The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2022

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, November 10, 2022.

Met at twenty-seven minutes past eleven o'clock A.M.

The President, members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Communications.

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

Communication from the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (pursuant to Section 30 of Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022) submitting an update to its COVID-19 vaccine equity plan 60-day report (received November 8, 2022);

Communication from the Department of Public Health relative to its plan of correction for the Boston Pre-Release Center inspection on October 13, 2022 (received November 8, 2022); and

Communication from the Honorable Karen E. Spilka, in compliance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A (received in the Office of the Clerk of the Senate on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at thirteen minutes past one o'clock P.M).

Reports.

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

Report of the Department of Transitional Assistance (pursuant to Section 10 of Chapter 18 of the General Laws) submitting its 2022 annual report on the organization of the department and a review of the work of the agency (received November 7, 2022);

Report of the Juvenile Justice Policy and Data Board (pursuant to Section 89(b)(2) of Chapter 119 of the General Laws) submitting its report entitled "Racial and Ethnic Disparities at the Front Door of Massachusetts' Juvenile Justice System: Understanding the Factors Leading to Overrepresentation of Black and Latino Youth Entering the System" (received November 7, 2022);

Report of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (pursuant to Section 18Y of Chapter 6A of the General Laws) submitting its fiscal year 2022 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (SAECK) annual summary report (received November 8, 2022); and

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 Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center (received November 8, 2022).

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Petitions were severally referred, in concurrence, as follows, to wit:

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5377) of Richard M. Haggerty, Michelle L. Ciccolo and Cindy F. Friedman (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Woburn be authorized to extend the time for the issuance of alcoholic beverage licenses in said city; and

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5379) of Mathew J. Muratore, Susan L. Moran and Kathleen R. LaNatra (by vote of the town) relative to horse racing in the town

EOHHS,-- VEI report update. SD3385

DPH,-- plan of correction. SD3388

Senator Karen E. Spilka,--Chapter 268A.

DTA,-organizational report. SD3383

JJPAD Board,-- RED report. SD3384

EOPSS,-- SAECK report. SD3386

DPH,-- facility inspection. SD3387

Woburn,-- liquor licenses.

Plymouth,-- horse racing.

Pledge of allegiance.

of Plymouth;

Severally to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5380) of Mathew J. Muratore, Susan L. Moran and Kathleen R. LaNatra (by vote of the town) for legislation to increase certain maximum fines for motor vehicle parking violations in the town of Plymouth;

To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5378) of Brian M. Ashe and Eric P. Lesser (by vote of the town) that the town of Hampden be authorized to continue the employment of police department member James Gormally;

To the committee on Public Service.

Bills

Authorizing the town of Norwell to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 5063,-- on petition) [Local approval received]; and

Providing for the appointment of a stormwater officer in the town of Rehoboth (House, No. 5282,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Were severally read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Ms. Comerford), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection in memory of former Senate Clerk, William F. Welch.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Eldridge, Cronin and Kennedy) "congratulating Elizabeth Ainsley Campbell on her retirement as the Executive Director of the Nashua River Watershed Association, Inc.";

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Montigny) "honoring the memory of New Bedford Police Sergeant Michael P. Cassidy who died after contracting covid-19 following a distinguished career in service to his community"; and

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Timilty) "congratulating the Immaculate Conception Church in the Town of Stoughton on its one hundred and fiftieth anniversary."

Matters Taken Out of the Orders of the Day.

There being no objection, the following matters were taken out of the Orders of the Day and considered as follows:

The House Bill removing the residency requirement for the water and sewer commission in the city of Lynn (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading) (House, No. 4626),-- was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

The House Bill authorizing the city known as the town of West Springfield to grant 7 additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading) (House, No. 5253),-- was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Plymouth,-- parking fines.

Hampden,-- police department.

Norwell,-- property tax.

Rehoboth,-stormwater officer.

Moment of silence.

Elizabeth Ainsley Campbell.

New Bedford Police Sergeant Michael P. Cassidy.

Immaculate Conception Church.

Lynn,-- water and sewer commission.

West Springfield,-liquor license.

Emergency Preamble Adopted.

An engrossed Bill authorizing the commissioner of the division of capital asset management to convey certain former Boston State Hospital land in the city of Boston (see House, No. 4899), 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.

