

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2021.

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

Met at ten 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.

Communications.

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

Communication from the Honorable Karen E. Spilka, President of the Senate, announcing leadership and committee appointments that have been ratified by the Majority Party Caucus:

Leadership and
Committee
appointments.

Senator Cynthia Stone Creem -- *Majority Leader*
Senator William N. Brownsberger -- *President Pro Tempore*
Senator Harriette L. Chandler -- *President Emerita*
Senator Joan B. Lovely -- *Assistant Majority Leader*
Senator Michael J. Barrett -- *Assistant Majority Leader*
Senator Sal N. DiDomenico -- *Assistant Majority Leader*
Senator Michael F. Rush -- *Majority Whip*
Senator Julian Cyr -- *Assistant Majority Whip*

Senate Standing Committees.

RULES. — Senators Lovely of Second Essex, Boncore of First Suffolk and Middlesex, Hinds of Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden, Brownsberger of Second Suffolk and Middlesex, Friedman of Fourth Middlesex.

WAYS AND MEANS. — Senators Rodrigues of First Bristol and Plymouth, Friedman of Fourth Middlesex, Lewis of Fifth Middlesex, Barrett of Third Middlesex, Boncore of First Suffolk and Middlesex, Brady of Second Plymouth and Bristol, Feeney of Bristol and Norfolk, Finegold of Second Essex and Middlesex, Gobi of Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex, Hinds of Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden, Jehlen of Second Middlesex, Lesser of First Hampden and Hampshire, Keenan of Norfolk and Plymouth, Moore of Second Worcester and Rush of Norfolk and Suffolk.

BILLS IN THE THIRD READING. — Senators DiDomenico of Middlesex and Suffolk, Lovely of Second Essex, Brownsberger of Second Suffolk and Middlesex and Rodrigues of First Bristol and Plymouth.

ETHICS. — Senators Lesser of First Hampden and Hampshire, Creem of First Middlesex and Norfolk, Boncore of First Suffolk and Middlesex and Friedman of Fourth Middlesex and Lewis of Fifth Middlesex.

GLOBAL WARMING AND CLIMATE CHANGE. — Senators Creem of First Middlesex and Norfolk, Barrett of Third Middlesex, Brady of Second Plymouth and Bristol, Lovely of Second Essex and Pacheco of First Plymouth and Bristol.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS. — Senators Rush of Norfolk and Suffolk,

Hinds of Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden, Montigny of Second Bristol and Plymouth, Crighton of Third Essex and Moore of Second Worcester.

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION. — Senators Boncore of First Suffolk and Middlesex, Crighton of Third Essex, DiDomenico of Middlesex and Suffolk, Feeney of Bristol and Norfolk and Friedman of Fourth Middlesex.

POST AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT. — Senators Moore of Second Worcester, Eldridge of Middlesex and Worcester, Chandler of First Worcester, Finegold of Second Essex and Middlesex, Jehlen of Second Middlesex and Keenan of Norfolk and Plymouth.

REDISTRICTING. — Senators Brownsberger of Second Suffolk and Middlesex, Gobi of Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex, Chang-Diaz of Second Suffolk, Cyr of Cape and Islands, Gomez of Hampden and Hinds of Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden.

REIMAGINING MASSACHUSETTS POST-PANDEMIC RESILIENCY. — Senators Hinds of Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden, Lewis of Fifth Middlesex, Chang-Diaz of Second Suffolk, Jehlen of Second Middlesex, Keenan of Norfolk and Plymouth and Lovely of Second Essex.

STEERING AND POLICY. — Senators Montigny of Second Bristol and Plymouth, Rodrigues of First Bristol and Plymouth, DiDomenico of Middlesex and Suffolk and Lovely of Second Essex.

Joint Standing Committees.

ADVANCED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, THE INTERNET AND CYBERSECURITY. — Senators Finegold of Second Essex and Middlesex, Moran of Plymouth and Barnstable, Lewis of Fifth Middlesex, Lesser of First Hampden and Hampshire and Montigny of Second Bristol and Plymouth.

BONDING, CAPITAL EXPENDITURES AND STATE ASSETS. — Senators Feeney of Bristol and Norfolk, Collins of First Suffolk, Boncore of First Suffolk and Middlesex, DiZoglio of First Essex, Pacheco of First Plymouth and Bristol and Timilty of Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth.

CANNABIS POLICY. — Senators Chang-Diaz of Second Suffolk, Collins of First Suffolk, DiZoglio of First Essex, Gomez of Hampden and Moran of Plymouth and Barnstable.

CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. — Senators Gomez of Hampden, Velis of Second Hampden and Hampshire, Crighton of Third Essex, Eldridge of Middlesex and Worcester and Rausch of Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SMALL BUSINESSES. — Senators Collins of First Suffolk, Kennedy of First Middlesex, Cronin of Worcester and Middlesex, Gobi of Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex and Rausch of Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex.

CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE. — Senators Moran of Plymouth and Barnstable, Feeney of Bristol and Norfolk, Brady of Second Plymouth and Bristol, Crighton of Third Essex and Kennedy of First Middlesex.

COVID-19 AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND MANAGEMENT. — Senators Comerford of Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester, Friedman of Fourth Middlesex, Cronin of Worcester and Middlesex, Cyr of Cape and Islands and Lesser of First Hampden and Hampshire.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES. —

Senators Lesser of First Hampden and Hampshire, Brady of Second Plymouth and Bristol, Chang-Diaz of Second Suffolk, Cronin of Worcester and Middlesex, Feeney of Bristol and Norfolk and Kennedy of First Middlesex.

EDUCATION. — Senators Lewis of Fifth Middlesex, DiDomenico of Middlesex and Suffolk, Cronin of Worcester and Middlesex, Gomez of Hampden and Jehlen of Second Middlesex.

ELDER AFFAIRS. — Senators Jehlen of Second Middlesex, Cyr of Cape and Islands, DiZoglio of First Essex, Gobi of Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex and Gomez of Hampden.

ELECTION LAWS. — Senators Finegold of Second Essex and Middlesex, Gomez of Hampden, Brady of Second Plymouth and Bristol, Creem of First Middlesex and Norfolk and Eldridge of Middlesex and Worcester.

ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES AND AGRICULTURE. — Senators Rausch of Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex, Eldridge of Middlesex and Worcester, Comerford of Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester, Moore of Second Worcester and Rush of Norfolk and Suffolk.

EXPORT DEVELOPMENT. — Senators DiZoglio of First Essex, Montigny of Second Bristol and Plymouth, Collins of First Suffolk, DiDomenico of Middlesex and Suffolk and Pacheco of First Plymouth and Bristol.

FINANCIAL SERVICES. — Senators Crighton of Third Essex, Moore of Second Worcester, Boncore of First Suffolk and Middlesex, Kennedy of First Middlesex and Moran of Plymouth and Barnstable.

HEALTH CARE FINANCING. — Senators Friedman of Fourth Middlesex, Chandler of First Worcester, Cyr of Cape and Islands, Feeney of Bristol and Norfolk, Keenan of Norfolk and Plymouth and Lesser of First Hampden and Hampshire.

HIGHER EDUCATION. — Senators Gobi of Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex, Comerford of Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester, Kennedy of First Middlesex, Pacheco of First Plymouth and Bristol and Rush of Norfolk and Suffolk.

HOUSING. — Senators Keenan of Norfolk and Plymouth, Jehlen of Second Middlesex, Barrett of Third Middlesex, Chandler of First Worcester and Lovely of Second Essex.

LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT. — Senators Jehlen of Second Middlesex, Timilty of Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth, DiDomenico of Middlesex and Suffolk, Feeney of Bristol and Norfolk and Lewis of Fifth Middlesex.

MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE USE AND RECOVERY. — Senators Cyr of Cape and Islands, Velis of Second Hampden and Hampshire, Collins of First Suffolk, Comerford of Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester, Crighton of Third Essex and Keenan of Norfolk and Plymouth.

MUNICIPALITIES AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENT. — Senators Cronin of Worcester and Middlesex, DiZoglio of First Essex, Kennedy of First Middlesex, Moran of Plymouth and Barnstable and Velis of Second Hampden and Hampshire.

PUBLIC HEALTH. — Senators Comerford of Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester, Moran of Plymouth and Barnstable, Chandler of First Worcester, Rausch of Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex and Cyr of the Cape and Islands.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY. — Senators Timilty of Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth, Chang-Diaz of Second Suffolk, Eldridge of Middlesex and Worcester, Moore of Second Worcester, Rausch of Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex and Velis of Second Hampden and Hampshire.

PUBLIC SERVICE. — Senators Brady of Second Plymouth and Bristol, Finegold of Second Essex and Middlesex, Collins of First Suffolk, DiZoglio of First Essex and Eldridge of Middlesex and Worcester.

RACIAL EQUITY, CIVIL RIGHTS, AND INCLUSION. — Senators Chang-Diaz of Second Suffolk, Cyr of Cape and Islands, Comerford of Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester, Gomez of Hampden and Hinds of Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden.

REVENUE. — Senators Hinds of Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden, Crighton of Third Essex, Collins of First Suffolk, Rausch of Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex and Timilty of Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth.

STATE ADMINISTRATION AND REGULATORY OVERSIGHT. — Senators Pacheco of First Plymouth and Bristol, Rausch of Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex, Cronin of Worcester and Middlesex, Timilty of Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth and Velis of Second Hampden and Hampshire.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS, UTILITIES AND ENERGY. — Senators Barrett of Third Middlesex, Pacheco of First Plymouth and Bristol, Hinds of Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden, Cyr of Cape and Islands and Finegold of Second Essex and Middlesex.

