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## UNCORRECTED PROOF OF THE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



### JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.

At a General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, begun and holden at Boston on the first Wednesday, being the third day of January, in the year two thousand and seven, and the two hundred and thirty-first of the independence of the United States of America, and the one hundred and eighty-fifth General Court of the Commonwealth, the following named members-elect of the Senate, having been duly summoned by the Executive, assembled at eight minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., in the Senate Chamber, to wit:—

Hon. Benjamin Brackett Downing of Pittsfield in the Berkshire, Hampshire and Franklin District.  
Hon. James E. Timilty of Walpole in the Bristol and Norfolk District.  
Hon. Joan M. Menard of Fall River in the First Bristol and Plymouth District.  
Hon. Mark C. Montigny of New Bedford in the Second Bristol and Plymouth District.  
Hon. Robert A. O'Leary of Barnstable in the Cape and Islands District.  
Hon. Steven A. Baddour of Methuen in the First Essex District.  
Hon. Frederick E. Berry of Peabody in the Second Essex District.  
Hon. Bruce E. Tarr of Gloucester in the First Essex and Middlesex District.  
Hon. Susan C. Tucker of Andover in the Second Essex and Middlesex District.  
Hon. Thomas M. McGee of Lynn in the Third Essex and Middlesex District.  
Hon. Stephen J. Buoniconti of West Springfield in the Hampden District.  
Hon. Gale D. Candaras of Wilbraham in the First Hampden and Hampshire District.  
Hon. Michael R. Knapik of Westfield in the Second Hampden and Hampshire District.  
Hon. Stanley C. Rosenberg of Amherst in the Hampshire and Franklin District.  
Hon. Steven C. Panagiotakos of Lowell in the First Middlesex District.  
Hon. Patricia D. Jehlen of Somerville in the Second Middlesex District.  
Hon. Susan C. Fargo of Lincoln in the Third Middlesex District.  
Hon. Robert A. Havern of Arlington in the Fourth Middlesex District.  
Hon. Richard R. Tisei of Wakefield in the Middlesex and Essex District.  
Hon. Cynthia Stone Creem of Newton in the First Middlesex and Norfolk District.  
Hon. Karen E. Spilka of Ashland in the Second Middlesex and Norfolk District.  
Hon. Jarrett T. Barrios of Cambridge in the Middlesex, Suffolk and Essex District.  
Hon. Pamela P. Resor of Acton in the Middlesex and Worcester District.  
Hon. Scott P. Brown of Wrentham in the Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex District.  
Hon. Brian A. Joyce of Milton in the Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth District.  
Hon. Michael W. Morrissey of Quincy in the Norfolk and Plymouth District.  
Hon. Therese Murray of Plymouth in the Plymouth and Barnstable District.  
Hon. Marc R. Pacheco of Taunton in the First Plymouth and Bristol District.  
Hon. Robert S. Creedon, Jr., of Brockton in the Second Plymouth and Bristol District.  
Hon. Robert L. Hedlund of Weymouth in the Plymouth and Norfolk District.  
Hon. John A. Hart, Jr., of Boston in the First Suffolk District.  
Hon. Dianne Wilkerson of Boston in the Second Suffolk District.  
Hon. Robert E. Travaglini of Boston in the First Suffolk and Middlesex District.

Hon. Steven A. Tolman of Boston in the Second Suffolk and Middlesex District  
Hon. Marian Walsh of Boston in the Suffolk and Norfolk District.  
Hon. Harriette L. Chandler of Worcester in the First Worcester District.  
Hon. Edward M. Augustus, Jr., of Worcester in the Second Worcester District.  
Hon. Stephen M. Brewer of Barre in the Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin District.  
Hon. Robert A. Antonioni of Leominster in the Worcester and Middlesex District.  
Hon. Richard T. Moore of Uxbridge in the Worcester and Norfolk District.

And were called to order by the Honorable Frederick E. Berry.

At the request of Senator-elect Berry, the Senators-elect, guests and employees then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The National Anthem and God Bless America was sung by Ms. Sabrina Ryan.

*Order Adopted.*

On motion of Ms. Walsh,—

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed by the Chair to wait upon His Excellency the Governor, Mitt Romney, Her Honor Kerry Healey, Lieutenant-Governor of the Commonwealth, and the Honorable Council and inform them that a quorum of the Senators-elect have assembled and are ready to be qualified.

Senators-elect Rosenberg of Hampshire and Franklin, Wilkerson of Suffolk, Walsh of Suffolk and Norfolk, Baddour of Essex, and Brown of Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex were appointed the committee.

Subsequently, Mr. Rosenberg, for the said committee, reported that the committee had waited upon His Excellency the Governor, Mitt Romney, Her Honor Kerry Healey, Lieutenant-Governor of the Commonwealth and the Honorable Council, and had conveyed to them the message of the Senate; and that the Governor had asked him to say that he would be pleased to attend forthwith upon the Honorable Senate, with the Honorable Council and the Constitutional officers, to administer the oaths of office. The report was accepted and the committee was discharged.

Soon after, His Excellency the Governor, Mitt Romney, Her Honor Kerry Healey, Lieutenant-Governor of the Commonwealth, members of the Honorable Council, William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Timothy P. Cahill, Treasurer and Receiver General of the Commonwealth and A. Joseph DeNucci, Auditor of the Commonwealth, came in; and the Senators-elect then took and subscribed the oaths of office required by the Constitution and a law of the United States to qualify them for the discharge of their duties as Senators at twenty-eight minutes past eleven o'clock A.M.

The Governor briefly addressed the Senate.

