The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2022

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, August 4, 2022.

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.

Pledge of allegiance.

Communications.

The following communications were severally received and placed on file, to wit: Communication from the Law Enforcement Body Camera Task Force (pursuant to Section 104(e) of Chapter 253 of the Acts of 2020) submitting its final report of findings and recommendations (received August 2, 2022); and

Communication from the Department of Public Health relative to its plans of correction for the MCI Framingham inspection on May 24 and 25, 2022 and Old Colony Correctional Center inspection on May 10 and 11, 2022 (received August 2, 2022).

Report.

Report of the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (pursuant to Section 5 of Chapter 23J of the General Laws) submitting its 2021 industry report and fiscal year 2021 audited financial statements (copies having been forwarded as required to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the joint committees on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies, Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture and Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy) (received August 2, 2022),-- was placed on file.

Petition.

Ms. Comerford presented a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3098) of Joanne M. Comerford and Paul W. Mark (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Bernardston to continue the employment of fire department member Lloyd Grover [Local approval received];

Referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committee on Public Service. Sent to the House for concurrence.

Committees Discharged.

Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document establishing the Massachusetts foster care review office (Senate, No. 3050);

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Health Care Financing to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to preventing overdose deaths and increasing access to treatment (Senate, No. 3051);

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Public Health to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to public health matters (Senate, No. 3052);

Law Enforcement Body Camera Task Force,-- report. SD3284 DPH,-- plans of correction. SD3285

MassCEC,-- industry report. SD3283

Bernardston,--Grover retirement.

Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities committee,-- study. Health Care Financing committee,-- study.

Public Health committee,-- study.

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on the Judiciary to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to judiciary matters (Senate, No. 3063); and

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Housing to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to housing matters (Senate, No. 3069).

And recommending that the same severally be referred to the committee on Rules.

Under Senate Rule 36, the reports were severally considered forthwith and accepted.

PAPER 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) Class I and Class II (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4919) be placed on file,-- came up accepted by the House.

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

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Tarr) "congratulating Sally Hoyt on her one hundredth birthday."

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE

Engrossed Bill Returned with Recommendation of Amendment.

A message from His Excellency the Governor, returning with recommendation of a mendment the engrossed Bill providing for the development and implementation of a secure common application portal for individuals to simultaneously apply for state-administered needs-based benefits and services (see House, No. 5108) [being the text contained in Section 5 of the General Appropriations Bill (see House, No. 5050)] [for message, see Attachment C of House, No. 5132],-- came from the House with endorsement that the House adopted the amendment recommended by the Governor (as approved by committee on Bills in the Third Reading), as follows:

By striking out section 1 and inserting in place thereof the following section:

"SECTION 1. Chapter 6A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 18Z the following section:-

Section 18AA. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the executive office of health and human services and the executive office of housing and economic development, in coordination with the division of medical assistance, the department of transitional assistance, the department of early education and care, the executive office of education and the department of housing and community development, shall develop and implement a secure common application portal for individuals to simultaneously apply for state-administered needs-based benefits and services. The common application shall allow individuals the option to apply simultaneously for

Judiciary committee,-- study.

Housing committee,-study.

DOER,-- renewable energy portfolio standard regulations.

Sally Hoyt.

State services.

MassHealth coverage, the supplemental nutrition assistance program, income supports under chapters 117A and 118, childcare subsidies, housing subsidies, fuel assistance and other needs-based health care, nutrition and shelter benefits. The common application shall, with the consent of the applicant, allow the state agencies responsible for determining eligibility for the benefits requested to share relevant eligibility information and supporting documentation submitted by the applicant as needed to determine eligibility for other benefits."

The message was read; and, under the provisions of Article LVI of the Amendments to the Constitution, the bill was before the Senate subject to amendment and re-enactment.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Fattman, and the Governor's amendment was considered forthwith.

On motion of the same Senator, after remarks, the Governor's amendment was adopted, in concurrence.

Sent to the House for re-enactment.

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 authorizing the commissioner of capital asset management and maintenance to convey a certain parcel of land to the town of Salisbury (House, No. 5150),-- was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill authorizing the division of capital asset management and maintenance to convey a certain parcel of land to the town of Danvers (House, No. 5162,-- on House, No. 4959),-- was read.

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

A Bill providing for provisional licensure for speech-language pathologists (House, No. 5094,-- on House No. 434),-- was read.

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

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Fattman,--

Ordered, That when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

On motion of the same Senator, at a quarter past eleven o'clock A.M, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Salisbury,-- land conveyance.

Danvers,-- land.

Time of meeting.