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UNCORRECTED PROOF OF THE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.

Wednesday, March 21, 2007.

Met at one minute past one o'clock P.M.

The President, members, guests and employees then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The following prayer was offered by Very Reverend Bryan K. Parrish, V.F., Pastor of St. Mary's Parish of Plymouth and Kingston:

O God, as You have revealed to us through the Hebrew Scriptures: "You have been our refuge through all generations. Before the mountains were begotten and the earth and the world were brought forth, from everlasting to everlasting, You are God."

Lord, You are the Creator of all, and have made creation in Your likeness; male and female you have created us!

At this historic gathering of those entrusted with leadership and responsibility for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, pour out Your blessing upon us. Help us to appreciate the inestimable value of all human life, especially among those most vulnerable in our society: the poor, the immigrant, the elderly, the unborn, those with physical and emotional challenges, those suffering from disease and illness, those viewed by our culture as no longer necessary.

Help us to know, in mind and in heart, the incomparable value of every human life: created good, created in Your image. Help us to promote a culture of life and love, of respect and peace.

Bless these leaders with wisdom and courage, with prudence and right judgment, with the gifts of listening well and speaking clearly. Guide them in the ways of truth and justice.

And, at this historic moment, O God, bless Senator Therese Murray with the knowledge and assurance of Your presence. May she follow Your counsel in the Scriptures and, as did the women and men of old, "only do the right, love goodness and walk humbly with her God." Amen.

The National Anthem was sung by Margaret Irvine, a senior student at Plymouth North High School.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Ms. Menard,—

Ordered, That a committee of the Senate be formed to request the presence of His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick, His Honor, Timothy P. Murray, Lieutenant-Governor of the Commonwealth, the several Executive Councillors and the several Constitutional officers in the Senate Chamber for the purpose of observing the proceedings in the Senate Chamber today.

Senators Rosenberg of Hampshire and Franklin, Spilka of Middlesex and Norfolk, Wilkerson of Suffolk, Candaras of Hampden

and Hampshire and Tarr of Essex and Middlesex were appointed the committee.

Subsequently, Mr. Rosenberg, for the said committee, reported that the committee had waited upon His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick, His Honor Timothy P. Murray, Lieutenant-Governor of the Commonwealth, the Honorable Council, and the several Constitutional officers and had conveyed to them the message of the Senate; and that the Governor would be proceeding to the Senate Chamber forthwith.

The report was accepted and the committee was discharged.

Soon after, His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick, His Honor Timothy P. Murray, Lieutenant-Governor of the Commonwealth, members of the Honorable Council, William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Timothy Cahill, Treasurer and Receiver-General of the Commonwealth, and A. Joseph DeNucci, Auditor of the Commonwealth, entered the Chamber and were seated.

Communication.

The following communication was received, read to the membership and placed on file to wit:

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02133-1007

March 21, 2007.

Mr. William Welch
Clerk of the Massachusetts Senate
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Mr. Welch:

I have this day resigned from the position of President of the Senate.

Sincerely,
ROBERT E. TRAVAGLINI,
President of the Senate.

*Senate President Robert E. Travaglini's Farewell Speech
Before the Senate Chamber March 21, 2007.*

As you can well imagine, this was not an easy decision to reach and it didn't happen overnight. But stepping down from public service will allow me an opportunity to become more of a husband for my wife and a father for my three children. For the last 25 years, I have made more friends, had more fun, and had more of an effect as President of this distinguished body than I've had in the rest of my life.

To say serving as Senate President has been a privilege and an honor would be an understatement. If you can recall when you placed your confidence in me four and a half years ago, I said this would be a shared journey, that we would together face the challenges and the issues of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a collaborative team. I challenged each and every one of you not to tell me how smart you were, but to show me, and show me you did, in a variety of different instances.

Senator Therese Murray from Plymouth and Barnstable with Ways and Means, Senator Richard Moore from Worcester in healthcare, Senator Steven Tolman from Middlesex in substance abuse, Senator John Hart, Jr. from Suffolk on economic development and among my Republican friends, Senator Bruce Tarr on alternative fuels. I can go all the way around the Chamber and pick out any Senator and match them to meaningful legislation they have sponsored.

But today is a special day for Terry and me. It marks the end of a commitment to you and the citizens of the Commonwealth as the President of the Senate during the last four years. If you rewind the tape and play it back, we've done some remarkable things together. Legislative reorganization in a responsible manner, protecting core services, eliminating a \$3.5 billion deficit, stem cell research, health care reform, economic stimulus.

You name it, we've done it, and I couldn't be prouder of each and every one of you for the energy, commitment, and passion you brought to this body. I promised myself I would not lose control today, because for the last two days I have and I don't mind admitting that. This will be the toughest part, and if I can do this, I will be okay. So here goes.