His Excellency the Governor, Mitt Romney, Her Honor Kerry Healey, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Commonwealth, the Honorable Council and the Constitutional officers then withdrew from the Chamber.

*Order Adopted.*

On motion of Mr. Havern,—

*Ordered*, That, pursuant to the provisions of Senate Rule 4A, the Senate shall proceed forthwith to the election of a President.

Mr. Tolman placed in nomination for President, Mr. Travaglini of Suffolk and Middlesex, and Mr. Tolman briefly addressed the Senate.

Nomination Speech for Robert E. Travaglini to be Re-Elected Senate President

By Senator Steven A. Tolman, 2nd Suffolk and Middlesex.

I rise to place in nomination the name of the gentleman from the Suffolk and Middlesex district Mr. Robert E. Travaglini as President of the State Senate.

Mr. President Pro Tem, fellow Senators, family members and distinguished guests, it is my distinct honor to nominate a dear friend and colleague, an individual who represents the finest virtues of public service, a dignified and selfless statesman.

President Travaglini's proven leadership style brings out the best in every member of the Senate, and serves the interests of the people of this state.

He is a man of character, integrity, compassion and class.

His demeanor embodies the nature of this branch. And he is an articulate spokesman for the Commonwealth.

Under his leadership the Senate has accomplished invaluable work for the people of the Massachusetts; he has a natural set of leadership skills and treats all people with respect and decency.

Early on, President Travaglini set the table for health care reform, bringing the interested parties together to find common ground.

President Travaglini was instrumental in passing this legislation, but did not seek the credit or limelight; rather, as is his custom he empowered the members of the Health Care Financing committee to work independently and, we the Senate, shared in their success.

President Travaglini knows that affordable health care is not the only item on our agenda; he has a deep interest in the search for a cure for juvenile diabetes, spinal cord injuries, and a host of other illnesses that could be corrected with medical innovation. He is an ardent supporter of the human services that are critical to the disabled or disadvantaged.

While President Travaglini's tenure has already been marked by great progress, he continues to look ahead, investing in the industries that are the future of this Commonwealth.

Whether it is through the Commonwealth Investment Plan, making Massachusetts more receptive for biotech and stem cell research, or through spending on early education, Recovery High Schools, or our state college system, of which he is one of many success stories, the Senate President is committed to ensuring that the Commonwealth has a brighter tomorrow.

President Travaglini gets more satisfaction from the quality of legislation that leaves the Senate than personal acclaim. Working with his colleagues he orchestrated: the increases in aid that our cities and towns so desperately needed to provide quality public education and to keep our streets safe; a comprehensive municipal relief package eased the burden on our communities, reducing class sizes that were increased during the budget crisis; the anti-gang initiative which disbursed \$11 million in community intervention and prevention programs and funds to protect those brave witnesses that come forward; as well as a host of other important public safety items that impact the places we live.

President Travaglini's leadership on the capital supplemental budget invested in municipal infrastructure: roads and bridges, parks, community centers, beaches, street and town centers. These are the things that make Massachusetts a wonderful place to live and raise a family.

He has led the charge to renovate the State House, making upgrades and improvements that were neglected and so long overdue; restoring this historic space so it truly feels like the people's house.

He is unafraid to ask questions, and confident enough to allow those elected to this body the opportunity to offer their perspectives and life experiences.

He enables us, the members, to bring positive change to our districts.

The Senate President knew of my concern for the condition of Mental Health and Substance Abuse in Massachusetts and recognized that we needed a fresh approach as it was crippling many of the communities of this state. And he gave me the opportunity to bring this matter before you, and give it a proper place in the discourse of the Commonwealth.

He has done the same with many issues through committee work — whether it is:

- Labor and Workforce Development,
- Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure,
- Higher Education,
- Elder Affairs,
- Health Care Financing,
- Public Safety or
- Children and Families.

The Senate President has encouraged us to put our passions into practice and, in doing so, has changed the atmosphere of this body.

Under his leadership we have been given the latitude to pursue our interests, and address the needs of our constituents.

President Harry Truman, often described as an uncommon common man, once said:

“It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.”

That quote accurately depicts what these past four years have been about under President Travaglini's leadership.

He remains a man close to his roots, and holds on to the values that shaped his character and facilitated his to rise to the highest levels of state government.

President Travaglini is a master at building consensus on controversial issues, he is a great son to his mother Josephine, a loyal sibling to his brothers, a dedicated and loving husband to his wife Kelly, a supportive and engaged father to his three children Taylor, Jennifer and Andrew, and a friend to every member of this body.

John Quincy Adams remarked:

“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”

Senate President Travaglini . . . You are our leader. And it is with great pleasure that I nominate you as our next President.

Thank You.

Ms. Spilka seconded the nomination for President, Mr. Travaglini of Suffolk and Middlesex, and Ms. Spilka briefly addressed the Senate.

Nomination Speech for Robert E. Travaglini to be Re-Elected Senate President

By Senator Karen E. Spilka, 2nd Middlesex and Norfolk.

It is my great honor and privilege to rise to second the nomination of Robert E. Travaglini for President of the Massachusetts Senate.

Two years ago I stood here as a freshman senator and I'd like to take this opportunity on behalf of my colleagues, to welcome our new senators and say we look forward to working with you. As a freshman senator just a couple of years ago, I too stood here, excited about the possibilities, but not knowing what to really expect — committees, accomplishments, how would the senate differ from the house of representatives — where I spent, and thoroughly enjoyed, the three prior years.

Well, I have to start out by saying that I am very proud to be and have thoroughly loved being a senator and I must emphasize I don't think I would feel the same in just any other state Senate. It is being a Massachusetts Senator that I love, in addition to my great love for this commonwealth of ours and for my district and its people. So much of this has to do with you, Robert Travaglini, being Senate President.