The bill was signed by the Acting President (Ms. Comerford) (having been appointed by the President, under authority conferred by Senate Rule 4, to perform the duties of the Chair) and sent to the House for enactment.

Committee of Conference Report.

A report of the committee of conference of the disagreeing votes of the two branches, with reference to the Senate amendment to the House Bill preserving open space in the Commonwealth (House, No. 851) (*amended by the Senate* by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2831),-- reported, a "Bill preserving open space in the Commonwealth" (House, No. 5381),-- came from the House, and was read.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Eldridge, and, after remarks, the report was accepted, in concurrence.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5384) of Meghan Kilcoyne that the commissioner of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance be authorized to convey a certain parcel of state owned land in the town of Lancaster to said town,-- was referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

Recess.

There being no objection, at one minute past twelve o'clock noon, the Chair (Ms. Comerford) declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair; and, at fourteen minutes before one o'clock P.M, the Senate reassembled, Ms. Comerford in the Chair.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Engrossed Bills.

The following engrossed bills (all 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 (Ms. Comerford) and laid before the Governor for his approbation, to wit:

Redesignating certain bridges in the city of Lawrence (see House, No. 4319, amended);

Authorizing the commissioner of the division of capital asset management to convey certain former Boston State Hospital land in the city of Boston (see House, No. 4899); and

Preserving open space in the Commonwealth (see House, No. 5381).

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Fattman,--

Boston,-- land conveyance.

Open space.

Lancaster,-- land conveyance.

Recess.

Bills laid before the Governor.

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

Time of meeting.

Adjournment in Memory of Former Senate Clerk William F. Welch.

The Senators from Worcester and Norfolk, Mr. Fattman; Middlesex and Norfolk, Ms. Spilka; Essex and Middlesex, Mr. Tarr; Bristol and Plymouth, Mr. Montigny; Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex, Ms. Gobi; Middlesex and Worcester, Mr. Eldridge; Essex, Mr. Crighton; Plymouth and Norfolk, Mr. O'Connor; Bristol and Plymouth, Mr. Rodrigues; Plymouth and Bristol, Mr. Pacheco; Suffolk, Mr. Collins; Middlesex, Ms. Friedman; Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth, Mr. Timilty; Plymouth and Bristol, Mr. Brady; Norfolk and Plymouth, Mr. Keenan and Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester, Ms. Comerford moved that when the Senate adjourns today it do so in memory of former Senate Clerk William F. Welch of Milford.

William F. Welch, affectionately known as "Billy", died unexpectedly on Saturday October 1, 2022, at Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge after experiencing a medical emergency on his way home from the Harvard University/Holy Cross college football game. He was the beloved husband of Maureen L. (Gulino) Welch.

Born in Framingham, Bill was the son of the late Frederick Welch and the late Mary (Downing) Welch. He was a graduate of the former Marian High School, Class of 1967. He was also a graduate of St. Joseph's College, Class of 1971 and attained a law degree from the New England School of Law in 1977.

Billy began his accomplished career working as an intern at the Massachusetts State Senate offices in 1971. Rising through the ranks, Billy was ultimately appointed Clerk of the Senate in 2004. At the time of his appointment, Billy said he would "treat every member the same and interpret the rules as I see them for the benefit of the institution." Those words served a template for the remainder of his career. Although he retired in 2018, he remained with the Senate on a part-time basis, assisting the Clerk and his staff.

Billy was an avid sports fan who loved to attend both college and professional level sporting events, especially those of the New England Patriots; the Boston Red Sox; the Boston Bruins; Harvard University football; Northeastern University football and hockey; and any other sporting event he could possibly attend. He was an avid hockey player, participating in various men's leagues over the years.

He was a devoted supporter of the John W. Powers Post #59 American Legion baseball team and an active member of the Board of Directors of the John W. Powers Post #59 American Legion baseball team.

Along with his beloved wife of 48 years, he is survived by his 2 sons: Gregory M. Welch of Florida and Geoffrey M. Welch of North Carolina; his brother: John D. Welch and his wife Kathleen of Sudbury; also several nieces and nephews. He will be deeply missed by his friends here in the Senate and will be fondly remembered for his generous nature, his love of sports, and his dedication to the institution.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of former Senate Clerk William F. Welch, at twelve minutes before one o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Fattman, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.