

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.**



**MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2021**

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, June 7, 2021.

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

Pledge of allegiance.

Reports.

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

Report of the Dukes County Registry of Deeds (pursuant to Section 2KKK(a) of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting its plan for expenditure from the County Registers Technological Fund (copies having been forwarded as required to the Senate Committees on Ways and Means and Post Audit and Oversight) (received June 3, 2021); and

Dukes ROD,-- tech fund report. SD2643

Report of the Special Joint Oversight Committee on the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke COVID-19 Outbreak (pursuant to House Order No. 4835 of the 191st General Court) submitting its findings and recommendations (received May 25, 2021).

HSB Committee,-- report. SD2644

Petition Returned by State Secretary.

The Senate petition (accompanied by bill, Senate No. 2457) (subject to Joint Rule 9) of Joanne M. Comerford, Michael D. Brady, Lindsay N. Sabadosa, Michael O. Moore and other members of the General Court for legislation to create a Municipal and Public Safety Building Authority (having been timely filed prior to 5:00 P.M., on Friday, February 19, 2021 in the Office of the Clerk of the Senate, and having been transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth under the provisions of Section 7 of Chapter 3 of the General Laws and having been returned by the Secretary of the Commonwealth with memorandum relative thereto),-- was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security.

Municipal and Public Safety Building Authority.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

Petitions.

Petitions were severally presented and referred as follows:

By Ms. Chandler, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2464) of Harriette L. Chandler and Kimberly N. Ferguson (by vote of the town) for legislation relative to the board of selectman of the town of Princeton [Local approval received];

Princeton,-- select board.

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

Sent to the House for concurrence.

By Mr. Crighton, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Brendan P. Crighton for legislation relative to the modernization of state agency information technology systems,-- under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

IT systems,-- modernization. SD2645

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A report of the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy recommending that the communication from the Division of Energy Resources of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (under the provisions of Section 12 of Chapter 25A of the General Laws) submitting amendments to 225 CMR 14.00 and 15.00, Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Regulations (RPS) (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3708) be placed on file,-- came up accepted by the House.

DOER,-- renewable energy portfolio standard regulations.

**Under Senate Rule 36, the report was considered forthwith and accepted in concurrence.**

A Bill relative to transferring federal funds to the federal COVID-19 response fund (House, No. 3827,-- on House, No. 3773, in part),--was read.

COVID-19,-- federal funds.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Fattman, and the bill was read a second time.

Pending the question on ordering the bill to a third reading, Mr. Rodrigues moved that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 2466.

**After remarks, the amendment was adopted.**

**The bill, as amended, was then ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with the amendment.**

**Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.**

*Emergency Preamble Adopted.*

An engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Stephen Melchin, an employee of the trial court of the commonwealth (see House, No. 100), 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 3 to 0.

Stephen Melchin,-- sick leave.

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

The House Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2022 for the maintenance of the departments, boards, commissions, institutions and certain activities of the Commonwealth, for interest, sinking fund and serial bond requirements and for certain permanent improvements (House, No. 4001),-- came from the House with the endorsement that the House had NON-concurred in the Senate amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2465, and had asked for a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches; and that Representatives Michlewitz of Boston, Ferrante of Gloucester and Smola of Warren had been appointed the committee on the part of the House.

General Appropriations bill.

**On motion of Mr. Rodrigues, the Senate insisted on its amendment and concurred in the appointment of a committee of conference; and Senators Rodrigues, Friedman and O'Connor were appointed on the part of the Senate.**

**The bill was returned to the House endorsed accordingly.**

*Resolutions.*

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Finegold) “congratulating Rabbi Robert S. Goldstein on the occasion of his retirement from Temple Emanuel.”

Rabbi Robert S. Goldstein.

*Order Adopted.*

Mr. Rodrigues offered the following order, to wit:

Procedural order.

*Ordered*, That notwithstanding Senate Rule 7 or any other rule to the contrary, the Senate Bill relative to extending COVID-19 accommodations for municipalities in elections and for representative town meetings (Senate, No. 27,-- also based Senate, No. 2452) (to be reported by the committee on Ways and Means, in part, on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 and read into the Senate Journal on Thursday, June 10, 2021), shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for a second reading on Thursday, June 10, 2021.