I emphasize that this nomination isn't given lightly — it is the title and job of president of this august body that bestows great responsibility and authority — and some say, great power.

But it is who you are — and what you bring to this position — and so willingly share with this wonderful institution — and our great commonwealth — it is:

- your focus on priorities and values
- your keen sense of self that serves as an inner compass for you
- your hard work and dedication
- your compassionate character and integrity
- your commitment to children — seniors — the vulnerable and all working families
- and your sense of humor and generosity of spirit

It is all of these traits and qualities and your extraordinary accomplishments these past years as a leader, as our leader, that have so rightly earned you our respect and our trust and support in your continued leadership of this Senate.

It is certainly not simply the title, nor automatic with the position.

There are many notable quotes on leadership, but one that struck me as appropriate for today is:

“Leadership is not so much about technique and methods as it is about opening the heart. Leadership is about inspiration — of oneself and of others. Great leadership is about human experiences, not processes. Leadership is not a formula or a program, it is a human activity that comes from the heart and considers the hearts of others. It is an attitude, not a routine.”

**[Lance Secretan, Industry Week, 10/12/98]**

With you as Senate President these last few years, we have seen the multitude and variety of individuals and groups that come to you. Both within and without the state house, and what I have observed you do regardless who it is before you . . . you listen and you listen with respect.

You listen to all, and ultimately, you are not for one individual or one group or one particular organization. You are for Massachusetts, what is best, what is right for the people and the state of Massachusetts.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said: “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where

he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

We all know that these last 4 years have seen some great challenges and controversies, and some have brought national attention. Your stand during these challenging times has fueled the state and propelled us to initiate landmark policies in priority areas such as technology and economic development, education, health, and public safety positively affecting the well-being and livelihood of the residents of all of our districts, and among them I note:

- health care reform
- promoting stem cell research and life sciences
- quality and accessible early education and care
- increasing the minimum wage
- the welcome home bill for our veterans, and
- education — higher ed and chapter 70 reform finally!

And, at the same time all this is going on, by your words and actions you have fostered a senate built on mutual respect and support for one another, with encouragement to all to participate and be listened to in debate and policy development.

Each of us with an equal voice whether we be: freshman or veteran critic or ally; male or female, rural, suburban or urban, and democrat or republican.

It has been said that each member of a team is an extension of its leadership, that trust is a great force multiplier. If we feel empowered, we ultimately magnify your power to lead, as well as your power to serve. You understand this, you practice this and for that, my colleagues and I thank you.

I also thank your wife Kelly and your children, Taylor, Jennifer and Andrew. All of us know this work simply cannot be done without the wonderful support and sacrifices of your family.

I also commend your mother; she raised you to play well with others. I offer thanks to your excellent staff who work very hard and are so helpful to the rest of us as well, we are immensely grateful.

We have accomplished much, but we all know there is still much more to be done, and along with the expertise and skills of our chair of ways and means, we will continue down the right path of true progress that will allow Massachusetts to remain a leader among states.

Therefore, it is my pleasure and honor to second the nomination of Robert E. Travaglini as president of the Massachusetts Senate.

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

*Nomination Speech for Richard R. Tisei to be Elected Senate President*

By Senator Michael R. Knapik, 2nd Hampden and Hampshire.

I am pleased to place in nomination, the name of our friend and colleague, Richard Tisei, the Senator from Middlesex and Essex for the position of President of the Massachusetts State Senate.

All who serve in this Chamber are acquainted with Richard’s thoughtful and articulate demeanor and know well he possesses the attributes necessary to succeed in this position. As one of our longest-serving members, he has witnessed virtually every debate this body engaged in as it set the shared priorities for our Commonwealth.

The priorities I speak about are, of course, those shaped during debate by the collective interests, wisdom and passion of all members of the State Senate. And in many of those debates, he was an active participant in ensuring their direction and outcome.

Richard’s own passions and concerns are reflected in the Committees he chose to serve on over the past many years. In addition to his duties as Assistant Minority Leader, he opted to serve on the Senate’s Committee on Ways and Means as well as the Joint Committee on Health and Human Services and its successor committee, the Elderly Affairs Committee and the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Committee as chief areas of interest.

Each of those positions carried with it great responsibilities for ensuring the fiscal stability of our great state. Moreover, Richard as a committee member fought hard to maintain the reputation this Commonwealth deservedly has earned as a state of caring and compassion during both good times and bad.

The last time I spoke in this Chamber, we were saying our good byes to two very important colleagues and friends, and I

mentioned that things would be different when we gathered again in the New Year. And so they are different, Mr. President, and yet they are the same.

The presiding officer of this body most likely (if I can be so bold) will remain the same and that is a good thing. We shall continue to be guided by the steady, fair, and caring hand of the Senator from East Boston.

But for our side, there will be someone new to ask those familiar questions.

Richard Tisei, by virtue of his preparation and his commitment to this great democracy of ours is the man who will lead this caucus in this Bi-ennial session of the Legislature. He is the man who will seek to hold this body and its members accountable to the citizens who elected us.

He understands fully the role of the Minority Party; even more he knows the responsibility of the Majority Party. Yes, he will ask many of those same questions and perhaps even a few more. He will foster debate among all members in this Chamber and he will demand that we hold ourselves up as models to the citizens who have placed their trust in us.

When he asks the Leaders of various committees to explain positions and recommendations, he will do so as a means of extracting information necessary for the operation of our state.

And when he asks us to be recorded on matters of import it will be with the best intentions of exercising the finest attributes of this deliberative body.

