

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, October 10, 2024.

Met at six minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Collins in the Chair).

The Chair (Mr. Collins), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of allegiance.

Communication.

Communication from the Massachusetts Municipal Association, announcing the appointments of Ruthanne Fuller replacing and Dave Koffman (under the provisions of Section 201 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) to the Special Commission on Combatting Antisemitism in the Commonwealth (received October 10, 2024),-- was placed on file.

Special Commission on Combatting Antisemitism,-- appt. SD3479

Reports.

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

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to Section 138 of Chapter 126 of the Acts of 2022) submitting an examination of opioid-related overdose deaths among Massachusetts residents (copies having been forward to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, the Joint Committee on Public Health and the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing) (received October 7, 2024);

DPH,-- opioid overdose deaths MA residents. SD3471

Report of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (pursuant to Section 15 of Chapter 23I of the General Laws) submitting its fiscal year 2024 annual report (October 1, 2024);

MLSC,-- 2024 annual report. SD3473

Report of the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (pursuant to Section 8(g) of Chapter 161B of the General Laws) submitting its audited financial statements and supplementary information for the year ended June 30, 20234 and 2023 (received October 8, 2024);

BRTA,-- auditors' reports. SD3475

Report of the Executive Office of Veterans Services (pursuant to Section 41 of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) submitting its Veterans Homes Council 2024 Report (received October 9, 2024);

Veterans Homes Council 2024 report. SD3476

Report of the Group Insurance Commission (pursuant to Section 21 of Chapter 32A of the General Laws) submitting its FY24 Vendor Quality Improvement Report (received October 9, 2024); and

GIC,-- FY24 vendor quality report. SD3477

Report of the Department of Public Health, in accordance with instructions from the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to Section 3B of Chapter 7 of the General Laws) submitting notice that the Board of Registration for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology within the Department of Public Health seeks to establish the licensure fee for the new license category of "speech-language pathologist provisional licensee" in 801 CMR 4.02 (received October 9, 2024).

DPH,-- proposed fee changes. SD3478

Petition.

Mr. Rush presented a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Michael F. Rush for legislation to protect Norwood healthcare access,-- and the same was

Norwood healthcare. SD3470

referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Report of a Committee.

By Ms. Comerford, for the committee on Agriculture, on Senate, No. 2944, an Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Agriculture to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to nutrient management in the town of Nantucket (Senate, No. 2964);

Agriculture,-- study.

Referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Bills

Authorizing the town of Lee to continue the employment of assistant chief Glenn M. Wilcox (House, No. 4858,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Lee,-- Glenn M. Wilcox.

Authorizing the town of Sherborn to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4990,-- on House, No. 4796) [Local approval received on House, No. 4796]; and

Sherborn,-- liquor license.

Relative to the executive form of government for the town of Lenox (House, No. 5028,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Lenox,-- town government.

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

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 Senate Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Mary Katherine Sheehan, an employee of the trial court (Senate, No. 2957),-- was read a third time.

Mary Katherine Sheehan,-- sick leave.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. O'Connor presented an amendment substituting a new draft, entitled "An Act establishing a sick leave bank for Mary Katherine Sheehan, an employee of the trial court of the commonwealth" (Senate, No. 2965).

The amendment was adopted.

The bill (Senate, No. 2965) was then passed to be engrossed.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

The House Bill amending the charter of the town of Groton (House, No. 4194) (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.**

Groton,-- charter.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tarr--

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

Time of meeting.

On motion of the same Senator, at nineteen minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., the Senate adjourned to meet again on Tuesday next at eleven o'clock A.M.