THE JUDICIARY. — Senators Eldridge of Middlesex and Worcester, Lesser of First Hampden and Hampshire, Chang-Diaz of Second Suffolk, Creem of First Middlesex and Norfolk and Velis of Second Hampden and Hampshire.

TOURISM, ARTS AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. — Senators Kennedy of First Middlesex, Cronin of Worcester and Middlesex, Moran of Plymouth and Barnstable, Timilty of Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth and Velis of Second Hampden and Hampshire.

TRANSPORTATION. — Senators Boncore of First Suffolk and Middlesex, Keenan of Norfolk and Plymouth, Chandler of First Worcester, Lesser of First Hampden and Hampshire, Moran of Plymouth and Barnstable and Rush of Norfolk and Suffolk.

VETERANS AND FEDERAL AFFAIRS. — Senators Velis of Second Hampden and Hampshire, Rush of Norfolk and Suffolk, Brady of Second Plymouth and Bristol, Collins of First Suffolk and Gobi of Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlese.

Communication from the Department of Public Health (pursuant to Section 108 of Chapter 227 of the Acts of 2020) submitting its status of the Long Term Care Facility Report (received February 12, 2021).

DPH,-- LTCF report status. SD1237

Communication from CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, on an audit of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Senate with State of available resources and expenditures – statutory basis – and additional information for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2018 (received in the Office of the Clerk of the Senate at twenty-five minutes past eleven o’clock A.M., on Friday, February 12, 2021)

Senate Audit for Fiscal Year 2018.

Under the provisions of Senate Rule 13C, the communication has been placed on file.

Reports.

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

Report of the Department of Unemployment Assistance (pursuant to Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) submitting the January 2021 Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Report (received February 11, 2021); and

DUA,-- UI trust fund report. SD1090

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to Sections 5, 20 and 21 of Chapter 111 of the General Laws) relative to inspection of Essex County Correctional Alternative Center (received February 12, 2021).

DPH,-- ECCAC inspection. SD1236

Petition.

The following petition (having been deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the Senate prior to five o'clock in the afternoon on Friday, February 19, 2021) was referred, as follows:

Mr. Moore presented a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 15) of Michael O. Moore and David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Michael L. Rodrigues, an employee of the trial court;

Michael L. Rodrigues,-- sick leave.

To the committee on Senate Rules.

Order.

Mr. Pacheco presented the following order, to wit:

Ordered, That rule 33B of the newly adopted Rules of the Senate be amended by striking out, in subsection (b), the words "by unanimous consent" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- "if approved by a majority".

Senate Rules,-- resolutions. SD1229

Under the rules, referred to the committee on Rules.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Crighton) "commending Doctor Steven Keenholtz, MD for his life-long service to medicine and to the welfare of the Commonwealth."

Dr. Steven Keenholtz, MD.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Karen T. O'Neil, an employee of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (House, No. 62,-- on petition),-- was read.

Karen T. O'Neil,-- sick leave.

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

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. O'Connor,--

Ordered, That when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M., and that 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 to the memory of Daniel Ward Cronin.

Moment of silence.

Adjournment in Memory of Daniel Ward Cronin.

The Senator from Middlesex and Norfolk, Ms. Spilka, presented a request that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn in memory of Daniel Ward Cronin, who passed away on January 17, 2021 at the age of 60.

Dan was the grandson of immigrants and his life represented the epitome of the American dream. His grandparents Patrick Cronin and Elizabeth Boyle were poor immigrants from Ireland who met and married in Boston, where they raised their

seven children: Robert, Margaret, John, Richard, James, Dorothy and, the youngest, Joseph.

Only Joseph went to college, continuing his education to become a dentist. Dr. Joe and his loving wife Kathleen (or “Kath”) settled in Lunenburg, Massachusetts after finishing his service in the United States Army at Fort Devens. Dan was Dr. Joe’s second son and was taught the values of hard work and devotion to family in the tradition of his grandparents.

Dan graduated from the College of the Holy Cross, where he met the love of his life Jacquie McCloskey of Quincy, Massachusetts. Dan received his law degree from Tulane University. He was a devoted public servant as an Assistant District Attorney, a Special Prosecutor and a State and Federal Public Defender. Dan was elected by the citizens of Lunenburg to serve as a Selectmen, where he successfully advocated to build a school, library and public safety facility to meet the needs of his community.

However, Dan’s true passion and love were his children: John, our colleague, Michael and Kathleen. He was at his best as a coach and a dad. Dan lived well, helped many, and will be missed by the countless friends and family who loved him.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Daniel Ward Cronin, at seventeen minutes past eleven o’clock A.M., on motion of Mr. O’Connor, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o’clock A.M.