But, most importantly, he will guide us with a firm, fair, and, steady hand that will be necessary to meet the challenges and opportunities of our great state.

I have great confidence in our friend and colleague Richard Tisei. He will make this body proud and he will make the Commonwealth of Massachusetts proud.

I am pleased to nominate him as President of the Massachusetts State Senate.

Thank you.

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

*Nomination Speech for Richard R. Tisei to be Elected Senate President*

By Senator Bruce E. Tarr, 1st Essex and Middlesex.

Thank you, Mr. President, and through you to the members of the Senate. I am honored to rise today in a Senate chamber populated by so many members who have time and again demonstrated their commitment to innovation and bold leadership on behalf of our Commonwealth and new members who bring the valuable perspective of hope and aspiration.

Thanks largely to the character and personal commitment of the gentleman from First Suffolk and Middlesex, we enter the coming session as a body which values, embraces and engages the talent of each and every member, from each party and every part of our State. We exemplify the words of James Fulbright when he spoke of our American legacy: "A heritage of tolerance, moderation, and individual liberty that was implanted in the very beginnings of European settlement in the New World."

Yet, Mr. President, it could also well be said that this Senate, our Senate, has challenged convention in favor of collaboration and consistently subordinated contention to accomplishment on behalf of the citizens we represent.

The dividends of that accomplishment are many: groundbreaking laws to promote biomedical research in the hopes of curing disease; strengthened laws to combat drunk driving; sweeping health care reform; laws to promote the creation of housing, the growth of our economy and the development of new commercial infrastructure.

This Senate, Mr. President, is a place of bold action, and I am honored to second the nomination Richard R. Tisei for the office of Senate President in the hope of inviting the Senate once again to bold action.

Bold action, Mr. President, in the form of elevating a leader to the presidency who himself has chosen leadership over convention.

Richard Tisei, Mr. President, brings a type of fiscal conservatism that we will surely need as we strive in the next two years to balance our collective will to assist those in need with the necessity of fiscal discipline.

He is a Republican who believes that government should be effective in the lives of those whom it serves and sustainable so that promises made on Beacon Hill can be kept in our communities. He is, in the words of an anonymous author, Mr. President, “One who has a reputation for doing what he believes should be done, and not necessarily what others want him to do.”

That philosophy, Mr. President, has driven Richard to be a strong ally of those who work every day in human services and impact the lives of our citizens. [It has won him accolades from many in the human services community, including Legislator of the Year awards from groups like the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill-Massachusetts, the YMCA, and the Massachusetts Silver Haired Legislature.] And it has earned him the respect, over 22 years in the Legislature and 16 years in the Senate, of his colleagues, governors of both parties, and countless other officials.

Richard has, Mr. President, the vision and fortitude we need to invest in education, strengthen our communities, support our public safety officials, protect our environment, and so much more . . . all while keeping the interests of our taxpayers and their burdens as part of government’s equation.

Change, Mr. President, is inseparable from the transition we are now going through. After years of dedicated service from the effervescent and theatrical Brian Lees, we’ve all become accustomed to the basic questions:

Who is the sponsor of the bill?  
What does it do?  
How much will it cost the taxpayers of the commonwealth?  
Surely these are emblazoned in our memories. But Richard will probably ask new questions, like:  
Are we getting our money’s worth?  
Does this bill do anything at all? and  
Who objects to this?

Who knows, Mr. President, maybe even Republican caucuses under rule 13B will become recess times for all to enjoy.

I interrupt this vision of bliss, Mr. President, to remind you that I lobby under no illusions as to the probable outcomes of the vote on this matter. But then again, our Senate is a place of possibility.

Many of you know that Richard is a major fan of the Boston Red Sox — obviously a trait needed for the presidency. Those who have been following the Sox know the spark of championship vitality that’s been ignited by a surprise deal with a pitcher named Dice-K.

So if you believe that a surprise pick can make a difference, I encourage you to think Dice-K, vote Tisei.

And even if you don’t, we know that as a Leader, Richard will always be on the field, making a difference. And we know that we will all be better for it.

Because in this League the teams may not have the same number of players, but everyone is always in the game and our field of dreams is wide open.

On motion of Ms. Murray, the nominations were closed.

The roll was called at three minutes past twelve o’clock noon, and the following named members voted for Robert E. Travaglini of Suffolk and Middlesex [**Yeas and Nays No. 1**]:

Antonioni, Robert A.	McGee, Thomas M.
Augustus, Edward M., Jr.	Menard, Joan M.
Baddour, Steven A.	Montigny, Mark C.
Barrios, Jarrett T.	Moore, Richard T.
Berry, Frederick E.	Morrissey, Michael W.
Brewer, Stephen M.	Murray, Therese
Buoniconti, Stephen J.	O’Leary, Robert A.
Candaras, Gale D.	Pacheco, Marc R.
Chandler, Harriette L.	Panagiotakos, Steven

C.

Creedon, Robert S., Jr.	Resor, Pamela
Creem, Cynthia Stone	Rosenberg, Stanley C.
Downing, Benjamin B.	Spilka, Karen E.
Fargo, Susan C.	Timilty, James E.
Hart, John A., Jr.	Tolman, Steven A.
Havern, Robert A.	Tucker, Susan C.
Jehlen, Patricia D.	Walsh, Marian — <b>35.</b>
Joyce, Brian A.	

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

Brown, Scott P.	Tarr, Bruce E.
Hedlund, Robert L.	Tisei, Richard R. — 5.
Knapik, Michael R.	