To my mother, the person I aspire to be and who has allowed me to become all that I am. Thank you.

To my wife, Kelly, who in my absence has done a remarkable job with my three children. My oldest daughter Taylor is 17 and just started driving, so if you think I have a difficult year in front of me, I already have one at home. Kelly has been my rock raising Taylor, Jennifer and my son Andrew.

During my tenure, I have been blessed not only with 39 friends but a magnificent staff. Originally they were viewed as a collection of characters whose chemistry was untested, and then the games began, and boy did they play. You know none of them in the beginning were all stars, but in the end they walked away with the title and with the respect of all of you. I believe they are here today, but when I first took over and was overwhelmed, I had a team too.

Christian Scorzoni, now undersecretary to the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, David Friedman, first assistant attorney general to Martha Coakley. David Morales, senior advisor to your Excellency the Governor. Jimmy Gandolfi, clerk of court. My God, I must have been influential to place all these people. Let me tell you, it's all about talent. Karen Buttiglieri, who has been like a guardian angel. Ann Dufresne, the hardest of all was her job because you know how much I hate to expose myself to the press. And Arthur Bernard, brilliant, a professional and a friend. Thank you to all of you.

Linda Rosa, Francine Gannon, John Courtney, Jackie Rosatto, Lauren Rich, Mary Hart, Kathleen Hardaway, Larry Clinton, J.T. Pasquarello and Sondra Polica ... all of you, everyday representing me, in communication and direct relationship with everyone that visited my office. You left them with a positive impression of me without ever getting a chance to talk with me. Do you have any idea of the talent that's necessary to achieve that? Magnificent. Job well done.

Let me close by saying I am moved by the presence of so many people here today for Terry and me, because from the very beginning we've always been a package, a team — part of the same class of 13 that came in. It seems so long ago, but we rose through the ranks together,

I want to take the liberty of introducing someone who is very special to me because when you go through adversity, face physical challenges, that's where you measure your friends. When I was confronted with some difficulties a few years back and my wife was confused and concerned and upset, one man made some phone calls and put my wife at ease. I've been his friend for 35 years, but I became more of his friend when he went out of his way to make sure I was going to be okay and comforted my wife. That's Mayor Tom Menino.

Obviously, we are honored by the presence of His Excellency the Governor, a wonderful man, a good man, a man who is going to make a difference and I know you are going to help. We've had some fun at Tim's expense, the Speaker and I, but it won't happen today Lieutenant Governor, I can assure you. Your presence and your experience are invaluable and will prove to be tools as we continue with the dialogue and discussion between the branches and you are wise to stay close to this man because in the end, it will all be fine.

Last but not least, the Speaker of the House, who for the last two and a half years has worked with me. We have wine and dined and debated and discussed and exchanged profanities on occasion, but you have no idea how wonderful it's been and the difference it has made for me to have Sal DiMasi the Speaker of the House and Bob DeLeo as chairman of Ways and Means, and they are both in my senatorial district.

So with that, you won't have me to kick around anymore. There is a new target, one person who I am very fond of. So I will end my comments today by saying to all the people in the Suffolk Middlesex district who were with me since 1983 and today remain loyal to me, thank you for your friendship, thank you for your confidence, thank you for your contributions, and thank you for the vision you placed in my being your leader.

I have had a ball. Thank you for the memories, I'll treasure them always, God bless you.

On motion of Mr. Berry, the above remarks were printed in the Journal of the Senate.

Senator Travaglini then stepped down from the rostrum and the Senator from Essex, Mr. Berry, the senior member of the Senate, took the gavel.

Remarks of Senator Frederick E. Berry.

Mr. President I speak for the entire body when I say it is a bittersweet day.

Personally you are one of the greatest friends of my lifetime and professionally the body knows you as a calming controlled force. More importantly you are a compassionate, engaging, and accessible leader. You reminded us daily that we were here to serve the underserved, and you lead by example. Your successes are many highlighted by your Health Care Reform Act. You made us proud to be Senators. It is difficult for me to say how much you will be missed and my good friend Senator Murray has a tough act to follow. We wish you good health, happiness with your family and a whole lot of cash.

Mr. Berry then declared the office of Senate President to be vacant.

On motion of Mr. O'Leary, the Senate proceeded with the election of a President.

Mr. Creedon placed in nomination for President, Ms. Therese Murray of Plymouth and Barnstable, and Mr. Creedon briefly addressed the Senate.

Nomination Speech for Therese Murray to be Elected Senate President.

Mr. President, it is my pleasure and honor to place into nomination the name of the Senator from the Plymouth and Barnstable District, Senator Therese Murray. And I would thank the Senator for allowing me to speak on her behalf and to nominate her here today. There's really two parts to this, today's event.

