The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2020

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, August 13, 2020.

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

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

Pledge of allegiance.

Communication.

Communication from the Division of Insurance submitting its 2017 and 2018 Annual Reports (received May 14, 2020),-- was placed on file.

DOI,-- 2017 and 2018 annual reports. SD3030

Report.

Report of the Division of Insurance (pursuant to Section 32 of Chapter 219 of the Acts of 2018) submitting its 2019 report relative to companies that write homeowners, condominium and renters coverage regarding certain dog claim information (received June 3, 2020),-- was placed on file.

DOI,-- dog claim report. SD3031

Petitions.

Petitions were severally presented and referred as follows:

By Mr. Tran, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2896) of Dean A. Tran, Stephan Hay and Danillo A. Sena for legislation to authorize the town of Lunenburg to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises to Jaxx Country Variety [Local approval received.]; and

Lunenburg,-- liquor license.

By the same Senator, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2897) of Dean A. Tran, Harriette L. Chandler and Harold P. Naughton, Jr. (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Clinton to grant additional liquor licenses [Local approval received.];

Clinton,-- liquor licenses.

Severally, under Senate Rule 20, to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

By Mr. Tran, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2898) of Dean A. Tran, Danillo A. Sena and Stephan Hay (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the investment of town of Lunenburg library trust funds [Local approval received.];

Lunenburg,-- library trust funds.

Under Senate Rule 20, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Severally sent to the House for concurrence.

By Mr. Collins, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Nick Collins and Bud L. Williams for legislation relative to the Commonwealth Housing, Economic, Education and Equity in Recovery and Reconstruction Fund;

CHEEERR Act. SD3019

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

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Committees Discharged.

Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration:

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to early education funding (Senate, No. 2886);

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Education to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to vocational education transportation for nonresident students (Senate, No. 2887);

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to mental health, substance use and recovery matters (Senate, No. 2888);

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Public Health to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to advancing the health of pregnant persons (Senate, No. 2889);

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Transportation to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to transportation matters (Senate, No. 2890);

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Financial Services to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to value-based insurance design in the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 2893);

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Financial Services to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to TNC driver suitability (Senate, No. 2894); and

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Financial Services to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to transportation network company rider assessments (Senate, No. 2895).

And recommending that the same severally be referred to the committee on Rules.

Under Senate Rule 36, the reports were severally considered forthwith and accepted.

Matters Taken Out of the Orders of the Day.

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

The House Bill authorizing the town of Hanover to grant 13 additional licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4312, amended),—was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Clinton to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4337),-- was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill authorizing the town of Maynard to grant additional alcoholic beverages licenses (House, No. 4693,-- on House, No. 3870) [Local approval received on House, No. 3870],-- was read.

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

Economic
Development and
Emerging
Technologies
committee,-- study.
Education
committee,-- study.

Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery committee,-- study.

Public Health committee,-- study.

Transportation committee,-- study.

Financial Services committee,-- study.

Id.

Id.

Hanover,-- liquor license.

Clinton,-- liquor license.

Maynard,-- liquor license.

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

A Bill authorizing the city of Salem to establish a means-tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 4473,-- on House, No. 3681) [Local approval received on House, No. 3681],-- was read.

Salem,-- senior tax exemption.

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

MCAS,-moratorium.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4947) of James K. Hawkins and others relative to a moratorium on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) in response to the COVID-19 emergency,-- was referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Education.

Order.

The following House Order (approved by the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently) was considered as follows:

Ordered, That, notwithstanding the provisions of Joint Rule 10, the committee on Revenue be granted until Friday, September 18, 2020 within which time to make its final report on current Senate document numbered 2839.

Revenue,-- extension order.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Tran, and the order (House, No. 4939) was considered forthwith; and adopted, in concurrence.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tran,--

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

Time of meeting.

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Boncore), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection in honor of Lieutenant Edward F. Suarez.

Moment of silence.

Adjournment in Memory of Lieutenant Edward F. Suarez.

The Senator from Worcester and Middlesex, Mr. Tran, moves that when the Senate adjourns today it does so in memory of Lieutenant Edward F. Suarez, 47, of Westminster. Lt. Suarez was a member of Group 2 Engine 2 of the Fitchburg Fire Department, who passed away on August 9 after a long and courageous battle with brain cancer.

Edward was born on May 4, 1973 in Fitchburg, the son of Dante and Maria Ines (Gallulo) Suarez. He was a 1992 graduate of Montachusett Regional Vocational High School, where he played soccer all four years, and later went on to play soccer at Fitchburg State University. He received his Associate's Degree in Fire Science from Columbia Southern University.

Eddie was a proud, dedicated member of the Fitchburg Fire Department for 23 years. He was appointed to the department on June 17, 1997. He was promoted to Lieutenant on April 11, 2016, and most recently assigned to Engine 2, Group 2. Eddie served as union president for Local 3128 for the past 10 years, actively and aggressively pursuing better compensation, insurance benefits, and working conditions for his members.

Eddie was avid sports fan and took great pride and enjoyment in coaching his

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daughters' soccer teams and being part of the Oakmont Outlaws Soccer Club Organization. Eddie will always be remembered as a devoted husband, father, brother, son and a true friend to all, who used his kind heart to always lend a helping hand, and keep everyone laughing

Eddie is survived by his parents, his wife Angela M. (Sacino) Suarez, daughters, Isabella and Mia, his brother Fitchburg Fire Captain Dante Suarez, his father and mother-in-law, brother-in-law and nephews, nieces, and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect in memory of Lieutenant Edward F. Suarez, at fourteen minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Tran, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.