The Chair announced the results of the votes as follows:

Whole number of votes 40  
Necessary for a choice 21

Robert E. Travaglini of First Suffolk and Middlesex had 35  
Richard R. Tisei of Middlesex and Essex had 5

The roll call having been completed at six minutes past twelve o'clock noon, Mr. Travaglini was declared elected President of the Senate.

Mr. Tisei moved that it be the sense of the Senate that the vote for Robert E. Travaglini 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.

Mr. Travaglini was escorted to the Chair by Senators Tolman of Suffolk and Middlesex and Spilka of Middlesex and Norfolk.

The President then addressed the Senate as follows:

Reverend Father, members of the Senate, invited guests, family and friends:

Thank you so much for allowing me the privilege to serve a third term in this historic body! It's truly an honor to have the confidence and support of each of you here today. As you all know, I have spent a lot of time in the neighborhoods of East Boston and at Boston City Hall, but this is truly my home.

I am humbled by the kind words of Senators Spilka and Tolman. Your commitment to public service and hard work on behalf of working families in the Commonwealth is truly inspiring. I look forward to working with you both this upcoming session.

I would like to begin by thanking the good people of the First Suffolk and Middlesex District — the people that have placed their faith in me to serve as their senator for over fourteen years. To each and every one of my constituents, from Maverick Square to Harvard Square, I thank you for your support.

I am blessed to serve with a fine and distinguished group of colleagues here in the Senate. Day in and day out, I have been witness to the tireless work and tenacity that each and every one of you dedicate on behalf of the citizens of this great state. Your collective devotion and enthusiasm has been, and will continue to be a true inspiration, not only to me, but to the people that you represent.

To the newly elected members of the Senate, Gale Candaras and Benjamin Downing — congratulations and welcome. We are honored to have you serve with us, and we expect that the two of you will be fine additions to the Senate. I look forward to the



insight and fresh ideas that you will undoubtedly bring to our deliberations. I predict that it won't be long before the two of you begin serving as a strong voice on behalf of our friends in the western part of the state.

I would also like to congratulate Senator Richard R. Tisei, the newly elected Minority Leader of the Senate. Not only does Senator Tisei have the unenviable task of filling the large shoes his predecessor left behind. The number of Republicans is now small enough to fit into a Volkswagen. And to make matter worse, his party no longer has the corner office behind him as a backstop. Good luck Senator!!!

In all seriousness, I congratulate you on the new position. We all wish you the best of luck and look forward to working together!

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not take the time to recognize my family . . . my mother Josephine and my wife Kelly.

As we embark upon a new legislative session, I pledge to you that I will continue to work tirelessly on behalf of this body to ensure its independence, its traditions, as well as its integrity. I will rely upon all of you for guidance, ideas and support — but I will also continue to challenge each of you to think “outside the box,” in order to develop and propose innovative solutions that better serve the residents of Massachusetts.

I will also foster the same environment of reform that the Senate has represented over the previous session and will continue to use your vision and energy to deliver an ambitious legislative agenda over the course of this session.

This will be no small task.

As many of you know, our term last session was remarkable. Due to the strong leadership of this body, Massachusetts has become a model for other states in areas like stem cell research, health care and economic growth. Indeed, the Senate's leadership to promote stem cell research has placed us at the forefront of the international community on medical research and development.

The Senate was also the driving force behind the historic and unprecedented overhaul of our state's healthcare system: In less than two years we will be the first state in the nation to offer affordable coverage to all of our residents — truly a national model for every other state in the nation.

Aside from these major milestones, the Senate successfully led in reforming and streamlining virtually every area of government, including the courts, transportation agencies and human services. Our efforts last term included many other highlights like energy relief for low and middle-income families, targeted investments to help create jobs and trigger private development, as well as investments in tourism and workforce training programs.

But most importantly, I am proud that, together, we have consistently delivered budgets that were responsible, balanced and on-time.

In short, we built a strong list of accomplishments. Not only were we able to help the most vulnerable members of our society, but the Senate also proved that we could offer relief to working families across Massachusetts in a balanced manner without harming the state's competitive edge.

Despite these achievements, we must do more together!

Speaking of working together, tomorrow, I will have the privilege of swearing in our new Governor, Deval Patrick. I believe that tomorrow is the beginning of tremendous opportunity for our Commonwealth. For the first time in 16 years, both the legislature and the corner office will be run by one political party whose mantra is to serve the people. After almost two decades of Republican governors, it is now the Democratic party's turn to govern. Already, we are hearing from critics and naysayers about the disastrous prospects of one party rule on Beacon Hill — immediate tax increases and unfettered spending.

Let me be the first to put some of those concerns to rest. Over the last two sessions, there has been no appetite in the Senate to increase taxes. After discussions with my colleagues, I can tell you tax hikes are still off the table going into this new legislative year.

Like the working families we represent, we must live within our means and find efficiencies where possible in order to maximize our programs and services. We must continue to carefully invest in ideas and initiatives that multiply our investments and build a secure economic future for our children. Investing our resources in research and development, science and technology, as well as higher education is essential to the growth of our state's economy.

Holding the line on taxes and working together to find creative solutions to the rising costs of housing, health care premiums, unemployment insurance—the area's that restrict the competitiveness of our business community and our working families will

lead us toward a strong sustainable recovery for the state's economy.

Over the next few weeks and months, the Senate, House, and Governor will begin to unveil detailed legislative priorities — and for those of you who have been paying attention lately, Democrats are never in uniform agreement on anything. Why, there are times when even Senator Berry and I have differences, and not just over baseball teams.

However, as we often heard on the campaign trail, “it doesn't matter whose idea it is, as long as it's a good idea,” — this will be the litmus test this upcoming session. For all of us, it is important that we put our egos and personalities aside so that we can accomplish the people's business and focus on promoting good ideas regardless of where they originate.

