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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2020

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, September 10, 2020.

Met at fourteen minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Timilty 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. Timilty), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of allegiance.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Emergency Preambles Adopted.

An engrossed Bill authorizing the transfer of care and control of certain parcels of land in the town of Bridgewater from the Department of Correction to the Department of Fire Services (see House, No. 4178, 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 2 to 0.

Bridgewater,-- land transfer.

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

An engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Amanda Caruso, an employee of the Department of Correction (see House, No. 4657), 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 2 to 0.

Amanda Caruso,-- sick leave.

The bill was signed by the Acting President (Mr. Timilty) 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 Acting President (Mr. Timilty) and laid before the Governor for his approbation, to wit:

Establishing a memorial bench in Pope John Paul II Park in the city of Boston in memory of Robert M. "Bobby" Mudge (see House, No. 4195); and

Bills laid before the Governor.

Establishing a sick leave bank for Maria Boverini, an employee of the trial court of the commonwealth (see House, No. 4837, amended).

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Finegold, for the committee on Election Laws, on the message from His Excellency the Governor, a Bill relative to the swearing in of elected officials in the town of Wayland (printed in Senate, No. 2903).

Wayland,-- elected officials.

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

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 Brian M. Belfiore to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (Senate, No. 2623),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed.**

Brian M. Belfiore,--
civil service
exemption.

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. 4972) of Dylan A. Fernandes and Julian Cyr that the University of Massachusetts be authorized to convey a certain parcel of land with buildings thereon in the town of Nantucket to the town of Nantucket Affordable Housing Trust Fund;

Nantucket,-- land
conveyance.

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4973) of Paul W. Mark and Joanne M. Comerford for legislation to establish an opioid use disorder education, treatment and recovery fund within the Franklin County Sheriff's Office;

Franklin County,--
opioid education.

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security.

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 State Administration and Regulatory Oversight be granted until Friday, October 16, 2020 within which time to make its final report on current Senate document numbered 2810, and House documents numbered 4877 and 4885.

State Administration
and Regulatory
Oversight,--
extension order.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Tarr, and, after remarks, the order (House, No. 4956) was considered forthwith; and adopted, in concurrence.

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. Timilty) and laid before the Governor for his approbation, to wit:

Authorizing the transfer of care and control of certain parcels of land in the town of Bridgewater from the Department of Correction to the Department of Fire Services (see House, No. 4178, amended); and

Bills laid before the
Governor.

Establishing a sick leave bank for Amanda Caruso, an employee of the Department of Correction (see House, No. 4657).

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Tarr), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection in memory of State Trooper 1st Class Thomas William Devlin.

Moment of silence.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tarr,--

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.

Adjournment in Memory of State Trooper 1st Class Thomas William Devlin.

The Senator from Essex and Middlesex, Mr. Tarr moves that the when the Senate adjourns today it do so in memory of State Trooper 1st Class Thomas William Devlin, 58 of Wilmington. Trooper Devlin passed away on September 3, 2020 from injuries sustained in the line of duty when he was struck by a motorist two years ago while conducting a motor vehicle stop on Route 3 in Billerica. Tom was born on December 18, 1961 in Boston and was raised in Lexington the youngest of seven children. He was a member of the 66th RTT graduating from the State police Academy on December 6, 1985.

Tom trained in the State Police Barracks in Grafton and went on to serve in the State Police barracks in Weston, Framingham, Andover, and his last assignment was with the State Police barracks in Concord. Throughout, Trooper Devlin's 35-year career, he patrolled every highway and secondary roadway in Eastern Massachusetts. He earned the Medal of Lifesaving in 1999, State Police Troop Commendation in 2004, and the State Police Division Commendation in 2015.

As close friends and family can attest, Tom was an incredible man of God, husband, father, and citizen. He would willingly and generously give endless time, money, and resources to those that he loved. Time spent at home for Tom included chopping firewood out back behind his house, watching movies with his boys, snuggling with his dog Sheena, listening to Mumford and Sons, and sitting on his favorite recliner on the porch. Tom's sense of humor was one his best qualities and helped carry him through whatever life would throw at him.

Over the past two years, Tom had undergone six major surgeries to reconcile the numerous injuries internally and externally he sustained when he was struck by motorist while conducting a routine traffic stop at the end of his patrol shift. Tom relied heavily on faith and family, his life is a testament to faithfulness and mercy, never once complaining or feeling sorry for himself. His smile, laughter, and character will be sorely missed by all who were lucky enough to experience them. Above all else, he was an incredible husband, father, brother, uncle, and son; kind, resourceful, patient, driven, and dedicated. His formidable career on the Massachusetts State Police reflected each of these traits all the more.

Trooper Devlin was predeceased by his parents Paul and Mary Devlin. Trooper Devlin is survived by his wife and best friend of 27 years Nancy Elaine (Peterson) Devlin, his children Matthew William Devlin, Rachel Claire Devlin, Paul Thomas Devlin and Hannah Elaine Devlin, all of Wilmington. His brother Paul, his sisters Mary Fredrickson & husband Peter, Eileen MacPherson & husband Keith, Kathleen Devlin, Patricia Puopolo husband Francis, and Lt. James Devlin. Treasured brother-in-law of Stephen & Jeanne Peterson, Robert & Carla Peterson, James & Kimberly Peterson, Cynthia & Kevin Kilday, and Michael & Susan Peterson of Westford. Tom is further survived by scores of nieces, nephews, friends, and fellow troopers and police officers who adored him.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect in memory of State Trooper 1st Class Thomas William Devlin, at twenty-nine minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Tarr, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

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