We are choosing our leader and we're also doing something historic and the Senator who will second this nomination will get into the area of the history, but Mr. President, I couldn't help but think back to 1969 when I first came into this building and walked about the House Chambers, 240 members. There were only four women. And I went and got my bird book. Those of you who are Senators will know what this is. For those who are not, it publishes the Congressmen down to House Members. And in the Senate, hard to believe, this is 1969, only one woman, the late Mary L. Fonseca, from Fall River. Well, we've come a long way and it's about time.

I know the Governor shares that sentiment but, I think I want to say to my fellow Senators on a personal level, there are reasons why we are, why I make this nomination and why there is a unanimous feeling about it. Back to, I think it was eleven years ago, my brother who was leaving this Chamber and, Terry, Senator Murray, introduced him before he gave his departing speech. And he mimicked the late night talk show host David Letterman and he sat in Seat 13 over there and had ten reasons why he left the Senate. And as he would elucidate each one, he would toss that card over his shoulder. Well today I've been told by my friend from Quincy to be short and be to the point. But I must confess, there are more than ten reasons why we are making this nomination and there are more than ten reasons why it's welcomed by this entire Senate. We all know that your training, your years here, make me think about the words of Robert Louis Stevenson when he said politics is perhaps the one profession for which no preparation is thought necessary. Well we all know that it is necessary and we all know that you are prepared. And in fact, that crucible, which frankly I believe is more difficult than that job that you're about to assume, the Chairperson of the Ways and Means, and I look back at several of my friends who are here today who served in that position. In fact, my own brother served in that position in the House and the first year was devastating. I can recall a gentleman from Amherst who I've known for many, many years, after his first year, he looked like he'd just finished running the marathon. The gentleman who was sitting to his immediate right, who hails from New Bedford, another dear friend, who seems to have a perpetual tan, but after that year, that first year in Ways and Means, he was pale and worn. So you have been through that crucible. You have prepared. And I, looking back when I was not in here, your involvement in, in welfare reform, and I only follow this through the newspapers, your participation in that effort, showed a compassion that hopefully all of us share. To the values that you were raised with, you recognize that there are people in the Commonwealth who, without the aid of government, their quality of life would be greatly diminished. And you fought, you fought for those values that you thought made sense and I think we all share them and that's why the Democratic Caucus nominated you and that's why I nominate you here today. But you also have the commitment to follow through and that's difficult. Many folks have feelings, compassion, but do they have the commitment? You did. You also have, and I oddly enough reading the newspaper articles recently, my brother who had served here previously said, "Gee, I didn't, I didn't recognize Terry from those, from those articles." And I said, "Well, Michael," I said, "we're about to break another glass ceiling today" and maybe, those characteristics, which in a male would be referred to as courageous, fortitude, stick-to-it-ness, in a woman would be referred to differently. I won't even use the words. But you're gonna break that glass. You're gonna continue as you have your career here being steadfast in those values that you have so well elucidated over the years. You know, part of that firmness as I recall, my friend, and I, I tried to think of what issue that it was. Somehow word got to you that we were gonna go to the other way on an issue that was important to you. And you turned around and gave me that look. And I thought about all those bills I had in the Judiciary Committee that might languish in Ways and Means forever. And that look spoke volumes. But that is, that's the courage that you've always shown here in this body. And the other to, to be a leader and especially to be a leader and to follow the gentleman who has just stepped down as President, it's important that you only have one agenda. And that agenda is looking out for the welfare of the people of this Commonwealth. That one agenda. Not a Senate agenda and a Terry Murray agenda to go somewhere else. And you've always demonstrated that caring, that concern, and that one agenda and that's another reason why you have such unanimous support here today. The other aspect of your personality that I've always enjoyed is your ability, your common sense. There are several issues which we had to deal with which a lot of folks don't understand. I remember back in, I believe it was the 2004 budget, the so-called "Three Medicaid Recovery" sections. Most Senators didn't understand the language, the Governor needed the revenue, but it would have destroyed middle-class estate planning. You listened and finally agreed that we shouldn't do that. You did the same thing on retroactive capital gains, another issue that perhaps lacked sex appeal but your openness, your openness to arguments has, has served you well and frankly is another reason why you're going to get unanimous support here today. I would, I would conclude, Mr. President, by saying that I would hope that you and through you, Mr. President, my fellow Senators that our candidate, our candidate for Senate President's compassion, for her courage, her commitments to those values that she followed her entire life and her common sense will serve her well on the new mission. God speed Terry, and I would hope the vote when is taken would be unanimous.

Ms. Tucker seconded the nomination for President, Ms. Therese Murray of Plymouth and Barnstable, and Ms. Tucker briefly addressed the Senate.

