for 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 November 27, 2024 biweekly report on the emergency housing assistance program; Emergency housing assistance.

Severally were placed on file.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Barrett of North Adams, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of John Barrett, III that the North Adams retirement board be authorized to grant creditable service to Neal Bryan Martin for full-time work with the Hoosac Water Quality District. North Adams,— Neal Martin.

By Representative Muratore of Plymouth, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Mathew J. Muratore, Susan L. Moran and Kathleen R. LaNatra (by vote of the town) for legislation to establish a Plymouth land bank in the town of Plymouth. Plymouth,— land bank.

Severally, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Papers from the Senate.

The House Bill to prohibit hunting on property owned by the Department of Correction and located at 28A Union turnpike in the town of Concord (House, No. 4200), came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with amendments striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2987; and striking out the title and inserting in place thereof the following title: "An Act prohibiting hunting on property owned by the department of correction in the town of Concord". The amendments were referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Concord,—
hunting
prohibition.

The House Bill repealing the prohibition on the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority from locating a facility within a certain distance of Arlington Catholic high school (House, No. 4236) (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 amendments striking out section 2; and

MBTA
facilities.

Inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:

"Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to repeal forthwith the prohibition on the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority from locating a facility within a certain distance of Arlington Catholic high school, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience."

The amendments were referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

The House Bill designating the state public health laboratory campus as the Doctor Alfred DeMaria, Jr. campus (House, No. 5063) (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 2975. The amendment was referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Dr. Alfred
DeMaria, Jr.

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Kate Sout-Sorm, an employee of the Department of Transitional Assistance (Senate, No. 2986) (on a petition), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Kate
Sout-Sorm,—
sick leave.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, that Joint Rule 7B be suspended on the joint petition of Meghan Kilcoyne and John J. Cronin that the town of Clinton be authorized to grant 6 additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises in said town. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Kilcoyne of Clinton, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 7B was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Clinton,—
liquor
licenses.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the following bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

Senate bills

Providing for recall elections in the town of Granby (Senate, No. 2444) [Local Approval Received];

Granby,—
recalls.

Authorizing the town of Provincetown to grant 2 additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (Senate, No. 2860) [Local Approval Received]; and

Provincetown,—
liquor
licenses.

Authorizing the town of Raynham to appoint retired police officers as special police officers (Senate, No. 2983) [Local Approval Received]; and

Raynham,—
retired police.

House bills

Regarding the disability pension for Misael Rodriguez administered by the Springfield retirement board (House, No. 4988) [Local Approval Received];

Springfield,—
pension.

To increase the income limit for Clause 41A, Senior Tax Deferral Program in Ipswich (House, No. 5086) [Local Approval Received];

Ipswich,—
tax deferrals.

Relative to the Cotuit Fire District (House, No. 5089); and

Cotuit.

Authorizing the Cotuit Fire District to raise and appropriate money for the Historical Society of Santuit and Cotuit (House, No. 5090);

Id.

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

By Representative Fiola of Fall River, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill defining a governing structure for the Lawrence School Board upon the exit of state receivership (House, No. 5098) [Local Approval Received] [Representative Connolly of Cambridge dissenting].

Lawrence,—
school
board.

By Representative Fiola, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill creating select board-town manager form of government in the town of Holliston (House, No. 5119) [Local Approval Received].

Holliston,—
select
board.

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

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Establishing the appointed positions of district clerk and district treasurer for the North Raynham water district (see Senate, No. 2717) (which originated in the Senate);

Bills
enacted.

Promoting local law enforcement continuity between the city of Boston and the town of Dedham (see House, No. 2299);

Waiving the maximum age requirement for police officers for the city of Methuen (see House, No. 2548);

Designating a certain roundabout in the town of Orleans in honor of Dorofei Klimshuk (see House, No. 4484); and

Authorizing the towns of Foxborough and Sharon to extend a certain agreement for municipal sewer service (see House, No. 4754);

(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 acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Orders of the Day.

The Senate amendment of the House Bill increasing the age limit for the appointment of special police officers in the city of Springfield (House, No. 4822), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was adopted, in concurrence.

Springfield,—
special police.

Recess.

At nine minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at thirteen minutes before twelve o'clock noon the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Recess.

Order.

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—
Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Thursday next at ten o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

At fourteen minutes after twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Thursday at ten o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.