

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2019.

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Wednesday, July 17, 2019.

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

The Chair (Mr. Feeney), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Distiguated Guests.

There being no objection, the Chair (Mr. Feeney) handed the gavel to Messrs. Brady and Timilty for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Brady then introduced, on the Rostrum, Jerry Pinsky and Ernie Smith, members of the South Shore Veterans Business Group. They were also guests of Representative Campbell of Methuen, who addressed the Chamber from the Rostrum. They were visiting the State House advocating for funds that would assist veteran owned startup businesses or that would help enhance existing businesses. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Rostrum.

South Shore Veterans Business Group.

There being no objection, the Chair (Mr. Feeney) handed the gavel to Mr. O'Connor for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. O'Connor then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, a group from the South Shore/Weymouth Chapter Order of DeMolay. This organization is a fraternal leadership training program and growth experience for young men aged 12-21 who believe in God and are of good moral character. The group was on a tour of the State House learning about the different aspects of state government. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

South Shore/Weymouth Chapter Order of DeMolay.

Petition.

Mr. Timilty presented a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2293) of Walter F. Timilty and Michelle M. DuBois (by vote of the town) for legislation relative to special police officers in the town of West Bridgewater [Local approval received];

West Bridgewater,-- police officers.

Referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committee on Public Service. Sent to the House for concurrence.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Spilka and Ms. Rausch) "honoring the memory of Joseph P. Saviano, Ralph J. Saviano and Alfred M. Saviano on the occasion of the dedication of Saviano Brothers Square in the town of Natick."

Joseph P. Saviano, Ralph J. Saviano and Alfred M. Saviano.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3975) of John H. Rogers and Michael F. Rush for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Robert Crossen, Jr., an employee of the Trial Court,-- was referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on the Judiciary.

Robert Crossen, Jr.,-- sick leave.

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Feeney), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Thomas F. Kenney.

Moment of silence.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tran--

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

Time of meeting.

Adjournment in Memory of Thomas F. Kenney

The Senator from Cape and Islands, Mr. Cyr and the Senator from Norfolk and Suffolk, Mr. Rush moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it do so in memory of retired Hyannis Fire Department Captain Thomas F. Kenney of Hyannis, formerly of West Roxbury. Mr. Kenney passed away on June 5, 2019 at the age of 65 after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.

Mr. Kenney was born in Boston, Massachusetts on November 1, 1953. His father and both of his grandfathers were committed firefighters and he grew up in West Roxbury among other firefighting families.

After graduating from Roslindale High School in 1972, he volunteered for the Boston Ambulance Squad and worked as an emergency medical technician for Boston Emergency Medical Services in 1973.

Mr. Kenney graduated from the first paramedic class at Boston City Hospital and became a full-time firefighter and paramedic for the Hyannis Fire Department in 1972. He was promoted to lieutenant in 1997 and to captain in 2015. His other roles include supervisor of emergency medical services (1991-1997) and divemaster (1994-2002).

Throughout his career, he led specialized training courses and seminars nationwide. With his colleagues, he founded Heavy Rescue Incorporated, an organization of fire service instructors, in 2000 to impart skills and techniques to fire departments in New England and beyond.

For his exemplary service, Mr. Kenney received numerous awards, including not one but several Massachusetts Firefighter of the Year awards. He served as a rescue team manager for the Federal Emergency Management Agency Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 1. His role as one of the first responders to Ground Zero on the morning of the September 11, 2001 terror attacks is a testament to bravery and commitment to his country. Speaking of his involvement, his daughter, Meghann, said, "He was always my hero. After 9/11, he became everyone else's too."

After serving the Hyannis Fire Department for over 36 years, Mr. Kenney retired as the training captain on October 19, 2018.

Mr. Kenney is survived by his wife of 40 years Kathleen M. Kenney (Kilday), daughters Meaghann Kenney and Lauren Lynn, granddaughter Flynn, five brothers, and many other family members and friends. His family kindly recounted, "He was dedicated to whatever he did and will be remembered by his unique sense of humor, his trademark mustache, and the simple ways he enjoyed life."

Mr. Kenney will be remembered for his bravery, strength, and service to his community. May we all reflect on his service and sacrifice.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect in memory of Thomas F. Kenney, at thirteen minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Timilty, the Senate adjourned to meet

again tomorrow at eleven o'clock A.M.