Seconding Speech for Therese Murray for the Office of President of the Senate.

I rise to second the nomination of Senator Terry Murray, and to give voice to the historical significance of what we are doing here today.

We are electing Senator Murray because of her experience, her competence, and her proven leadership as our chief money guardian in Ways and Means.
But the significance of our actions goes beyond her as a competent leader.

Allow me to elaborate. The Great and General Court was established in 1644 and went through many changes and charters.

For the purposes of this address, I will use the date of 1780 when the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts established this bicameral body, the Great and General Court.

Since 1780 to the best of my calculations over 1,000 gentlemen have served in the Massachusetts Senate, including such notables as Horace Mann, widely recognized as the father of public education in America.

During this same period, a total of 29 women have served in the Massachusetts Senate.

You sort of get the picture here. Twelve of those 29 women are sitting Senators today.

Our new President, Senator Murray, is number 16. That's correct. The 16th woman since 1780 ever to serve in this special Chamber.

Senator Walsh is #18,
Senator Wilkerson #19,
Senator Fargo #20,
Senator Creem #21,
Myself, Senator Tucker #22,
Senator Resor #24,
Senator Menard #25,
Senator Chandler #26,
Senator Spilka #27,
Senator Jehlen #28, and
Senator Candaras #29.

My predecessor from Lawrence, Senator Patricia McGovern, chaired Ways and Means, ran for Governor, and certainly put her stamp on public policy of Massachusetts. In so many ways she made it possible for me to be here today. Her extraordinary intelligence, competence and hard work created a picture in the minds of Merrimack Valley voters of women as leaders. I owe her a huge debt of gratitude.

The future female politicians of Massachusetts will owe Senator Terry Murray a huge debt of gratitude as well. They can run, they can win. They can lead, at the very top of the government.

Why does all of this matter? As a former high school teacher I spend a lot of time in the schools in my district. Inevitably a young student asks me whether I knew when I was her age if I wanted to go into politics. They are at the age of exploration of their own dreams.

So hard for me to explain that it never occurred to me because there were not any women in politics.

Then I explain, in terms they understand clearly, what that meant to me and other young women.

As the tallest girl in my high school, I was a mean basketball player. However, my high school did not have a girls' basketball team ... no teams at all for girls. (Yearbook).

No teams for girls meant no training in the serious life lessons sports teaches you; no athletic scholarships to college; and no physical conditioning that means so much to body and soul.

Title IX changed all that. Today our young women are competing, winning, getting scholarships and doing us proud on and off the field.

Women's voices in the halls of power are important ... not because they are smarter or better than their male colleagues, but because their life experiences and perspectives are different.

It is no coincidence that shortly after women got the right to vote, child labor laws were enacted in this country.

In 1985 in Massachusetts women in this chamber fought to require insurance companies to cover pregnancy as any other medical condition and in 1987 to require coverage for mammograms.

These are victories not just for women but for husbands, fathers, and families.

So today we celebrate our past and our future. We thank Senator Murray for standing up and standing out as the first woman in history to lead our Chamber.

Today yet another new door opens on the ambitions, the aspirations, and the dreams of our daughters, our sisters, and our granddaughters.

Mr. Tarr placed in nomination for President, Mr. Richard R. Tisei of Middlesex and Essex, and Mr. Tarr briefly addressed the Senate.

Nominating Speech for Richard R. Tisei to be elected Senate President.

Thank you, Mr. President. I rise today at what I know is an important time for our Senate and for our Commonwealth.

We are endowed with the legacy of leadership provided to us by President Travaglini, a legacy which has enriched each of us. President Travaglini brought to our body the transformational power of believing in ourselves and believing in each other. That power has time and again made this Senate Chamber a beacon of accomplishment. Together, through his leadership, we have seen concept and ideals move first from the realm of dreams to the state of possibility, and ultimately to reality.

Legislation has emerged from this Chamber to foster the stem cell research that has the power to end human suffering; health care reform to ensure that all of our citizens have access to the benefits of that research. And there has been so much more in these last four years: our energy has been a little bit higher, our confidence more inspired, and our smiles always a little bit brighter.

Thus, this is a pivotal time for us because it is a time of change, and change, said Dostoevsky, is "what people fear most". Yet today, we have reason for optimism and confidence in the face of change.

We, as Republicans, savor this moment as that most elusive of political events — a second chance. And we thank President Travaglini for the second chance to gain the presidency in only three months.

We proudly offer once again Senator Richard Tisei as our candidate for that office, and I am honored to nominate him today. He has the knowledge, the insight, the compassion and the fiscal discipline to lead us through the storm gathering on the budgetary horizon.

