

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Tuesday, April 20, 2021.

Met at seventeen minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Collins 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. Collins), 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 the appointment of Senators Eric P. Lessor as co-chair and Adam G. Hinds (under Section 92 of Chapter 358 of the Acts of 2020) to the special commission relative to the impact of automation, artificial intelligence, global trade, access to new forms of data and the internet of things on the workforce, businesses economy (received April 14, 2021);

Impact of automation,-- commission.

Communication from the Honorable Karen E. Spilka, President of the Senate, announcing the appointment of Paul Spooner (under Section 1 of Chapter 253 of the Acts of 2020) to the permanent commission of the status of persons with disabilities (received April 15, 2021);

Status of persons with disabilities,-- commission.

Communication from the Honorable Karen E. Spilka, President of the Senate, announcing the appointment of Senator Brendan Crighton (under Section 93 of Chapter 358 of the Acts of 2020) to the commission to study journalism in underserved communities in the Commonwealth (receive April 15, 2021);

Journalism in underserved communities,-- commission.

Communication from the Honorable Bruce E. Tarr, Minority Leader, announcing the appointment of Senator Patrick M. O'Connor (under Section 106 of Chapter 270 of the Acts of 2020) to the economic review commission on Early Education and Care (received April 15, 2021);

Early Education and Care,-- commission.

Communication from the Honorable Bruce E. Tarr, Minority Leader, announcing the appointment of Karen Andreas (under Section 25 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2021) to the commission to study and develop recommendations on the solvency of the unemployment trust fund established in section 14F of chapter 151A of the General Laws (received April 16, 2021);

Unemployment trust fund,-- commission.

Communication from the Department of Public Health relative to its plan of correction for the Boston Pre-Release Center inspection on March 25, 2021 (received April 20, 2021); and

DPH,-- plan of correction. SD2587

Communication from the Department of Public Utilities announcing that it has opened formal inquiry focused on increasing public awareness of and participation in DPU proceedings (received April 16, 2021).

DPU,-- proceedings. SD2589

Reports.

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

Report of the Executive Office of the Trial Court (pursuant to Section 2(c) of Chapter 257 of the Acts of 2020) submitting its report on filings, actions, and dispositions of

EOTC,-- summary process report.

summary process (eviction) cases for March 2021 (received April 15, 2021);

Report of the Department of Children and Families (pursuant to Chapter 289 of the Acts of 2020) submitting its follow-up report regarding the statewide coordinated efforts to monitor student attendance (received April 15, 2021); and

Report of the Massachusetts College of Art and Design (pursuant to Section 634 of Chapter 26 of the Acts of 2003) submitting its 2020 Performance Report (received April 16, 2021).

SD2585

DCF,-- school attendance report. SD2586

MassArt,-- 2020 performance report. SD2590

Petition.

Ms. Creem presented a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Cynthia Stone Creem for legislation to stop mass shootings;

Mass shootings. SD2588

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Notice was received from the House of Representatives announcing the following appointments by the Speaker:

Doug Spicer of Newton had been appointed as his designee (under Section 69 of Chapter 3 of the General Laws) to the permanent commission on the Status of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren;

Status of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren.

Karla Baehr had been appointed as his designee (under Section 15 of Chapter 132 of the Acts of 2019) to the Twenty-First Century Education Advisory Council;

21st Century Education Advisory Council.

Representative Blais of Sunderland had been appointed as his designee (under Section 22 of Chapter 132 of the Acts of 2019) to the special commission to study and make recommendations concerning the long-term fiscal health of rural school districts that are facing or may face declining student enrollment; and

Rural school districts,-- long term fiscal health.

Sarah Sian and Thomas Weber had been appointed as his designees (under Section 106 of Chapter 227 of the Acts of 2020) to the Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission.

Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission.

Notice was received from the House of Representatives announcing the following appointment by the Minority Leader:

Representative Lenny Mirra of Georgetown had been appointed as his designee on the special commission established (under Section 92 of Chapter 358 of the Acts of 2020) to conduct a comprehensive study relative to the impact of automation, artificial intelligence, global trade, access to new forms of data and the internet of things on the workforce, business and economy.

Study of impact of automation, artificial intelligence, global trade.

A Bill financing the reconstruction of the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke (House, No. 3701,-- on House, No. 96),-- **was read and, under Senate Rule 27, referred to the committee on Ways and Means.**

Holyoke,-- Soldiers' Home.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Comerford, Mr. Brady, Ms. Creem, Mr. Crighton, Ms. DiZoglio, Messrs. Eldridge, Feeney, Gomez, Hinds, Keenan, Kennedy and Lesser, Ms. Lovely, Mr. Montigny, Ms. Moran, Messrs. O'Connor and Rush, Ms. Spilka and Messrs. Tarr, Timilty and Velis) "congratulating the University of Massachusetts at Amherst Men's Ice Hockey Team on winning the 2021 National Collegiate Athletic Association Championship."

University of Massachusetts at Amherst Men's Ice Hockey Team.

Message from His Excellency the Governor.

Message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to public safety and transparency by transportation network companies (Senate, No. 2436) (received in the Office of the Clerk of the Senate on Thursday, April 15, 2021, at twelve minutes past one o'clock P.M.);

TNCs,--
transparency.

The message was read; and, under Senate Rule 20, with the accompanying bill, was referred to the committee on Transportation.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

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 William N. Brownsberger, Ryan C. Fattman, Bruce E. Tarr and Nick Collins for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to select boards.

Constitution,--
select boards.
SD2564

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 proposal) was referred to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Engrossed Bill.

An engrossed Bill validating the results of the annual town meeting and the annual town election held in the town of Hubbardston (see Senate Bill, printed in Senate, No. 24) (which originated in the Senate), **having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be enacted, two-thirds of the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative and signed by the Acting President (Mr. Collins) and laid before the Governor for his approbation**

Bill laid before the
Governor.

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Peter J. Fallon, an employee of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (House, No. 97,-- on petition),-- was read.

Peter J. Fallon,-- sick
leave.

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.

Moment of Silence.

The Chair (Mr. Collins), members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Robert Walton.

Moment of silence.

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 that the Clerk be directed to dispense with the printing of a calendar.

Time of meeting.

Adjournment in Memory of Mr. Robert Walton

The Senator from Suffolk, Mr. Collins, moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn in memory of Mr. Robert Walton.

Mr. Robert Walton of South Boston passed away unexpectedly on April 16, 2021 surrounded by his family. Beloved husband of Catherine (Greene) Walton. Devoted father of Courtney Walton and her fiancé Logan Bence of South Boston, Allison Cahoon and her husband Michael of Braintree, Robert Walton and his wife Lacey of South Boston. Loving grandfather (Pa) of Henry, Michael, Emerson, Landon and Baby Boy Cahoon . Son of the late Robert and Joanne (Monahan) Walton. Son-in-law to Mary Greene and the late John Greene. Survived by countless cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends along with co-workers from Boston Municipal Police, Department of Public Works, and Department of Conservation and Recreation. Mr. Watson was a member of the South Boston Sports Hall of Fame.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Mr. Robert Walton, at twenty-five minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.