

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2018.

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.

Thursday, January 25, 2018

Met at two minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Brownsberger in the Chair)

Distinguished Guests.

There being no objection, the President (Ms. Chandler) handed the gavel to Mr. Feeney for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Feeney then introduced, in the Senate Gallery, a group of seniors from the New Pond Village Independent Living Center in Walpole. New Pond Village is a benchmark senior living continuing care retirement community that offers the highest quality care in independent and assisted living as well as soon to be completed memory care center. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Gallery.

New Pond Village
Independent Living
Center.

Communications.

The following communications were severally received and placed on file, to wit:

Communication from the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to Section 2E of Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2017) submitting revised Fiscal Year 2018 transfer schedules for the following accounts: 1595-6368 Massachusetts Transportation Trust Fund, 1595-1068 Medical Assistance Trust Fund and 1595-7066 Massachusetts Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics Grant Fund (received January 22, 2018); and

Comptroller,--
revised transfer
schedules.
SD2495

Communication from the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to Section 2E of Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2017) submitting the Fiscal Year 2018 transfer schedule for the following account: 1595-1075 Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund (received January 22, 2018).

Comptroller,--
transfer schedule.
SD2496

Reports.

The following reports were severally received and placed on file, to wit:

Report of the District Attorney for Northwestern District (pursuant to Section 99R of Chapter 272 of the General Laws) submitting its annual report of annual wiretap interceptions for the 2017 calendar year (received January 22, 2018); and

Northwestern DA,--
wiretap.
SD2491

Report of the Pension Reserves Investment Management Board (pursuant to Chapter 232 of the Acts of 2010, Chapter 151 of the Acts of 2007 and Section 23 of Chapter 32 of the General Laws) submitting its annual reports on PRIM's divestment from Iran and Sudan restricted securities and its annual report on tobacco investments (received January 23, 2018).

PRIM Board,--
annual reports.
SD2497

Petitions.

Petitions were severally presented and referred as follows:

By Ms. Creem, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Cynthia S. Creem and Kenneth I. Gordon for legislation to enhance investigations of sexual harassment and discrimination;

Sexual harassment,--
investigations.
SD2493

By the same Senator, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule

Kosher food,--

12) of Cynthia S. Creem and Ruth B. Balser for legislation relative to kosher food signage;

By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Bruce E. Tarr, Bradley H. Jones, Jr., Richard J. Ross, Donald F. Humason, Jr. and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to the Sex Offender Registry Board; and

By Mr. Tran, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Dean A. Tran for legislation to regulate the establishment of municipal lighting plants;

Severally referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Timilty, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on petition, a Bill modernizing procedures for boards and commissions (Senate, No. 1688); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill establishing a special commission to identify opportunities to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of state agencies, programs, and services (Senate, No. 1727);

Severally read and, under Joint Rule 29, referred to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

By Ms. Chang-Diaz, for the committee on Education, on petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 237), a Bill to support healthy development among preschoolers (Senate, No. 2255);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 265), a Bill commissioning a study of vocational education (Senate, No. 2256);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 274), a Bill promoting local control and effective training of school resource officers (Senate, No. 2257);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 276), a Bill calling for a comprehensive study of vocational education in the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 2258);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 289), a Bill improving augmentative and alternative communication opportunities for children with disabilities (Senate, No. 2259);

By Mr. Timilty, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on petition, a Bill making technical corrections to the state trademarks act (Senate, No. 1687);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to nondiscrimination (Senate, No. 1691);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to state contracting (Senate, No. 1692);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill promoting the use of total energy impact analysis (Senate, No. 1698);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to local impacts of enacted legislation (Senate, No. 1712);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to municipal impact statements (Senate, No. 1747);

signage.
SD2498

Sex Offender
Registry Board.
SD2494

Municipal lighting
authorities,-- establish.
SD2492

Boards and
commissions,--
procedures.

State agencies and
programs,--
efficiency.

Preschoolers,--
healthy development.

Vocational
education,-- study.

School resource
officers,-- training.

Vocational
education,-- study.

Children with
disabilities,--
communication.

Trademark Act,--
technical corrections.