Most importantly, Richard has proven time and again that he knows the value of working as a team and he stands ready to capitalize on the potential of our entire Senate team.

Yet while we as Republicans are optimistic, we are also realistic, and we know that a tide of support is emerging. And that tide will likely deliver us a Senate President from the shores of Plymouth. '

And once again, we have reason for optimism and confidence. Senator Murray is a remarkable individual who has never — not once — left any of us with a doubt as to her personal and professional commitment to each of us and our Senate. She has worked tirelessly as our colleague and has a deep appreciation for the priorities and aspiration we each bring to our service in this body.

Her unyielding passion and commitment to our state is often reflected for me in her steadfast support for the families and ports of our commercial fishing industry. The industry has seen many dark days lately, and even today faces serious threats. Yet Senator Murray has never given up on the families of our fishing industry and has given them a reason to believe that our state's first industry will not perish. And I know the same is true for all of those working to preserve family farming in our state. Because Senator Murray never gives up. And she'll lead us with that spirit.

So, in closing, I'd like to take a moment to re-acquaint Senator Murray with a word that she has become somewhat isolated from in her role as chair of the Ways and Means Committee — YES. Merriam-Webster defines Yes as "used as a function word to

express assent or agreement”.

Yes, with your leadership, we can continue to be a body of hope, energy, enthusiasm and accomplishment.

Yes, your sense of fiscal discipline and fairness will carry us through the challenges ahead.

Yes, we believe in you because you believe in us; and

Yes, this Senate has a glorious past and today we recommit ourselves to bringing forth the still greater days that lie ahead.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. Knapik seconded the nomination for President, Mr. Richard R. Tisei of Middlesex and Essex, and briefly addressed the Senate.

Seconding Speech for Richard R. Tisei to be elected Senate President.

Thank you, Mr. President. I am honored to second the nomination of the distinguished Minority Leader for the position of President of the Massachusetts State Senate. Richard R. Tisei of Middlesex and Essex will make a superb Senate President. In fact, I should point out that of all the candidates nominated to serve as Senate President in 2007, Senator Tisei has already received the second highest vote total during previous deliberations. Some may think that should be enough to propel him to the rostrum. However, we know better ... While we are delighted with the job Richard is doing as our Leader, we know today belongs to the gentle lady from Plymouth and Barnstable.

And so, I am also honored to congratulate our colleague on the impending vote, which will truly be one of historical significance not only for this Chamber, but also for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

I have had the distinct honor and privilege of serving with the Senator on the Committee of Conference for the Senate Ways and Means Committee for the past four years. I was looking forward to her guidance, leadership, and steady hand as this Legislature works with a new Governor to responsibly balance our state's budget while ensuring the historic shared priorities of the Great and General Court were strengthened and fortified.

But of course, this is not to be. While we are saddened to say farewell to an exceptionally well-respected and regarded friend in Senate President Travaglini — an individual who would be welcome to stay for as long as he wished. A new day has dawned on our Chamber and a new leader will be elected to preside and to chart the course for a better Commonwealth.

I am confident that Senator Murray will prove to be as adept at leading this body as she was at sheparding our budgets through the Legislative process, conference committees, veto overrides, 9c cuts and so much more.

I witnessed first hand the tough as nails Terry Murray. That was the Senator who fought fiercely for the initiatives and integrity of the Senate's budget year after year. I witnessed the compassionate Terry Murray. That was the Senator who true to her human service background knew that behind every government program were real people with real needs who depended and relied upon their government. I witnessed the responsible Terry Murray. That was the Senator who knew budgets had to be balanced in a fiscally responsive and accountable way where every dollar was precious and could not be wasted.

I witnessed the Donald Trump-like Terry Murray.

That was the Senator who knew how to make a deal, play poker with the best of them, and win more often than not. She would stand her ground for what was right. And that was Terry Murray at her best. I witnessed the demanding Terry Murray who with her capable staff was ever prepared for any debate, argument, or explanation. She is fortunate to be surrounded by so many excellent young individuals who view much of what we do with a refreshing idealism.

There was also the fun Terry Murray—who always took her work seriously, but not herself. The one whose company we all enjoy — hand puppets and all.

And today, I witness the Terry Murray who will become our President. That is the Senator who for the past fifteen years has served the citizens of Plymouth and Barnstable with honor, integrity, and compassion. That is the Senator who has made children, the elderly, our veterans, and the disadvantaged her number one priority. That is the Terry Murray, we will soon call Madame President. But that is the Terry Murray we will always call our friend. Congratulations to you Senator Murray — our President and our friend. We wish you well.

Thank you.

On motion of Mr. Havern, the nominations were closed.

The call of the yeas and nays was called at one minute before two o'clock P.M., and the following named members voted for Therese Murray of Plymouth and Barnstable [**Yeas and Nays No. 6**]:

Antonioni, Robert
A.