We already know some of our priorities for this session. We all share a commitment to strengthening our higher education system and to continuing the advancement of research in the life sciences. We will continue to work in bi-partisan fashion on ideas to promote energy efficiency and address global climate change, by building upon the alternative fuel vehicles bill and HEAT legislation that we passed last year. We remain committed to addressing the needs of working families, including the value of paid family and medical leave. But in the coming months we will consider, debate and pass bills on other important subjects that touch the lives of those we serve.

As President and presiding officer of this body, I challenge you to think creatively for the benefit of our Commonwealth's future and to prove the pundits and critics wrong about one-party rule on Beacon Hill. Our time will be marked by collaborations and partnerships that will result in a better Massachusetts for everyone.

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

I would like to begin, by first congratulating you, Mr. President on your well deserved victory and re-election.

I say well deserved, because you clearly have earned the respect and admiration of all of the members of this Senate — both Democrat and Republican — as a result of the way in which you have operated this body during your Presidency.

Over the past four years, you have treated each and every member with respect and created a spirit of openness and cooperation that has made each and every one of us a better, more effective public servant.

At a time when the tone and tenor of our public dialogue and debate has become almost unbearable, it is certainly a testament to your leadership that our State Senate stands out as a place where we can all put aside our differences and work together in a positive manner to move this state forward.

While I am sure that we will disagree on many issues over the next two years and we will certainly have our battles, I want to make clear to you and to all my colleagues today, that I intend to work hard to ensure that the atmosphere in this chamber remains positive, and that this Senate continues to be a place, where working together, we accomplish great things for the people of Massachusetts.

I want to also take this opportunity to thank Senator Knapik and Senator Tarr for their kind words, as well as the other members of my caucus, Sen. Hedlund and Sen. Brown, for the confidence they have placed in me by electing me to succeed our good friend Brian Lees.

As you can imagine, Brian's shoes will be rather large to fill, and each of us in the minority party will certainly have our work cut out for us.

When Senator Lees and Senator Nuciforo gave their farewell addresses a couple of weeks ago, I listened very closely.

As they looked back on their experiences in the Senate, both Brian and Andrea reminisced about the first time they each came to the State House. That got me thinking about my own experience visiting the State House for the first time and the impact it had on me.

Mr. President, I have loved this building and this Legislature since the first day I came here as a High School senior. I was here because my classmates at Lynnfield High School, elected me to be State Representative for a Day as part of the annual Student Government Day program.

Among the many highlights from that day that I still remember, was meeting my State Senator, Walter Boverini, who presented me with this citation dated March 11, 1981, that I still proudly display on my office wall.

Participating in that program was a life altering experience for me and I knew from that point on, that I was going to devote my career to public service.

In fact, the program so motivated me, that a little more than three years later, at the age of 22, I ran for and was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

To this day, I am forever appreciative for having had such a great opportunity. There were some people who tried to discourage me, and many obstacles that I had to overcome, but I worked hard and was determined to make my dream come true.

My experience is certainly not unique, in fact it is quite common.

Our Country and in particular our state, has always stood out as a place, where ordinary citizens who are willing to work hard, and are determined to succeed can go as far and as high as their dreams and talents can take them.

Over the years, these core American values combined with the many liberties we enjoy, have unleashed the energy, creativity and ingenuity that have made us such a great country and such a great state.

Where else can people come from all over the world and within a relatively short period of time go from having nothing to becoming prosperous and successful.

My family, like yours, Mr. President, came from Italy a little more than 80 years ago, and I can tell you that when they first arrived here, it would be beyond their wildest dreams to think that one of their offspring would go on to one day become the minority leader in this chamber.

Ensuring that future generations have the same opportunities available to them and are able to take advantage of the American Dream, will be one of the biggest challenges that this legislature will face over the next few years.

It's almost unbelievable and quite alarming that more than a quarter of a million people have left our state over the past 4 years, more than 50,000 over the past year alone. This is clearly a crisis that demands our attention.

As you and most of the members know Mr. President, aside from serving in this chamber, I also own a real estate brokerage business.

In that capacity, I often find myself sitting around a kitchen table talking to people who have decided to sell their homes and are moving out of state.

And during these conversations I always make it a point to ask them not only where they are going but why they are moving.

Retirees on fixed incomes tell me that they simply can't afford to live here anymore and that other parts of the country like Florida, Arizona and Nevada offer a more affordable lifestyle.

Younger families, with great educational backgrounds and technical skills, tell me that they are moving to the Carolinas, Georgia and other areas where they feel there is more opportunity to succeed and the cost of living is much lower.

Finally, I have ran across a number of people who don't want to leave this state, but the companies they work for are transferring their jobs away to places like New Hampshire and Rhode Island where the costs of doing business are much lower than Massachusetts and where they can be more competitive.

This mass departure of some of our most talented citizens threatens our economic progress and our long term well being as a Commonwealth, and will have a major impact that will affect us for decades to come unless we do something about it now.

Mr. President, we want to work in partnership with you, your members as well as our new governor over the next two years to make this state more affordable and competitive.

We want to work to bring down taxes, tolls and fees so that families can keep more of the money that they earn.

We want to work with you to address the high cost of energy, to reduce water and sewer bills, to stop the spiraling costs of homeowners insurance, and to find a way to make home ownership more affordable for more working families.

Most importantly, we look forward to joining forces with the new governor to help him keep his promise to the people of Massachusetts to reduce their property taxes.

Clearly, we have a lot of work ahead of us, but I know that this Senate is up to the challenge and working together we will find a way to move Massachusetts forward in a positive direction.