Nondiscrimination.

State contracting.

Energy impact,--
promotion.

Municipalities,--
legislative impacts.

Local government,--
impact statements.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to life cycle costs for public construction (Senate, No. 1753);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to eliminate contingency fee auditors (Senate, No. 1755); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to employee settlements (Senate, No. 1773);

Severally read and, under Senate Rule 27, referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Timilty, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on petition, a Bill relative to the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (Senate, No. 1715);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill requiring the disclosure of public funding (Senate, No. 1721);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill designating a certain state facility in the city of New Bedford as the New Bedford marine commerce terminal (Senate, No. 1733); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to the environment and public health (Senate, No. 1745);

Severally read and, under Senate Rule 26, referred to the committee on Rules.

By Mr. Moore, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on petition, a Bill authorizing the Town of Hamilton to establish a special fund for the Patton Homestead (Senate, No. 2245) [Local approval received];

Read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Petitions were severally referred, in concurrence, as follows, to wit:

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4144) of Susannah M. Whipps (by vote of the town) relative to providing for recall elections in the town of Erving;

To the committee on Election Laws.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4142) of Chynah Tyler and others (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the rights and evictions of certain tenants of post-foreclosure rental housing in the city of Boston;

To the committee on the Judiciary.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4143) of Marjorie C. Decker and Sal N. DiDomenico (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Cambridge be authorized to appoint retired police officers as special police officers within said city for paid detail assignments; and

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4145) of Susannah M. Whipps (by vote of the town) relative to representation on the board of trustees for soldiers' memorials in the town of Orange;

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4146) of Susannah M. Whipps and Anne M. Gobi (by vote of the town) that the position of part-time officer in the police department in the town of Athol be exempt from the civil service law;

To the committee on Public Service.

Public construction,-- costs.

Contingency fee,-- auditors.

Employee settlements,-- confidentiality.

Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination,-- membership.
Public funding,-- disclosure.

New Bedford,-- marine commerce terminal.

Public health,-- environment.

Hamilton,-- special fund.

Erving,-- recall elections.

Boston,-- housing.

Cambridge,-- police officers.

Athol,-- police officers.

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Dawn Parmenter, an employee of the Department of Correction (House, No. 4090, amended,-- on petition),-- **was read and, under Senate Rule 27, referred to the committee on Ways and Means.**

Dawn Parmenter,--
sick leave.

Bills

Relative to the annual town meeting in the town of Weston (House, No. 3873,-- on petition) [Local approval received]; and

Weston,-- town
meeting.

Relative to the retirement benefits of certain employees of the city of Chicopee (House, No. 3942,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Chicopee,--
retirement benefits.

Were severally read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.

There being no objection, at three minutes past eleven o'clock P.M., the Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair; and, at sixteen minutes past two o'clock P.M., the Senate reassembled, the President in the Chair.

Recess.

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

Pledge of allegiance.

At seventeen minutes past two o'clock P.M, Mr. Tarr doubted the presence of a quorum. The President, having determined that a quorum was not in attendance, then directed the Sergeant-at-Arms to secure the presence of a quorum.

Quorum.

Subsequently, at twenty-one minutes past two o'clock P.M., a quorum was declared present.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions (having been filed with the Clerk) were severally considered forthwith and adopted, as follows:-

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Chandler) "congratulating Patrick L. Muldoon on his retirement"; and

Patrick L. Muldoon.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Lewis) "congratulating Timothy F. Gens on being honored by the Massachusetts Health and Hospital Association, Inc.

Timothy F. Gens.

Report of a Committee.

Mr. Montigny, for the committee on Rules, reported that the following matters be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session:

The House Bill designating May as Asian American Pacific Islander month (House, No. 3360).

Asian American
Pacific Islander
month.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Tran, and the bill was read a second time, ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

The House Bill authorizing the Deerfield Area Fire Protection District to continue the employment of Fire Chief Chester Yazwinski (House, No. 3957).

Deerfield,--
fire chief.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Eldridge, and the bill was read a second time

Pending the question on ordering the bill to a third reading, Mr. Rosenberg moved that the bill be amended by striking out section 2 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

“SECTION 2. This act shall take effect as of May 3, 2017.”