Augustus, Edward
M., Jr.

Baddour, Steven
A.

Barrios, Jarrett T.

Berry, Frederick
E.

Brewer, Stephen
M.

Buoniconti,
Stephen J.

Candaras, Gale D.

Chandler,
Harriette L.

Creedon, Robert
S., Jr.

Creem, Cynthia
Stone

Downing,
Benjamin Brackett

Fargo, Susan C.

Hart, John A., Jr.

Havern, Robert A.

Jehlen, Patricia D.

Joyce, Brian A.

McGee, Thomas
M.

Menard, Joan M.

Montigny, Mark
C.

Moore, Richard T.

Morrissey,
Michael W.

Murray, Therese

O'Leary, Robert
A.

Pacheco, Marc R.

Panagiotakos,
Steven C.
Resor, Pamela
Rosenberg,
Stanley C.
Spilka, Karen E.
Tolman, Steven
A.
Travaglini, Robert
E.
Tucker, Susan C.
Walsh, Marian
Wilkerson,
Dianne — 34.

The following named members voted for Richard R. Tisei of Middlesex and Essex:

Brown, Scott P.
Hedlund, Robert
L.
Knapik, Michael
R.
Tarr, Bruce E.
Tisei, Richard R.
— 5.
**Absent or not
voting:**
Timilty, James E.
— 1.

The Chair announced the results of the votes as follows:

Whole number of votes 40
Necessary for a choice 21
Therese Murray of Plymouth and
Barnstable had 34
Richard R. Tisei of Middlesex and
Essex had 5

The roll call having been completed at two minutes past two o'clock P.M., Ms. Murray was declared elected President of the Senate.

Mr. Tisei moved that it be the sense of the Senate that the vote for Therese Murray for President should be made unanimous and that this expression of opinion be made a part of the records of the Senate.

There being no objection, this motion was entertained; and it was unanimously adopted.

Ms. Murray was escorted to the Chair by Senators Menard of Bristol and Plymouth and Montigny of Bristol and Plymouth.

The President then addressed the Senate as follows:

Good afternoon.

Reverend Father Parish, Reverend Gomes, members of the Senate, honored guests, family and friends.

I want to thank the members of this distinguished body for the faith you have shown in me with your vote today. As my friends and colleagues, I am humbled by your support.

Thank you, Senator Creedon, and, Senator Tucker, for your kind words — they are very much appreciated.

I cannot think of a greater honor than to be elected by my peers to follow my friend and mentor, Robert Travaglini, as President of the Massachusetts Senate.

Senator Travaglini and I entered the Senate together in 1993 from two very diverse districts, but we quickly formed a lasting friendship.

I thank him for his counsel and for the confidence he placed in me when I was named Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

Senator Travaglini has been an inspiration and friend to me, and I am honored to take his place in this chair. I wish him and his family the best in this new and exciting chapter in their lives.

I also want to thank you, my colleagues, for your trust and support during my tenure at the Ways and Means Committee. The level of openness and cooperation that we have developed over the past four years made my job as chairwoman that much easier.

This is also true of the relationship with our counterparts in the House of Representatives.

Representative John Rogers was a great help to me when I first became chair, and that spirit of cooperation and friendship has continued with Chairman Robert DeLeo and Speaker Sal DiMasi, for whom I have great respect.

I have enjoyed working with both gentlemen over the past two years and I look forward to a hearty and spirited discourse with our friends in the House over the next two years.

The Senate and House have already demonstrated what we can achieve working side by side. With the election of Governor Deval Patrick, I believe there are even greater accomplishments yet to come. Let's work together with him to make this Commonwealth strong.

The bond that binds all three branches in our work is the best interests of the people of Massachusetts. That will continue to be the litmus test I use for every decision I make as Senate President.

I also pledge to you that the open and empowering atmosphere created by President Travaglini will continue. I will look to members of this body for advice and counsel, and expect input from each of you during the transition period and beyond.

We are all in this together and no idea will be discounted as we conduct the business of the Commonwealth.

Thank you as well to the voters of the Plymouth and Barnstable Senate District for the support you have given me over the past fifteen years. When I began my campaign in 1992 we weren't sure we would succeed, but you placed your faith in me.

Never did I imagine that I would ascend to the presidency of the Massachusetts Senate. My path to this day was made easier through your support, and I pledge to continue to earn that support every day.

There are many others that I would like to acknowledge who have assisted me over the years — including my current and former staff — but in the interest of time I can not name them all.

However, I would like to recognize two women, Attorney General Martha Coakley (who cannot be with us today) and Boston City Council President Maureen Feeney.