As we move forward, there are a number of principles that will guide the Republican caucus.

First, we believe that the government's role in helping people achieve their dreams must be to provide opportunity rather than to place obstacles in their way.

We believe that government should empower people rather than dictate choices to them.

We believe that the free enterprise system can often times do a better job than the government can to solve problems and improve lives.

We believe that the best decisions that the government makes are those that are made closest to the people at the local level.

Finally, we believe that our government should pursue policies designed to promote lower taxes, less regulation and administer the state's finances in a sound and responsible manner.

We will do our best, Mr. President, to articulate these beliefs throughout the course of this legislative session and we will work hard to try to leave our imprint on every piece of legislation that leaves this chamber.

Now there are some who worry that only one voice will be heard coming from state government over the next few years. I believe those concerns are unfounded.

In creating our system of government, our founding fathers made it a point to establish a number of checks and balances to ensure that that no one branch or for that matter no one party grew too strong and too overpowering.

They realized that the most dangerous tendency of one-party government was to become unaccountable and unchallenged. Abraham Lincoln went so far as to say that any democracy that silences the voice of a minority — will eventually silence the voice of every citizen.

So they created safeguards, established protections and adopted rules to ensure the majority was held accountable and the voice of the minority was always heard.

Throughout the history of our state these safeguards have worked well and stood the test of time and we have no doubt that they will once again serve the people well as we begin a new era here on Beacon Hill.

Tomorrow, a new Governor arrives at the State House. While members of my party had hoped for a different outcome in the recent election, we accept the results and embrace the fact that we are embarking on a new journey for our state.

We put our hands out in friendship to Governor-elect Patrick and pledge to work with him to make our state a better place to live, work and raise a family.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not also thank the people of my district for allowing me to represent them in both the House and the Senate over the last 22 years. They are the reason that I am here today and have the honor of becoming the new minority leader. I am truly honored and humbled by the trust they have placed in me, and I look forward to continuing to serve them for many years to come.

#### *Election of Clerk.*

Mr. Moore moved that the Senate proceed to the election of a Clerk and that the President cast one ballot for William F. Welch of Milford as Clerk of the Senate; and this motion prevailed.

Accordingly, the ballot was cast and Mr. Welch was declared elected, and was then qualified by taking the oaths and affirmation as prescribed by the Constitution and also the following oath, which was administered by the President:

“Whereas, you WILLIAM F. WELCH, are chosen Clerk of the Senate of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you do swear that you will truly enter all the votes and orders thereof, and in all things relating to your office that you will act faithfully and impartially according to your best skill and judgement. So help you, God.”

On motion of Mr. Rosenberg, the remarks of Senate President Travaglini and Minority Leader Tisei were ordered printed in the Journal of the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Creedon, the nominating speeches of Senators Tolman, Spilka, Knapik and Tarr were ordered printed in the Journal of the Senate.

#### *Election of Sergeant-at-Arms.*

Mr. Berry moved that the Senate proceed to the election of a Sergeant-at-Arms and that the election be by acclamation for Kevin W. Fitzgerald of Boston, as Sergeant-at-Arms on the part of the Senate, and this motion prevailed.

Accordingly, Kevin W. Fitzgerald was declared elected on the part of the Senate.

*Orders Adopted.*

On motion of Ms. Menard,—

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to notify His Excellency the Governor, Mitt Romney, Her Honor Kerry Healey, Lieutenant-Governor of the Commonwealth and the Honorable Council of the organization of the Senate; and that the Honorable Robert E. Travaglini of Suffolk and Middlesex had been elected President of the Senate, and William F. Welch of Milford had been elected Clerk of the Senate.

Senators Joyce of Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth, Resor of Middlesex and Worcester, Chandler of Worcester, Hart of Suffolk, Timilty of Bristol and Norfolk and Tarr of Essex and Middlesex were appointed the committee.

Subsequently, Mr. Tarr, for the committee reported that the committee had performed the duties assigned to it. The report was accepted and the committee was discharged.

The President introduced, in the Chamber, former State Senator Joseph F. Timilty and Attorney General-elect Martha Coakley. Attorney General-elect Coakley briefly addressed the Senate and withdrew from the Chamber.

*Orders Adopted.*

On motion of Mr. Havern,—

*Ordered*, That the Clerk be directed to notify the House of Representatives of the election, on the part of the Senate, of Kevin W. Fitzgerald of Boston, as Sergeant-at-Arms of the General Court.

On motion of Mr. O'Leary,—

*Ordered*, That the Senate Rules of the last session be observed as the temporary Senate Rules for the present General Court.

On motion of Mr. Rosenberg,—

*Ordered*, That the Joint Rules of last session be observed as the temporary Joint Rules of the two branches for the present General Court.

**Sent to the House for concurrence.**

On motion of Mr. Montigny,—

*Ordered*, that a committee be appointed to inform the House of Representatives of the organization of the Senate; and that the Honorable Robert E. Travaglini of Suffolk and Middlesex has been elected President of the Senate; and William F. Welch of Milford has been elected Clerk of the Senate.

Senators Murray of Plymouth and Barnstable, Havern of Middlesex, Knapik of Hampden and Hampshire, Creedon of Plymouth and Bristol, Morrissey of Norfolk and Plymouth and Menard of Bristol and Plymouth were appointed the committee on the part of the Senate.

Subsequently, Ms. Murray, for the said committee reported that the committee had performed the duties assigned to it. The report was accepted and the committee was discharged.