The amendment was adopted.

The bill, as amended, was then ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with the amendment.

Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.

The House Bill further regulating the Massachusetts Port Authority community advisory committee (House, No. 4088).

MassPort,-- advisory committee.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Ms. Friedman, and the bill was read a second time, ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

Reports of a Committee.

By Ms. Spilka, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the House Bill establishing regional commissions on the status of women (House, No. 1110, amended),-- ought to pass, with an amendment in section 1, by inserting after the word “appointed”, in line 14, the following words:- “and qualified”;

Commissions on the status of women.

In said section 1, by inserting after the word “since”, in line 16, the following words:- “the conclusion of”;

In section 2, by inserting after the word “appointed”, in line 62, the following words:- “and qualified”;

In said section 2, by inserting after the word “since”, in line 64, the following words:- “the conclusion of”;

In section 3, by inserting after the word “appointed”, in line 105, the following words:- “and qualified”;

In said section 3, by inserting after the word “since”, in line 107, the following words:- “the conclusion of”; and

By striking out section 4.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Ms. Jehlen, and the bill was read a second time and, after remarks, was amended, as recommended by the committee in Ways and Means.

The bill, as amended, was then ordered to a third reading and read a third time

After further remarks, the question on passing the bill to be engrossed was determined by a call of the yeas and nays, at twenty-eight minutes before three o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, as follows, to wit (yeas 38 – nays 0) [**Yeas and Nays No. 320**]:

YEAS.

Barrett, Michael J.
Boncore, Joseph A.
Brady, Michael D.
Brownsberger, William N.
Chandler, Harriette L.
Chang-Diaz, Sonia
Creem, Cynthia Stone
Cyr, Julian
DiDomenico, Sal N.
Donoghue, Eileen M.
Eldridge, James B.
Fattman, Ryan C.
Feeney, Paul R.

Keenan, John F.
Lesser, Eric P.
Lewis, Jason M.
L'Italien, Barbara A.
Lovely, Joan B.
Montigny, Mark C.
Moore, Michael O.
O'Connor, Patrick M.
O'Connor Ives, Kathleen
Pacheco, Marc R.
Rodrigues, Michael J.
Rosenberg, Stanley C.
Ross, Richard J.

Forry, Linda Dorcena
Friedman, Cindy F.
Gobi, Anne M.
Hinds, Adam G.
Humason, Donald F., Jr.
Jehlen, Patricia D.

Rush, Michael F.
Spilka, Karen E.
Tarr, Bruce E.
Timilty, Walter F.
Tran, Dean A.
Welch, James T. – 38.

NAYS – 0.

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING.

deMacedo, Viriato M. – 1.

The yeas and nays having been completed at twenty-four minutes before three o'clock P.M., the bill was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with the amendment.

Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.

By Ms. Spilka, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Senate Bill relative to the used vehicle record book (Senate, No. 1982),-- ought to pass, with an amendment substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2269)

Used vehicle record book.

Order Adopted.

Ms. Spilka offered the following order, to wit:

Ordered, That, notwithstanding Senate Rule 7 or any other rule to the contrary, the Senate Bill relative to the used vehicle record book (Senate, No. 1982) (the committee on Ways and Means having recommended that the bill be amended by substituting a new draft, Senate, No. 2269) shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for a second reading on Thursday, February 1, 2018.

Procedural order.

All amendments shall be filed electronically in the office of the Clerk of the Senate by 5:00 P.M., on Monday, January 29, 2018. All such amendments shall be second-reading amendments to Senate, No. 2269, but further amendments in the third degree to such amendments shall be in order. The Clerk shall further specify the procedure and format for filing all amendments, consistent with this order.

After the bill as amended is ordered to a third reading, it shall immediately be read a third time and the question shall then immediately be on passing it to be engrossed, and no amendments shall be in order at the third reading of the bill unless recommended by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Under the rules, referred to the committee on Rules.

Subsequently, Mr. Montigny, for the said committee, reported, recommending that the order ought to be adopted.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Cyr, and the order was considered forthwith and adopted.

