
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023.

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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 Tribute.

At the request of Representatives Stanley of Waltham and Lawn of Watertown, the members, guests and employees stood for a moment of silence in honor of Waltham Police Officer Paul Tracey.

Waltham
Police Officer
Paul Tracey.

Officer Tracy died in the line of duty on Wednesday, December 6th, 2023. He was a 28-year veteran of the Waltham Police Department. During his tenure, he is credited with saving two lives and mentoring the youth of Waltham.

Officer Tracey is survived by his wife, Waltham Police Officer Kristen Tracey, and their two children, Danika and Tyler.

Guests of the House.

At the beginning of the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), declared a brief recess and introduced the AYC Massachusetts State Cheer Team Champions, UIO Small and UIO Large, from the city of Waltham. At the invitation of the Chair (Mr. Donato) the Cheer Team members participated in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. They were the guests of Mr. Stanley of Waltham.

Waltham,—
cheer teams.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Peisch of Wellesley) honoring Barbara Stevens on her one hundredth birthday;

Barbara
Stevens.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Galvin of Canton) congratulating Duncan A. MacLeod on his one hundredth birthday; and

Duncan
MacLeod.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Roy of Franklin) congratulating and honoring William "Ken" Norman on his years of appointed volunteer service to the town of Franklin;

Ken
Norman.

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

Petitions.

Representative Worrell of Boston presented a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4212) of Christopher J. Worrell (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Boston be authorized to appoint Terrance Joseph Williams a police officer in said city notwithstanding the maximum age requirement; and the same was referred to the committee on Public Service. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Boston,—
Terrance
Williams.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Hamilton of Methuen, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Ryan M. Hamilton for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Sheri Panas, an employee of the Department of Unemployment Assistance.

Sheri Panas,—
sick leave.

By Representative Jones of North Reading (by request), a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Steve Bugli for legislation to further regulate the sale of certain Chapter 40B properties purchased before the year 2010.

Chapter 40B
properties,—
sale.

By Representative Kilcoyne of Clinton, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Meghan Kilcoyne for legislation to establish distinctive license plates for certain Army combat veterans.

Army combat
veterans,—
license plate.

By Representative LaNatra of Kingston, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Kathleen R. LaNatra for legislation to further regulate limitations on wrongful death actions.

Wrongful
death
actions.

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

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Rene Perez, an employee of the Department of Developmental Services (Senate, No. 2452) (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.

Rene Perez,—
sick leave
bank.

A report of the committee on Education, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 313) of Joan B. Lovely for legislation relative to supporting survivors of child sexual abuse, and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on the Judiciary,—accepted by the Senate, was considered forthwith, under Rule 42; and it was accepted, in concurrence.

Child sexual
abuse,—
survivor
support.

Petitions were referred, in concurrence, as follows:

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2510) of Susan L. Moran and Steven George Xiarhos (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Sandwich 5 additional liquor licenses. To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Sandwich,—
liquor
licenses.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2523) of Ryan C. Fattman (by vote of the town) relative to the town charter for the town of Southbridge. To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Southbridge,—
charter.

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 Dylan A. Fernandes that the Executive Office of Health and Human Services be authorized to establish a program to promote, incentivize and support the development and deployment of eligible therapies among veterans and first responders. To the committee on Public Health.

Veterans and responders,—therapies.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Margaret R. Scarsdale relative to authorizing Thomas Struthers to purchase creditable service from the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement Board. To the committee on Public Service.

Thomas Struthers,—retirement.

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

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 changing the board of selectmen in the town of Foxborough (House, No. 3724) [Local Approval Received];

Foxborough,—select board.

[sic] In the town of Hanson local licenses and permits; denial, revocation or suspension for failure to comply with conditions of approval (House, No. 3984) [Local Approval Received];

Hanson,—building compliance.

Establishing an appointed town clerk in the town of Rutland (House, No. 3985) [Local Approval Received];

Rutland,—town clerk.

To amend the Needham charter (House, No. 3997) [Local Approval Received];

Needham.

Authorizing the town of Eastham, acting by and through its board of selectmen, to convey a conservation restriction on a certain parcel of land to the Eastham conservation foundation, inc [sic] (House, No. 4012) [Local Approval Received];

Eastham,—land.

Establishing the appointed office of town clerk in the town of Bolton (House, No. 4056) [Local Approval Received];

Bolton,—town clerk.

Relative to the office of town clerk and town treasurer in the town known as Southwick (House, No. 4079) [Local Approval Received]; and

Southwick,—appointments.

Authorizing the continued employment of Glenn Davis, the fire chief of the town of Lynnfield (House, No. 4146) [Local Approval Received];

Lynnfield,—Glenn Davis.

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.

Engrossed Bills.

The engrossed Bill relative to creditable service for Abby Levin, a member of the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System (see House, No. 4168, amended) (which originated in the House), in respect to which the Senate had concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill enacted.

Engrossed bills

Authorizing the city of Pittsfield to award a 1-year or multiple-year contract for an audit of the books and accounts of the city (see House, No. 2045, amended);

Bills enacted.

Authorizing the town of Conway to continue the employment of police officer Randall Williams (see House, No. 2448, amended); and

Changing the name of the board of selectmen of the town of Westport to select board (see House, No. 3751, amended);
(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.

House bills

Facilitating the appropriation and expenditure of community preservation funds for community housing purposes in the town of Chatham (House, No. 1365);
Establishing a housing trust fund in the town of Chatham (House, No. 1366);
Amending the charter of the city of Greenfield (House, No. 3725, changed);
Directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Ariel Rodriguez (House, No. 3844); and
Relative to establishing a trust to administer a length of service award program for the Swansea Fire Department (House, No. 4047);
Severally reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Third
reading
bills.

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 a quarter after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Thursday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.