*Communication.*

The following communication, together with the returns of votes and schedules referred to, was received from the Secretary of the Commonwealth and placed on file, to wit:

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02133

*December 28, 2006.*

To the Honorable Senate:

I have the honor to lay before you the returns of votes cast at the election held in this Commonwealth on the seventh day of November, 2006 for Senators, together with schedules showing the number of ballots which appear to have been cast for each person voted for.

These returns have been duly canvassed by the Governor and Council, and are now transmitted for examination by the Senate, as required by the Constitution.

*Very Truly Yours,*  
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN,  
*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

*Order Adopted.*

On motion of Mr. Augustus,—

*Ordered*, That a special committee of the Senate to be appointed for the purpose of canvassing the votes for Senators in the several districts.

Senators Augustus of Worcester, Creem of Middlesex and Norfolk and Hedlund of Plymouth and Norfolk, were appointed the committee.

Subsequently, Mr. Hedlund, for the said special committee, reported that the following named persons had been duly elected, to wit:—

Hon. Benjamin Brackett Downing of Pittsfield in the Berkshire, Hampshire and Franklin District.  
Hon. James E. Timilty of Walpole in the Bristol and Norfolk District.  
Hon. Joan M. Menard of Fall River in the First Bristol and Plymouth District.  
Hon. Mark C. Montigny of New Bedford in the Second Bristol and Plymouth District.  
Hon. Robert A. O'Leary of Barnstable in the Cape and Islands District.  
Hon. Steven A. Baddour of Methuen in the First Essex District.  
Hon. Frederick E. Berry of Peabody in the Second Essex District.  
Hon. Bruce E. Tarr of Gloucester in the First Essex and Middlesex District.  
Hon. Susan C. Tucker of Andover in the Second Essex and Middlesex District.  
Hon. Thomas M. McGee of Lynn in the Third Essex and Middlesex District.  
Hon. Stephen J. Buoniconti of West Springfield in the Hampden District.  
Hon. Gale D. Candaras of Wilbraham in the First Hampden and Hampshire District.  
Hon. Michael R. Knapik of Westfield in the Second Hampden and Hampshire District.  
Hon. Stanley C. Rosenberg of Amherst in the Hampshire and Franklin District.  
Hon. Steven C. Panagiotakos of Lowell in the First Middlesex District.  
Hon. Patricia D. Jehlen of Somerville in the Second Middlesex District.  
Hon. Susan C. Fargo of Lincoln in the Third Middlesex District.  
Hon. Robert A. Havern of Arlington in the Fourth Middlesex District.  
Hon. Richard R. Tisei of Wakefield in the Middlesex and Essex District.  
Hon. Cynthia Stone Creem of Newton in the First Middlesex and Norfolk District.  
Hon. Karen E. Spilka of Ashland in the Second Middlesex and Norfolk District.  
Hon. Jarrett T. Barrios of Cambridge in the Middlesex, Suffolk and Essex District.  
Hon. Pamela P. Resor of Acton in the Middlesex and Worcester District.  
Hon. Scott P. Brown of Wrentham in the Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex District.  
Hon. Brian A. Joyce of Milton in the Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth District.  
Hon. Michael W. Morrissey of Quincy in the Norfolk and Plymouth District.  
Hon. Therese Murray of Plymouth in the Plymouth and Barnstable District.  
Hon. Marc R. Pacheco of Taunton in the First Plymouth and Bristol District.  
Hon. Robert S. Creedon, Jr., of Brockton in the Second Plymouth and Bristol District.  
Hon. Robert L. Hedlund of Weymouth in the Plymouth and Norfolk District.  
Hon. John A. Hart, Jr., of Boston in the First Suffolk District.  
Hon. Dianne Wilkerson of Boston in the Second Suffolk District.  
Hon. Robert E. Travaglini of Boston in the First Suffolk and Middlesex District.  
Hon. Steven A. Tolman of Boston in the Second Suffolk and Middlesex District.  
Hon. Marian Walsh of Boston in the Suffolk and Norfolk District.  
Hon. Harriette L. Chandler of Worcester in the First Worcester District.  
Hon. Edward M. Augustus, Jr., of Worcester in the Second Worcester District.  
Hon. Stephen M. Brewer of Barre in the Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin District.

Hon. Robert A. Antonioni of Leominster in the Worcester and Middlesex District.  
Hon. Richard T. Moore of Uxbridge in the Worcester and Norfolk District.

The report was read, and the report was considered forthwith and accepted.

*Orders Adopted.*

On motion of Ms. Fargo,—

*Ordered*, That the Clerk begin the daily printing of the Journal of the Senate, as authorized by Senate Rule 6, and that the daily reading thereof be dispensed with; that, under authority of Section 10 of Chapter 5 of the General Laws, copies of the Journals of the entire session be printed and bound with the customary appendices and an index; and that a certified copy thereof be deposited with the Secretary of the Commonwealth as the official bound Journal of the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Pacheco,—

*Ordered*, That a special committee of the Senate to consist of three members of the Senate be appointed for the purpose of arranging the seats of the members of the Senate.

Senators Berry of Essex, Havern of the Middlesex, and Tisei of Middlesex and Essex were appointed the committee.

On motion of Ms. Walsh,—

*Ordered*, That a convention of the two Houses be held at eleven o'clock A.M., on Thursday, January 4, for the purpose of administering the oaths of office to the Governor-elect, Lieutenant-Governor-elect, and the several Councillors-elect.  
Sent to the House for concurrence.

On motion of Ms. Tucker,—

*Ordered*, That when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again tomorrow at a quarter before eleven o'clock A.M.

On motion of Mr. Antonioni at three minutes before one o'clock P.M., the Senate adjourned to meet again tomorrow at a quarter before eleven o'clock A.M.