The bill will be placed in the Orders of the Day for Thursday, February 1, for a second reading with the amendment pending.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Montigny, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the Senate petition of Patrick M. O'Connor for legislation to establish an early retirement incentive for Charles Mark Brown.

Charles Mark Brown,-- retirement. Sd2430

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Feeney, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Public Service.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Petitions were severally referred, in concurrence, as follows, to wit:

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4150) of Harold P. Naughton, Jr., and Harriette L. Chandler for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Elise Sanchez-Oshea, an employee of the Trial Court;

Elise Sanchez-Oshea,-- sick leave.

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on the Judiciary.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4151) of Andres X. Vargas and others for legislation to assure net neutrality by Internet service providers and the equal treatment of data on the Internet, and to prohibit discrimination or charge disparity of user, content, website, platform, application, type of attached equipment or method of communication;

Net neutrality.

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4152) of Randy Hunt, Julian Cyr and others for legislation to name two bridges over Route 6 in the city known as the town of Barnstable as the first responders appreciation overpasses;

Barnstable,-- bridges.

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Transportation.

Emergency Preamble Adopted.

An engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Elizabeth O'Brien, an employee of the Department of the Attorney General (see Senate, No. 2176, 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 8 to 0.

Elizabeth O'Brien,-- sick leave.

The bill was signed by the President (Ms. Chandler) and sent to the House for enactment.

Engrossed Bills.

The following engrossed bills (both of which originated in the House), having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, were severally passed to be enacted and were signed by the President (Ms. Chandler) and laid before the Governor for his approbation, to wit:

Designating the town administrator and the director of municipal finance as town meeting members at large in the town of Milford (House, No. 3764); and

Bills laid before the Governor.

Relative to a certain license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises in the city Beverly (House, No. 3950).

Orders of the Day.

The Orders of the Day were considered as follows:

Bills

Authorizing the city of Easthampton to lease certain real estate (Senate, No. 2152, changed);

Second reading bills.

Relative to increasing City of Gloucester parking fines (Senate, No. 2223);

Relative to the town administrator in the town of Fairhaven (House, No. 3513);

Relative to the Middleton town charter (House, No. 3725);

Authorizing the City of Salem to grant 1 additional liquor license for the sale of wine and malt beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 3753, amended);

Amending the charter of the town of Bourne (House, No. 3918, amended);

Relative to the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority Capital Infrastructure Fund in the town of Stoughton (House, No. 3958).

Providing for the purchase of the Milford Water Company by the Town of Milford (House, No. 3978);

Relative to the dissolution of the Milford Water Company and the acquisition of its assets by the Town of Milford (House, No. 4055);

Were severally read a second time and ordered to a third reading.

The House Bill authorizing the appointment of special police officers in the city of Malden (House, No. 4016, amended),-- **was read a second time and ordered to a third reading. The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Lewis, and the bill read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Malden,-- special police officers.

The Senate Bill negating archaic statutes targeting young women (Senate, No. 784),-- was read a second time.

Pending the question on adoption of the amendment, previously recommended by the committee on Ways and Means, substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2260), and pending the main question on ordering the bill to a third reading, Mr. Creem moved that the proposed new draft be amended in section 2, by striking out the word "19" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- "14 and 18"; and in section 3, by striking out, in lines 13 and 14, the words "a registered physician" and inserting in place thereof the following words: "an authorized health care provider".

The amendment was adopted.

The Ways and Means amendment, as amended, was then adopted.

The bill (Senate, No. 2260, amended) was then ordered to a third reading and read a third time.

After remarks, the question on passing the bill to be engrossed was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at ten minutes past three o'clock P.M., on motion of Ms. Friedman, as follows, to wit (yeas 38 – nays 0) **[Yeas and Nays No. 321]:**

YEAS.

Barrett, Michael J.
Boncore, Joseph A.
Brady, Michael D.
Brownsberger, William N.
Chandler, Harriette L.
Chang-Diaz, Sonia
Creem, Cynthia Stone
Cyr, Julian
DiDomenico, Sal N.
Donoghue, Eileen M.
Eldridge, James B.