I am extremely proud of both of these fine women and their accomplishments (and of course, Council President Feeney is a

Dorchester girl ...).

I mention them because when I first entered the Senate, there were only four women in this body and, women in elected positions were few and far between. The election of the three of us demonstrates that in 2007, gender is no longer an issue when choosing government leaders.

Those who know me know that my family and friends are the center of my universe, my core, my value barometer. My family has shaped who I am and the priorities I have set.

The unwavering support of my daughter, Lauren, who had to grow up with a Type A Mother, my sisters, Eileen, Kathleen, Rita and Ginger, our adopted sister, Sue, my brothers in law, Michael and Bill, all of whom do not always agree with me politically, my nieces, nephews and cousins who are here today, my friends, those who I grew up with (the Dorchester contingent), those who I have shared my adult life with in Plymouth, they are my Plymouth rock.

Growing up in Mission Hill and Dorchester with my sisters, my parents set the example of the benefits of hard work. My mother worked full time when women were not typically out of the home and in the work force and my father sometimes worked three jobs at once.

We all obtained our work permits at the age of fourteen and were more than happy to contribute to help support our family. I will continue to carry this work ethic that was instilled in us into the presidency of the Senate.

Five years ago, when I took over as Chairwoman of Ways and Means, we were facing a fiscal crisis.

Today, we are once again facing a budget deficit that must balance the needs of Commonwealth with the priorities set by this body. Working together, we will face the challenges confronting us in Education, Health Care, Job Creation, Energy, Stem Cell Research, and Housing.

None of these issues can be dealt with in a singular fashion because they all affect the future of our state.

The Senate has traditionally taken the lead in education and we will continue to do so by making sure that quality, affordable education is available from pre-kindergarten through college.

And, like education, there is a direct correlation between the success of our economy and housing. We can not keep and attract an educated work force without affordable housing.

Innovative programs such as 40R and 40T will allow our citizens to live and work in the communities where they grew up but we have to do much more, and working with the House of Representatives and the Administration, we will do more.

This body has also demonstrated its ability to find innovative solutions by working to make Massachusetts the first state in the nation to pass meaningful health care reform.

With the passage of this law, we have again become the catalyst for change by making a commitment that every resident will have access to affordable health care.

I realize that there will be bumps in the road as this historic plan is implemented, but I also know that the Senate — under the leadership of Senator Moore — is determined to see it through and our determination will not waiver in this regard.

As one of the world's centers for medicine, Massachusetts is the rightful place for cutting edge, ethical biomedical research. I believe that we need to advance the promotion of stem cell and biomedical research in a responsible, ethical way which will expand the industry within our state, create new jobs, and enhance our competitiveness with other states.

As we focus on health care and the need to bring new industry to the Commonwealth, we must not forget the businesses and industries that are already here, providing jobs to our citizens.

We need to lessen the burden on small businesses and market their products and this state across the country and around the world.

Massachusetts was founded on the agriculture and fishing industries. However, these traditional industries have been hit particularly hard in recent years. As a result of ever-increasing federal regulations and escalating costs, both of these industries are slowly being squeezed out of existence. Our farmers need support and our fishing families need help.

Many of my constituents are part of families who have been farming and fishing for many generations. We need to find solutions

before overdevelopment and overregulation drive them out of business forever or into dangerous waters where they put their lives at risk.

Their plight, like the plight of so many others is what first steered me to public service and this body.

Whether it is the single mom working two jobs to make ends meet ... a senior citizen worrying about the choice of paying for food or prescription drugs ... veterans of all ages who deserve the services necessary to aid them in remaining integral members of our society ... or the family with a sick child who can turn to the Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund so they don't have to sell their house to pay for medical treatment.

These are the people we have pledged to serve and they all have a voice that must be heard. And we will do so, with the understanding that we must always be mindful of the fiscal health of this great Commonwealth.

I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish together as colleagues and I look forward to working with each and every one of you as your president.

Thank you very much for the trust you have placed in me today, Let's get to work!

On motion of Mr. Tisei, the address of the President and all nominators were ordered printed in the Journal of the Senate.

Mr. Tisei asked unanimous consent to make a statement; and, there being no objection, he addressed the Senate as follows:

Let me begin, Madam President, by saying that today was my second attempt in three months to wrestle the gavel away from the majority party.

Since I took over as Minority Leader in January, I was sure that I was beginning to win over some converts and starting to build some momentum.

But once again, to my dismay, I have fallen short and failed to add to my five faithful votes!

I am optimistic because they say the third time's a charm. So I guess that means the next time we choose a president, I should have the votes all wrapped up!

On a serious note, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations:

First, to Senator Travaglini, on what has been an enormously successful Senate Presidency.

