The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2024

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, February 26, 2024.

Met at nineteen minutes past eleven o'clock A.M.

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

Pledge of allegiance.

Communication.

The following communications were severally received and placed on file, to wit: Communication from the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (under the provisions of item 1599-0514 of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023) submitting a copy of its bi-weekly report on the status of the Emergency Housing Assistance Program dated February 26, 2024 (received February 26, 2024); and

Communication from the Special Joint Committee on Initiative Petitions submitting its adopted rules of procedure for said committee for the 2023- 2024 legislative session (received February 26, 2024).

Reports.

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

Report of the Department of Mental Health, in consultation with the naval construction and marine engineering program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (under the provisions of item 5011-1100 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its report on the feasibility of converting a decommissioned ship or other waterbased vessel into a floating hospital for mental health, substance use treatment, and recovery services (received February 26, 2024); and

Report of the Executive Office for Health and Human Services (under the provisions of item 4000-0005 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its Successful Youth Initiative Annual Report (received February 22, 2024).

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Collins, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on petition, a Bill to establish a November holiday honoring President John F. Kennedy, to promote increased voter participation and civic engagement (Senate, No. 2000); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill establishing a special commission to identify opportunities to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of state agencies, programs, and services (Senate, No. 2018);

Severally read and, under Joint Rule 29, referred to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

By Ms. Jehlen, for the committee on Elder Affairs, on Senate, No. 365 and House, No. 636, a Bill relative to LGBT and HIV positive seniors in the commonwealth (Senate, No. 365);

By Mr. Collins, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight,

Emergency Housing Assistance Program,-- bi-weekly report. SD3036

Special Joint Committee on Initiative Petitions,-rules.

DMH,-- floating hospital report. SD3032

EOHHS,-- Safe and Successful Youth. SD3034

John F. Kennedy,-holiday.

State government,-efficiency.

Seniors and LGBT,--HIV positive.

Psychology Interjurisdictional

on petition, a Bill establishing the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (Senate, No. 1980);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to increasing transparency in public construction (Senate, No. 1985);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to promote public procurement and inclusive entrepreneurship (Senate, No. 1986);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to government efficiency (Senate, No. 1988);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to promote safety, efficiency and accountability in transportation projects through public inspections (Senate, No. 2035); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to fairness in public contracting (Senate, No. 2044);

Severally read and, under Senate Rule 27, referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Collins, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on petition, a Bill designating the "Giant Puffball" fungus as the official mushroom of the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 2008); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to establish a COVID-19 Remembrance Day (Senate, No. 2012);

Severally read and, under Senate Rule 26, referred to the committees on Rules.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill authorizing the town of Canton to grant temporary and permanent easements of certain land of the town situated in the town of Stoughton for highway purposes (House, No. 3937,-- amended,-- on petition),-- was read and, under Senate Rule 27, referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

Bills

Relative to erecting a bench in honor of Rita Walsh in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Boston (House, No. 3965,-- on petition); and

To prohibit hunting on property owned by the Department of Correction and located at 28A Union turnpike in the town of Concord(House, No. 4200,-- on petition);

Severally read and, under Senate Rule 26, referred to the committee on Rules.

A Bill correcting the membership date of a certain police officer in the town of North Reading relative to their membership in the Middlesex county retirement system (House, No. 4437,-- House, No. 4164) [Local approval received on House, No. 4164],-- was read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Rush) "congratulating Kathleen Flaherty on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday."

Compact.

Public construction,-transparency.

Entrepreneurship,-public procurement.

Government efficiency.

Transportation projects,-- inspection.

Public contracting,-fairness.

Official mushroom,-giant puffball.

COVID-19 Remembrance Day.

Canton easements.

Hyde Park,-- Rita Walsh bench.

Concord,-- hunting regulations.

North Reading,-retirement system. .

Kathleen Flaherty.

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Eldridge, for the committee on the Judiciary, a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Tiffany Brennan, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 2672);

The bill was read. 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.

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 establishing the position of town manager in the town of Belchertown (House, No. 3960) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading),-- was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Senate Bill authorizing the continued employment of Jerry Shampang as an environmental police officer in the executive office of energy and environmental affairs (Senate, No. 2464),--ought to pass, with an amendment substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2691).

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Tarr, and the bill was read a second time and was amended, as recommended by the committee on Ways and Means.

The bill (Senate, No. 2691) was then ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE

Emergency Preamble Adopted.

An engrossed Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Stoneham as the State Trooper Tamar A. Bucci Memorial Bridge (see House, No. 4123, 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.

The bill was signed by the President and sent to the House for enactment.

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the President, the members, guests, and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Barbara DeLorenzo.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tarr,--

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

Tiffany Brennan,-sick leave.

Belchertown,-- tow manager.

Jerry Shampang,-employment.

Stoneham,-- State Trooper Bucci memorial bridge

Moment of silence.

Time of meeting.

Adjournment in Momons of Rawhana Dolorow

The Senator from Essex and Middlesex, Mr. Tarr and the Senator from Essex, Ms. Lovely moved that when the Senate adjourns it does so in memory of Barbara DeLorenzo, 98, of Beverly.

Barbara was a benefactor to the Beverly Catholic Collaborative Community, Saint Vincent de Paul, Good Friday Walk Inc, and Beverly Bootstraps, which exemplified her commitment to the community and compassion.

Barbara was a devoted wife, mother of six children, seventeen grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. She was an extraordinary matriarch and role model to all. She lived a life filled with great family, faith, and an abundance of love. Her incredible journey made the world a better place, leaving a legacy that will be deeply missed by all who knew her. She touched the lives of many, and her memories will forever be cherished.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Joseph A. DeLorenzo. In addition to her late husband, with whom she shared 70 years of marriage, she is survived by two daughters, Janice Galipeau of Beverly, and Nancy Petronio and her husband Greg, of Danvers; four sons, Larry DeLorenzo and his companion, Joanne Fall of Beverly, Daniel DeLorenzo and his wife, Joanne of Danvers, Paul DeLorenzo and his wife, Mary of Wenham and Kevin DeLorenzo and his wife Diane of Beverly; seventeen grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Barbara DeLorenzo, at twentyeight minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at one o'clock P.M.