The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2020

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, November 2, 2020.

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

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

Reports.

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

Report of the Department of Mental Health (pursuant to Section 16Q(e) of Chapter 6A of the General Laws) submitting its 2020 Children’s Behavioral Health Advisory Council annual report (received October 28, 2020);

Report of the Department of Transitional Assistance (pursuant to Section 2(B) of Chapter 18 of the General Laws) submitting its Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children Work Participation Report (received October 29, 2020); and

Report of the Department of Transitional Assistance (pursuant to Section 5I of Chapter 18 of the General Laws) submitting its Prohibited Items and Locations Report (received October 29, 2020).

Petition.

Ms. Chandler presented a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Harriette L. Chandler and Mary S. Keefe for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Glenn Rocco, an employee of the Worcester County Sheriff’s Department;

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

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Senate Bill relative to inmate telephone calls (Senate, No. 1372),-- ought to pass, with an amendment substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2846) (also based on Senate, No. 1430) [Senator Tran dissenting];

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

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Brady and Keenan) “commending Thomas McCarthy on the occasion of his retirement as the Veterans Service Officer for the town of Abington and the town of Whitman”; and

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Lovely) “congratulating Madelyn Ambler on receiving the Gold Award of the Girl Scouts of America.”

Reports of Committees.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently,
that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the Senate petition of Harriette L. Chandler, Jon Santiago, Mindy Domb, Kay Khan and others for legislation to require the mandatory wearing of face masks to preventing a COVID-19 resurgence.

Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mr. Tarr, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Public Health.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the Senate petition of Harriette L. Chandler and Kimberly N. Ferguson for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for George Monfreda, an employee of the Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital.

Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mr. Tarr, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Revenue.

Severally sent to the House for concurrence.

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 House Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Joseph Gatto, an employee of the Suffolk county sheriff's department (House, No. 4999),—was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

Reports of Committees.

Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, reported that the following matter be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session:

The House Bill designating a certain bridge in the city of Woburn as the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge (House, No. 4206).

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

By Ms. Rausch, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on petition, a Bill providing for the renaming of the Board of Selectmen to Select Board in the town of Hubbardston (Senate, No. 2919);

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.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

The Senate Bill classifying the Taunton Fire Department mechanic, Michael Perry, in connection with the determination of retirement benefits (Senate, No. 2624),—came from the House passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following two sections:

“SECTION 1. Notwithstanding chapter 32 of the general laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, Michael Perry, a member of the Taunton retirement system, shall have his pension calculated pursuant to subdivision (2) of section 5 of said chapter 32, utilizing the highest allowable percent as shown in the table contained within said section. If Mr. Perry applies for a disability retirement pursuant to section 7 of said chapter 32, he shall be deemed eligible for the provisions of section 94B of said chapter 32.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.”
The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Tarr, and the House amendment was considered forthwith and adopted, in concurrence.

Petitions were severally referred, in concurrence, as follows, to wit:
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5095) of Carole A. Fiola for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Emily Texeira, an employee of the Bristol County Sheriff's Office;

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Public Service.
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5096) of Tackey Chan and Paul R. Feeney relative to drinking alcohol at drive-in venues;

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

A Bill authorizing the Town of Kingston to establish a Special Fund to process activity produced by Non-Town Net Metering (House, No. 5082,-- on House, No. 4390) [Local approval received on House, No. 4390],-- 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.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tarr,--

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.

On motion of the same Senator, at eighteen minutes past eleven o’clock A.M, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o’clock A.M.