Keenan, John F.
Lesser, Eric P.
Lewis, Jason M.
L'Italien, Barbara A.
Lovely, Joan B.
Montigny, Mark C.
Moore, Michael O.
O'Connor, Patrick M.
O'Connor Ives, Kathleen
Pacheco, Marc R.
Rodrigues, Michael J.

Fattman, Ryan C.
Feeney, Paul R.
Forry, Linda Dorcena
Friedman, Cindy F.
Gobi, Anne M.
Hinds, Adam G.
Humason, Donald F., Jr.
Jehlen, Patricia D.

Rosenberg, Stanley C.
Ross, Richard J.
Rush, Michael F.
Spilka, Karen E.
Tarr, Bruce E.
Timilty, Walter F.
Tran, Dean A.
Welch, James T. – 38.

NAYS – 0.

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING.

deMacedo, Viriato M. – 1.

The yeas and nays having been completed at thirteen minutes past three o'clock P.M., the bill was passed to be engrossed.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

The Senate Bill relative to the licensure of motor vehicle inspection stations (Senate, No. 2139),-- was read a second time and was amended, as previously recommended by the committee on Ways and Means, by substituting a new draft entitled "An Act providing for the licensing of certain motor vehicle inspection stations" (Senate, No. 2261).

Motor vehicle
inspection stations,--
license.

The bill (Senate, No. 2261) was then ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Montigny, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the Senate petition of Eileen M. Donoghue for legislation to regulate online gaming, daily fantasy sports, and online sports betting.

Online gaming,--
regulation.
SD2480

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Pacheco, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Moore,--

Ordered, That when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M., and that the Clerk be directed to dispense with the printing of a calendar.

Time of meeting.

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the President, the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Stephanie Mercandetti.

Moment of silence.

Adjourn In Memory of Stephanie Mercandetti

The Senator from Middlesex and Norfolk, Ms. Spilka, moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn in memory of Stephanie Mercandetti of Framingham.

Ms. Spilka in the Chair, Ms. Mercandetti passed away on January 14, 2018. She was 42 years old.

Ms. Mercandetti's life may have been tragically too short, but it was full. Born and raised in New York, she moved to Boston to attend Northeastern University. As a Political Science student, she was recommended by former Governor Michael Dukakis, who praised her intelligence, for an internship in the Massachusetts State Senate, in the office of former Senator David Magnani.

Upon graduation, Senator Magnani hired Ms. Mercandetti as his local affairs director for the 2nd Middlesex and Norfolk district, and her lifelong commitments to both public service and the MetroWest region were born.

Ms. Mercandetti, who received her Masters in Public Administration from UMass Boston, served in a number of planning and economic development roles throughout the state. She worked as regional municipal coordinator in the Norfolk County Commissioners' Office from 2002 until 2007, and then as the Economic Development and Grants Officer for the Town of Walpole. From 2014 on, she served as the Economic Development Director for the Town of Medway. She was utterly passionate about this work.

In 2012, Ms. Mercandetti was first elected to the Framingham Planning Board as a write-in candidate. She continued to serve until her passing.

In the days since her passing, many of Ms. Mercandetti's friends and colleagues have used similar words to describe her – she was a 'light', a 'star', and she 'set the world on fire.' She was revered for her kindness and integrity. Although she was a committed Democratic Town Committee member, for example, Republicans volunteered for her campaign. She was unique in her ability to bring people together, to animate lively discussions around planning and development, and to effect positive change in the communities in which she worked.

She was also a beloved sister, cousin, aunt, daughter and friend, as well as an artist, runner and advocate.

In this political moment, may Ms. Mercandetti's memory serve as a reminder to all us that we are neighbors first and our political designations second. Let us remember that a laugh and a kind word can go a long way towards bringing disparate parties closer together. In treating each other with dignity and respect, Ms. Mercandetti's work will continue throughout the Commonwealth.

The President in the Chair, accordingly, as a mark of respect in memory of Stephanie Mercandetti, at twenty-three minutes past three o'clock P.M., on motion of Ms. Forry, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.