Mr. President, on behalf of the loyal opposition, we want to thank you for your many years of distinguished service (and, of course, for putting up with our good friend and my predecessor, Brian Lees, for all of that time).

You clearly have earned the respect and admiration of every member of this Senate — both Democrats and Republicans — as a result of the way in which you have operated this body during the course of your Presidency.

You have displayed thoughtful leadership, dedication and loyalty to this Chamber, and most importantly, a sincere desire to serve the people of this state and to move this Commonwealth forward.

Much will be remembered about your stewardship of this Senate, but I think what has really stood out is the way in which you worked with each and every member of this body to make us better and more effective public servants. And for that, we will always be grateful.

We wish you and your family the very best in all your future endeavors.

I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate our new President, Senator Murray.

As has been noted by previous speakers, for the first time in the history of this State Senate, and for that matter this Legislature, we will be addressing the chair as Madam President.

Not only is this an important milestone for state government, but also a tremendous personal accomplishment.

A lot has been said today about Terry Murray. I am proud to call her my friend and have no doubt that she will be a very effective leader for this Chamber.

Now everyone is speculating about how Terry will be different from her predecessor. I can speak to one important change: given what we know about the previous President's loyalties, it is indeed a relief and fitting that we finally have a Red Sox rather than a

Yankees fan sitting in the President's chair.

One of the attributes I most admire about Terry is that she has a genuine understanding of why we are all here and what the proper role of government should be.

I was a member of the Human Services and Elderly Affairs Committee during the ten years that Terry served as chairwoman.

During that time she took that committee to a higher level, and got involved in a whole host of issues that ranged from protecting kids in the care of the DSS, to making sure that the voices of the mentally retarded, mentally ill and the disabled were always heard.

She was the primary author of the landmark welfare reform act that cut our state's welfare rolls in half and helped former recipients become self-sufficient.

I sat on that conference committee with her and can tell you she made a lot of tough choices that were difficult at the time but crucial to the bill's success.

Clearly her background and experience, especially as chair of the Ways and Means Committee, will serve this Senate well as we confront a very challenging fiscal environment.

We've been seeing a lot of changes in just these last few months, but one thing that has not changed is the Republican caucus' determination to work with you to stop the exodus of residents from Massachusetts.

We continue to have some of the highest costs of living in the country, and that needs to change or we will continue to lose some of our best and brightest residents and businesses to other states.

I know that you are dedicated to making sure that the economy of Massachusetts continues to grow and that the citizens of our state continue to have opportunities for good jobs. That is a trait that I have always admired in you.

We remain committed to providing the loyal opposition in this Chamber and promoting our agenda to make Massachusetts a great place to live, work, raise a family and retire.

Working together, in partnership with you, I know that we can achieve this goal.

On motion of Mr. Rosenberg, the above remarks of the Minority Leader were ordered printed in the Journal of the Senate.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE.
Emergency Preamble Adopted.

An engrossed Bill releasing a nondevelopment covenant restriction on certain land located in the town of Leicester (see House, No. 19, amended), having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage and containing an emergency preamble,— was laid before the Senate; and, a separate vote being taken in accordance with the requirements of Article LXVII of the Amendments to the Constitution, the preamble was adopted in concurrence, by a vote of 35 to 0.

The bill was signed by the President and sent to the House for enactment.

The Reverend Peter J. Gomes of the First Baptist Church of Plymouth offered the following prayer:

O God, who hast bound us together in this bundle of life: Give us grace to understand how our lives depend upon the courage, the industry, the honest, and the integrity of our fellowmen; that we may be mindful of their needs, grateful for their fidelity, and faithful in our responsibilities to them; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God, within whose providence our lot is cast as citizens of this land: Enable us, though we remain in the comfort and safety of our homes, to do our country service. Keep us mindful of those who are facing danger for our sake, and make us calm and patient and unselfish.

Bless to us, as a people, O Lord, our needful discipline in more wise desires and simpler manners; that we may be quit of much useless baggage of this world.

Grant, O Lord, that we may keep in mind all those on whom we depend for our daily wants, for food and clothing and whatever is needful for life. Kindle our slothful imaginations that we may see clearly and feel truly the lot of those who labor for us in field and factory, in the depths of the earth and on the sea, in offices and shops and homes and schools. Help us to repay the debt we owe to all such by our uncalculating service of the common weal and the common cause.

His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick, His Honor Timothy P. Murray, Lieutenant-Governor of the Commonwealth, the Honorable Council and the Constitutional officers then withdrew from the Chamber under the escort of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Montigny,—

Ordered, That when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again tomorrow at one o'clock P.M., in a full formal session without a calendar.

On motion of Mr. Berry, at twenty-five minutes before three o'clock P.M., the Senate adjourned to meet on the following day at one o'clock P.M.