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# JOURNAL OF THE SENATE
# IN JOINT SESSION.

Thursday, January 24, 2008.

Pursuant to assignment, at eight minutes before seven o'clock, P.M., the two branches met in

JOINT SESSION

In the Chamber of the House of Representatives, for the purpose of receiving such communication as His Excellency Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth, may be pleased to make relative to the concerns of the Commonwealth; and were called to order by the Honorable Therese Murray, President of the Senate.

*Order Adopted.*

On motion of Mr. Panagiotakos,

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to consist of members of the Senate and House of Representatives to wait upon His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, the Constitutional officers, members of the Executive Council, and other distinguished guests of the Governor and inform them that the two branches are now in Convention and request the honor of their presence.

Senators Candaras, Augustus, Brewer and Knapik were appointed on the part of the Senate; and Representatives Harkins of Needham, Torrisi of Andover, O'Flaherty of Chelsea, Wolf of Cambridge, Stanley of Waltham, Welch of West Springfield, Hall of Westford, Pedone of Worcester, Turkington of Falmouth, Lepper of Attleboro and Hill of Ipswich, were appointed on the part of the House.

Subsequently, Ms. Candaras, for the committee, reported that His Honor, Timothy P. Murray, the Lieutenant Governor, the Constitutional officers, the Executive Council and distinguished guests would immediately attend upon the convention.

Shortly thereafter, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, Timothy P. Murray, the Constitutional officers, members of the Executive Council, members of the Supreme Judicial Court and Adjutant General Joseph C. Carter entered the Chamber under the escort of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

*Prayer.*

The Speaker in the Chair, then introduced Reverend William E. Dickerson II, from the Greater Love Tabernacle in Dorchester, who delivered the following Invocation:

Let's all bow our heads.

Dearly father we come before you tonight asking you to invoke your choices blessings upon this auspicious Gathering.

We pray that you allow your spirit to saturate this atmosphere our state needs your salvation and deliverance.

You stayed in your word in second chronicle 7:14 if my people were called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek your faith in turn from our wicked ways and you will hear from heaven and you will forgive the sin and heal the land.

Bless Governor Deval Patrick as he articulates the plethora of concerns in regards to our state.

Bless the Lieutenant-Governor, the state legislators, the mayors, the civic leaders and clergy persons throughout Massachusetts.

Father tonight, strengthen and anoint Governor Deval Patrick as he shares the state of the state address.

Bless our state as it relates to public safety, jobs, housing, healthcare, social justice and economic advantage.

Father, we pray tonight that you would breathe on us tonight and let there be a revival of spiritual revival in economic revival, a revival of peace and unity.

God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
Amen.

*Order Adopted.*

The President in the Chair, on motion of Mr. Panagiotakos,

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to consist of members of the Senate and the House of Representatives to wait upon His Excellency the Governor and inform him that the two branches are now in Convention for the purpose of receiving such communication as he may be pleased to make to them, relating to the concerns of the Commonwealth.

Senators Tolman, Walsh, Buoniconti and Tarr were appointed on the part of the Senate; and Representatives Flynn of Bridgewater, Petrolati of Ludlow, Kaprielian of Watertown, Swan of Springfield, Peake of Provincetown, Grant of Beverly, Fox of Boston, Rogeness of Longmeadow, DeMacedo of Plymouth, Linsky of Natick, Story of Amherst and Ross of Wrentham, were appointed on the part of the House.

Subsequently, Mr. Tolman, for the committee, reported that His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick, would immediately attend upon the convention.

*Pledge of Allegiance.*

The President then introduced Lieutenant Governor Timothy P. Murray who then introduced Secretary of Veteran Services Tom Kelly and four of his fellow veterans to recite the pledge of allegiance.

*Pledge of Allegiance.*

The Lieutenant-Governor then introduced 9-year old Oladunni Oladipo from Canton, Massachusetts who sang our National Anthem.

Shortly thereafter, His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick entered the Chamber under the escort of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

The President then introduced His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick, who thereupon addressed the Convention relative to the concerns of the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 4).

The President in the Chair, she then introduced Rabbi Jonah Pesner of Temple Israel in Boston, who gave the following Benediction:

The most ancient story of action and redemption is the story of the parting of the sea and the transformation of the children of Israel from people of slavery to a people of power and freedom.

The ancient rabbis offered an interpretation of that story when they asked the question why was it that God gave the power to the seas to part with the children of Israel standing with slavery before them and freedom in front of them.

The rabbis taught us that story that the seas did not part until every single child of Israel, 600,000 women and men and children entered into the water together; then it was, they were taught, that the sea parted.

The rabbis were teaching them then and us today, that the seas will only part, redemption will only happen when we join hand in hand shoulder to shoulder and part the seas together, so take hands now.

God of our fathers and God of our mothers, God of our children and oh, God of our children's children, inspire us, bless us and remind us that redemption will only happen when we join hands and part the seas together.

Amen.

The President in the Chair, His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick, the Lieutenant Governor, the Constitutional officers and the Executive Council then withdrew from the Chamber under the escort of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

At five minutes past eight o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Downing, the Convention was dissolved.