

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023.

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Monday, January 9, 2023.

Met at eight 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 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 January 5, 2023);

EOHHS,-- VEI report update. SD9

Communication from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (pursuant to item 7061-9650 of Section 2 of Chapter 126 of the Acts of 2022) submitting its Supporting Healthy Alliances Reinforcing Education (SHARE) report (received January 6, 2023);

DESE,-- SHARE report. SD10

Communication from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (pursuant to item 7061-9607 of Section 2 of Chapter 24 of the Acts of 2021) submitting its recovery high school program report (received January 6, 2023); and

DESE,-- recovery HS report. SD11

Communication from the Department of Public Health relative to its plans of correction for the Worcester County Jail and House of Correction inspection on November 9 and 10, 2022 and Massachusetts Treatment Center inspection on November 29 and 30, 2022 (received January 6, 2023).

DPH,-- plans of correction. SD14

Reports.

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

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to Sections 5, 20 and 21 of Chapter 111 of the General Laws) relative to inspections of MCI Shirley and MCI Framingham (received January 5, 2023);

DPH,-- facility inspections. SD6

Report of the Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Council (pursuant to Section 16Q(e) of Chapter 6A of the General Laws) submitting its 2022 annual report (received January 5, 2023); and

CBHAC,-- annual report. SD7

Report of the Worcester District Attorney's Office (pursuant to Section 99R of Chapter 272 of the General Laws) submitting its annual report of wiretap interceptions for the 2022 calendar year (received January 6, 2023).

Worcester DA,-- wiretap. SD21

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Rush,

Ordered, That a special committee of the Senate to consist of two members of the Senate be appointed for the purpose of arranging the seats of the members of the Senate.

Seating arrangement.

Senator Rush of Norfolk and Suffolk and Senator O'Connor of Plymouth and Norfolk were appointed to the committee.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE.

The Senate Order that the joint rules observed in the preceding General Court (2021-2022) be observed as the temporary joint rules of the two branches for the present General Court until the adoption of permanent joint rules,-- comes from the House with the endorsement that the House has amended the order by striking out the words:- “that Joint Rule 12 be amended, in line 511, by striking out the words third Friday in February and inserting in place thereof the words third Friday in January” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “that Joint Rule 12 be amended by striking out, in both instances, the word “February” and inserting in place the word “January”.

Temporary Joint rules.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Fattman, and the amendment was considered forthwith and adopted, in concurrence.

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Fattman), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection in memory of Robert “Bob” Kneeland.

Moment of silence.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Fattman,--

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.

Adjourn In Memory of Robert “Bob” Kneeland.

The Senator from Worcester and Hampden, Mr. Fattman, moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it do so in memory of Robert “Bob” Kneeland, who passed away on Friday, October 21, 2022.

Bob’s love of adventure, nature, and discovery started early with family vacations to the Caribbean, winter ski trips all over New England, and summers spent on the shores and swells of Rhode Island and Maine. Bob’s curious mind and intellect pushed him to excel in school, graduating from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) with a degree in mechanical engineering. He was a brilliant student and athlete, who graduated with many accolades and awards. Bob was modest, packing up many of those awards, degrees, patents, and honors in boxes, eventually to be found by his loving family members. To him, his skills and vast knowledge were practical - to be used to enhance everything he put his effort into, from his workplace to the boards and committees he served on, to his family and relationships.

After graduating from MIT, Bob lived in Allentown, Pennsylvania for several years, working as an engineer at Air Products & Chemicals and attending night classes at Lehigh University to earn his MBA. After completing his degree, Bob accepted a position running the research and development department at Thermal Dynamics, a Plasma Arc Cutting and Welding Manufacturer in West Lebanon, New Hampshire. Though Bob’s technical knowledge and skill qualified him for the job, his ability to connect with people and effectively communicate with coworkers of all backgrounds made him a truly fantastic leader. Bob built a great group of friends from work that loved participating in athletic and outdoor activities, including a

technical illustrator named Irene Corsak. Bob and Irene became fast friends, and it did not take long for them to fall for each other. They married on June 4th, 1988 in Irene's hometown of East Granby, Connecticut. The pair moved to Uxbridge for Bob to work with his father managing Ocean State Finishing in Woonsocket, Rhode Island and to start a family.

Bob and Irene welcomed three children; Kim in 1990, Chris in 1992, and Kara in 1993 and quickly outgrew their house in Uxbridge. They planted their roots in Sutton and quickly grew to love and care for all of the new people he met in the small town. He became deeply involved in the town and school system, serving on the board of selectmen for nine years. He used his breadth of financial and management knowledge to continuously support and maintain the beautiful town of Sutton and he and Irene were instrumental in the efforts to improve the Sutton school system in the 1990s and early 2000s. His dedication to education was always apparent and has had a lasting impression on his children and the community.

In 2010, Bob became the director of Operations and Finance at Visual Magnetics in Mendon and remained a loyal partner and friend to the business until his passing. Bob was a loyal public servant, serving as a local Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission representative and never missed an annual town meeting until his terminal illness diagnosis.

He lived for exploring the wonders of nature both near and far with his soulmate, Irene. He reveled in befriending and traveling with other like-minded travel bugs.

His happy places in this world included, sitting around the roaring fire pit with friends and family, listening to the crashing waves at Briggs Beach in Little Compton, watching golf on Sundays in his recliner, reading books about his next travel destination, being enveloped in powder skiing down the slopes, hiking those same gorgeous mountains in the summer and fall, and, of course, savoring the sights sailing around our beautiful world.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect in memory of Robert "Bob" Kneeland, at twenty-four minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Fattman, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.
