
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, December 7, 2023.

Met at twenty-three minutes before twelve o'clock noon (Mr. Collins 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. Collins), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of allegiance.

Distinguished Guest.

There being no objection, the Chair (Mr. Collins) introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, Michael Christopher. Michael was recognized for his distinguished career serving the people of Boston and the Commonwealth as a dedicated public servant at the Boston Planning and Development Agency and state government. The Senate welcomed him with applause, he was presented with a Senate Citation on the Rostrum and he withdrew from the Chamber.

Michael Christopher.

Communications.

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

Communication from the Department of Public Health relative to its plans of correction for the following correctional facilities: Bristol County Women's Facility, Bristol County ICE, Bristol County Jail and House of Correction and Bristol County Modular Building (received December 4, 2023) and

DPH,-- plans of correction. SD2887

Communication from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (see Section 2 of Chapter of the General Laws) submitting a notice of a public hearing relative to proposed amendments to 243 CMR 2.00, Inmate Funds (received December 6, 2023).

EOPSS,-- inmate funds. SD2889

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 Massachusetts Treatment Center and Norfolk County House of Correction and Alternative Center (received December 4, 2023 and December 5, 2023); and

DPH,-- facility inspections. SD2886

Report of the Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Council (under the provisions of Section 16Q of Chapter 6A of the General Laws) submitting its 2023 Annual Report (received December 6, 2023).

CBHAC,-- annual report. SD2888

Petitions.

Petitions were severally presented and referred as follows:

By Ms. Moran, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2510) of Susan L. Moran and Steven George Xiarhos (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Sandwich 5 additional liquor licenses [Local approval received];

Sandwich,-- liquor licenses.

Under Senate Rule 20, to the committee on Consumer Protection and

Professional Licensure.

By Mr. Fattman, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2523) of Ryan C. Fattman (by vote of the town) relative to the town charter for the town of Southbridge [Local approval received];

Southbridge,--
charter.

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

Severally sent to the House for concurrence.

Committee Discharged.

Mr. Lewis, for the committee on Education, reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 313) of Joan B. Lovely for legislation relative to supporting survivors of child sexual abuse,-- and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Sexual abuse,--
children

**Under Senate Rule 36, the report was considered forthwith and accepted.
Sent to the House for concurrence.**

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE

Emergency Preamble Adopted.

An engrossed Bill relative to creditable service for Abby Levin, a member of the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System (see House, No. 4168, 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.

Abby Levin,--
creditable service.

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

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Friedman) "congratulating Toni Lynn Washington 'Boston's Queen of the Blues & Soul' on her eighty-seventh birthday"; and

Toni Lynn
Washington.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Rush) "congratulating Andrew Puopolo on his one hundredth birthday."

Andrew Puopolo.

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 Senate Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Rene Perez, an employee of the department of developmental services (Senate, No. 2452) (its title having been changed by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed.**

Rene Perez,-- sick
leave.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

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

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

severally passed to be enacted and were signed by the Acting President (Mr. Collins) and laid before the Governor for her approbation, to wit:

Exempting the position of deputy fire chief in the town of Wrentham from the civil service law (see House, No. 3720); and

Bills laid before the Governor.

Changing the town of Plymouth's 1820 Courthouse Fund to the Facilities Improvement Fund (see House, No. 3909).

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Collins) the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Ann M. Gillis-Kearns.

Moment of silence.

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.

Time of meeting.

Adjournment in Memory of Ann M. Gillis-Kearns.

The Senator from Suffolk, Mr. Collins, moved that when the Senate adjourns today it do so in memory of Ann M. Gillis-Kearns of Dorchester who died peacefully surrounded by her loving family on December 3, 2023.

Ann was the beloved wife of the late Ronald J. Gillis Sr. and William J. Kearns Sr. and was the loving mother of Patricia and her husband Mark McHale of Dorchester, Elaine Gillis-McCarthy of Abington, Ronald and his wife Kari Gillis of Needham, Timothy and his wife Carolyn Gillis of Quincy, Paul and his wife Cara Gillis of Dorchester, Joanne and her husband David Payne of Dorchester, and John and his wife Alexis Gillis of Winchester.

Cherished "Nanacakes" to 20 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and one expected great-grandson. Ann was the sister of the late Joseph Desmond.

Ann was a longtime soloist at St. Mark's Church and a lifelong active member of the parish. She will be lovingly remembered as a beautiful woman who greeted everyone with a smile and always saw the good in people. Her presence was and always will be a ray of sunshine.

She will be missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Ann M. Gillis-Kearns, at sixteen minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Fattman, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.