
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020

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Met at twelve minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Rush in the Chair) (having been appointed by the President, under authority conferred by Senate Rule 4, to perform the duties of the Chair).

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

Pledge of allegiance.

Petitions.

Petitions were severally presented and referred as follows:

By Ms. DiZoglio, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Diana DiZoglio, Lenny Mirra, Patricia D. Jehlen, Adam G. Hinds and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish a Massachusetts Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) for businesses ineligible for the comparable federal PPP; and

Paycheck Protection
Program.
SD2904

By Mr. Timilty (accompanied a bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Walter F. Timilty, John C. Velis, Anne M. Gobi, Diana DiZoglio and others for legislation to protect institutions of higher education that provide emergency aid in response to COVID-19;

COVID-19,-- Higher
education aid.
SD2905

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

Reports of Committees.

Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, to whom was referred the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Election Laws be authorized and directed to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to election laws issues (Senate, No. 2544), reported, in part, a "Bill relative to election ballots" (Senate, No. 416);

Election ballots.

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

By Ms. Jehlen, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on petition, establishing a Commonwealth citizen service initiative (Senate, No. 1109) [Representative McKenna of Webster dissenting];

MA Service
Alliance,-- creation.

By Mr. Barrett, for the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, on petition, a Bill relative to the proper disposal of miniatures (Senate, No. 452);

Miniatures,-- proper
disposal.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to require home energy audits (Senate, No. 1922); and

Energy audits,--
homes.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to utilities, smart meters, and ratepayers' rights (Senate, No. 1988);

Ratepayers' rights.

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

By Mr. Finegold, for the committee on Public Service, on petition, a Bill authorizing Diana Grullon to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (Senate, No. 2562) [Local approval received];

Haverhill,--
civil service
exemption.

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

Orders.

Mr. Feeney presented an Order relative to granting the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure until May 15, 2020 within which time to make its final report on all matters referred to them (Senate, No. 2620);

Consumer Protection
and Professional
Licensure,--
extension order.
Public Health,--
extension order.

Ms. Comerford presented an Order relative to granting the committee on Public Health until May 30, 2020 within which time to make its final report on certain current Senate documents relative to public health legislation (Senate, No. 2617); and

Mr. Kennedy presented an order relative to granting the committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development until June 2, 2020, within which time to make its final report on current Senate document numbered 2029, relative to procurement services for artists (Senate, No. 2625).

Tourism, Arts and
Cultural
Development,--
extension order.

Severally, referred, under Joint Rule 30, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Emergency Preamble Adopted.

An engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Racquel Jean-Louis, an employee of the Suffolk sheriff's department (see House, No. 4585, 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 4 to 0.

Racquel Jean-Louis,-
- sick leave.

The bill was signed by the Acting President (Mr. Rush) and sent to the House for enactment.

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4635) of Ruth B. Balser and Mindy Domb relative to the reporting of COVID-19 positive cases and mortalities in long term care facilities and elder housing;

COVID-19,--
elder housing.

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4634) of Liz Miranda and others relative to financial assistance, health care access and small business grants in response to the COVID-19 outbreak;

COVID-19,--
grants and assistance.

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

Matter Taken Out of the Orders of the Day.

There being no objection, the following matter was taken out of the Orders of the Day and considered as follows:

The Senate Bill authorizing the town of Raynham to suspend the collection of boat excise (Senate, No. 1758),-- **was read second and ordered to a third reading.**

Raynham,--
boat excise.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill relative to the appointment of retired police officers as special police officers in the town of Plymouth (House, No. 4242,-- on petition) [Local approval received],-- was read.

Plymouth,--
retired police
officers.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Fattman,

and the bill was read a second time and ordered to a third reading.

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 Acting President (Mr. Rush) and laid before the Governor for his approbation, to wit:

Authorizing the city of Amesbury to grant 4 additional licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (see House, No. 4333); and

Establishing a sick leave bank for Racquel Jean-Louis, an employee of the Suffolk sheriff's department (see House, No. 4585, amended).

Bills laid before the Governor.

Report of a Committee.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, on Senate, No.416, in part, a "Bill relative to nomination signatures" (Senate, No. 2632).

Nomination signatures.

Mr. Finegold moved to suspend the rules to consider the matter forthwith; but objection was made thereto by Mr. Fattman.

Under the rules, the matter was Placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Rodrigues,--

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

Time of meeting.

On motion of the same Senator, at two minutes before twelve o'clock noon, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.