All amendments shall be filed electronically in the office of the Clerk of the Senate by 1:00 P.M., on Wednesday, June 9, 2021. All such amendments shall be second-reading amendments to the Ways and Means new draft Senate, No. 2467. The Clerk shall further specify the procedure and format for filing all amendments, consistent with this order.

After the bill as amended is ordered to a third reading, it shall immediately be read a third time and the question shall then immediately be on passing it to be engrossed, and no amendments shall be in order at the third reading of the bill unless recommended by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

**The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Fattman, and the order was considered forthwith and adopted.**

**The bill (Senate, No. 2467) will be placed in the Orders of the Day for Thursday, June 10, 2021, for a second reading.**

*Moment of Silence.*

The Chair (Mr. Boncore), members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Audrey Mishel Cooper.

Moment of silence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

*Engrossed Bill.*

An engrossed Bill authorizing Trevor J. Seaboyer to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (see House, No. 98) (which originated in the House), **having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be enacted and signed by the Acting President (Mr. Boncore) and laid before the Governor for his approbation.**

Bill laid before the Governor.

*Emergency Preamble Adopted.*

An engrossed Bill relative to transferring federal funds to the federal COVID-19 response fund (see House, No. 3827, 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.

COVID-19,-- federal funds.

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

Establishing a sick leave bank for Stephen Melchin, an employee of the trial court of the commonwealth (see House, No. 100); and

Relative to transferring federal funds to the federal COVID-19 response fund (see House, No. 3827, amended).

Bills laid before the Governor.

*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. in a full formal session with a calendar.

Time of meeting.

*Adjournment in Memory of Audrey (Mishel) Cooper.*

The Senator from Middlesex and Norfolk, Ms. Creem, presented a request that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn in memory of Audrey Cooper of Brookline and Newton, who passed away at age 97 on May 22, 2021.

Born in 1924 to Sara and William Mishel, Audrey grew up in Brookline and graduated from the former Pembroke College, the women's division of Brown University, majoring in political science. She and her late husband David moved to the Garden City around 1950, living in Newton for more than 70 years. They were pioneers in the city, assisting in the establishment of early childcare and afterschool programs at Family Access of Newton, as well as serving as founding members of Temple Shalom of Newton.

Audrey worked as the secretary at Underwood School in Newton Corner. She initially took the position while her daughters were in school, planning to stay for a couple of years, but enjoyed it so much that she remained there for 27 years. She was especially happy when former students saw her in the city and thanked her for her compassion. Even the principals at Underwood School that Audrey served under acknowledged that she was the heart and soul of the school.

Audrey was very active in the Newton community. She was an ardent Democrat, serving as past chair of the Ward 3 Newton Democratic Committee, and was a member of the Democratic City Executive Committee for many years. She co-chaired the steering committee to establish a Senior Center in Newton, served on Newton's Planning and Development Board, chaired the Board of Trustees of the Newton Free Library and helped lead Newton's Head Start program. Most of all, Audrey was the role model, mentor, and inspiration for the generation of civic and political leaders behind her. She was as generous, kind and caring as she was an effective leader and diligent worker. No one ran for office without first trying to secure her endorsement and every civic organization wanted her name on their letterhead.

Audrey received numerous awards for her contributions to the community but was especially proud of two of them. In 2009, she received the Human Rights Award from the city of Newton, and in 2011, she was named an Unsung Heroine by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women for her 50 years of service on the Board of Directors of Family Access.

Although work and volunteer activities were very important to Audrey, her greatest

happiness came from spending time with her husband, friends, family and devoted dogs.

Audrey is survived by her daughters Ranny Cooper (David Smith) of New York and Marion Pollock (David) of Newton Centre; two granddaughters Sara Pollock DeMedeiros (Rodney) of West Newton and Lizzie Pollock (Elan Babchuck) of Providence, Rhode Island; and 5 great-grandchildren, Cooper, Micah, Penelope, Nessa and Ayla.

Audrey leaves behind a legacy of service to others. She will be missed by the communities of Brookline and Newton and by all those who knew her and all those now just learning about her impressive history.

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