

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



MONDAY, JULY 24, 2023

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, July 24, 2023.

Met at twelve 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.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4003) of Natalie M. Blais and Joanne M. Comerford (by vote of the town) that the town of Sunderland be authorized to continue the employment of fire department member Scott Smith,-- was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Public Service.

Sunderland,-- Scott Smith.

A Bill authorizing the city of Revere to pay a certain sum of money to the estate of George J. Rotondo, Jr. (House, No. 2055,-- on petition) [Local approval received],-- was read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.

Revere,-- Rotondo estate.

Report 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 Jacob R. Oliveira and Brian M. Ashe for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Rene Perez, an employee of the Department of Developmental Services.

Rene Perez,-- sick leave. SD2697.

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 bill) was referred to the committee on Public Service.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4006) of Jonathan D. Zlotnik for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Kimberly Riggins, an employee of the Department of Correction;

Kimberly Riggins,-- sick leave.

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Public Service.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4007) of Paul McMurtry for legislation to establish a local option penalty on certain utility pole installation projects;

Telephone poles,-- installation.

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4008) of Aaron L. Saunders, Jacob R. Oliveira and Todd M. Smola for legislation to designate a certain bridge on state Route 9 between the towns of Belchertown and Ware as the Kenneth J. Iwasinski memorial bridge;

Belchertown/Ware,-- Kenneth J. Iwasinski Memorial Bridge.

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Transportation.

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Anastasios Milonopoulos, an employee of the department of correction (House, No. 3981,-- on House, No. 3976) [Local approval

Anastasios Milonopoulos,-- sick

received on House, No. 3976],-- was read.

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.

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Maritza Miranda, an employee of the department of children and families (House, No. 3933,-- on petition) [Local approval received],-- was read.

Maritza Miranda,--
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.

Recess.

There being no objection, at fourteen minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., the Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair; and at three minutes past three o'clock P.M., the Senate reassembled, Mr. Brownsberger in the Chair.

Recess.

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Ways and Means, the Senate Bill to provide identification to youth and adults experiencing homelessness (Senate, No. 2251),-- ought to pass.

Real ID,-- homeless
individuals.

Order Adopted.

Mr. Rodrigues presented the following order, to wit:

Ordered, That notwithstanding Senate Rule 7 or any other rule to the contrary, the Senate Bill to provide identification to youth and adults experiencing homelessness (Senate, No. 2251) shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for a second reading on Thursday, July 27, 2023, for immediate consideration.

Procedural order.

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

The bill will be placed in the Orders of the Day for Thursday, July 27, 2023, for a second reading.

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Ways and Means, the Senate Bill relative to gender identity on Massachusetts identification (Senate, No. 2207),-- ought to pass, with an amendment substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2425).

ID card,-- gender
identity.

Order Adopted.

Mr. Rodrigues presented the following order, to wit:

Ordered, That notwithstanding Senate Rule 7 or any other rule to the contrary, the Senate Bill relative to gender identity on Massachusetts identification (Senate, No. 2207) (the committee on Ways and Means having recommended that the bill be amended by substituting a new draft with the same title, Senate, No. 2425) shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for a second reading on Thursday, July 27, 2023, for immediate consideration.

Procedural order.

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

The bill will be placed in the Orders of the Day for Thursday, July 27, 2023, for a second reading with the amendment pending.

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Ways and Means, on House, No. 3994, reported, in part, a “Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2023 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects” (Senate, No. 2426) [Direct appropriation: \$513,000,000].

Supplemental appropriations.

The bill was read.

Order Adopted.

Mr. Rodrigues presented the following order, to wit:

Procedural order.

That notwithstanding Senate Rule 7 or any other rule to the contrary, the Senate Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2023 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (Senate, No. 2426) shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for a second reading on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, for immediate consideration.

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

The bill will be placed in the Orders of the Day for Wednesday, July 26, 2023, for a second reading.

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Brownsberger), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Dora Robinson.

Moment of silence.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tarr,--

Ordered, That, when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Wednesday next at one o’clock P.M. in a full formal session with a calendar.

Time of meeting.

Adjournment in Memory of Dora Robinson.

The Senator from Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester, Mr. Oliveira, and the Senator from Hampden, Mr. Gomez, moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it do so in memory of Dora Robinson, a longtime Springfield community leader and mentor, former CEO of the United Way of Pioneer Valley, and executive director of Martin Luther King Jr. Family Services.

Dora, born on August 7, 1951, in Elmira, New York, was blessed with the love and support of her parents, Laura Belle Watkins and Arthur Givens. The void created by her passing is felt deeply by her devoted husband, Frank P. Robinson; her beloved mother, Laura Watkins; her daughter Kimberly Robinson Williams; her sisters, Citasha Givens, and Sandi Givens-Brown, as well as her grandchildren and godchildren, who held a special place in her heart.

After graduating with a bachelor’s degree from Cornell University in 1976, Dora’s passion for making a difference led her to pursue a Master’s Degree in Social Work from the University of Connecticut. Her dedication to service and unwavering commitment propelled her to achieve remarkable milestones throughout her life.

Dora shattered barriers as the first female president of the United Way of Pioneer Valley and faithfully served as the executive director of Martin Luther King Jr. Family Services for an impressive 18 years. Her invaluable contributions extended beyond these roles. She also served as the corporate director of child and family services at the Center for Human Development, Vice President of Education at the Urban League of Springfield,

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program director for foster grandparents, and Associate Director at Camp Atwater. Moreover, she played a pivotal role as a founding member of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Charter School of Excellence, and the Healing Racism Institute of Pioneer Valley. Dora's wisdom and expertise were further shared as an adjunct professor at Springfield College School for Social Work and the School for Professional Studies.

Dora's legacy is one of strength, compassion, and boundless care for the city of Springfield. Her absence will be felt deeply by all whose lives she touched. May her remarkable spirit continue to inspire us to build a better future for our community.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Dora Robinson, at ten minutes past three o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Wednesday next at one o'clock P.M.