

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.**



**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2024**

[91]

## JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, October 17, 2024.

Met at five minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. DiDomenico in the Chair) (having been appointed, by the President, under authority conferred by Senate Rule 4, to perform the duties of the Chair).

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

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Pledge of  
allegiance.

### *Communications.*

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

Communication from the Honorable Karen E. Spilka, President of the Senate, announcing the appointments of Senator James B. Eldridge and Mr. Jason Palitsch (pursuant to Section 25 of Chapter 21A of the General Laws) to the Water Infrastructure Advisory Committee (received October 15, 2024); and

Water Infrastructure  
Advisory  
Committee,-- appts.  
SD3486

Communication from the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to Section 5B of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting a copy of its report on estimates of budgeted revenues for the current and ensuing fiscal year (received October 15, 2024).

A&F,-- tax revenue  
report.  
SD3484

### *Reports.*

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

Report of the Department of Revenue (pursuant to Section 5 of Chapter 62F of the General Laws) submitting its July 2024 report on year-to-date net state tax revenue for the current fiscal year (received October 15, 2024);

DOR,-- net state tax  
revenue report.  
SD3481

Report of the Department of Revenue (pursuant to Section 5 of Chapter 62F of the General Laws) submitting its August 2024 report on year-to-date net state tax revenue for the current fiscal year (received October 15, 2024);

Id.  
SD3482

Report of the Executive Office of the Trial Court (pursuant to Section 15(c) of Chapter 239 of the General Laws) submitting its report summary statistics on eviction filings, actions, and dispositions from January 2023 through September 2024 (received October 15, 2024);

EOTC,-- rental  
protections report.  
SD3483

Report of the Office of the Inspector General (pursuant to line item 1599-2051 of Section 2A of Chapter 102 of the Acts of 2021) submitting its 2024 Pandemic Funding Oversight Q3 report (received October 15, 2024); and

OIG,-- pandemic  
funding oversight  
report.  
SD3485

Report of the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (pursuant to Section 15 (f) of Chapter 19C of the General Laws) submitting its FY24 annual audit of the abuser registry (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and to the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities (received October 16, 2024).

Disabled Persons  
Protection Comm.,-  
- FY24 audit.  
SD3487

### *Petition.*

Mr. Feeney presented a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Paul R. Feeney and F. Jay Barrows for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Jonathan

Jonathan Turner,--  
sick leave.

Turner, an employee of the Norfolk County sheriff's office,-- **and the same was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.**

SD3480

*Committees Discharged.*

Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration

Agriculture,-- study.

Of the Senate 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);

**Under Senate Rule 36, the report was considered forthwith and accepted.**

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5069) of Andres X. Vargas (with the approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to authorize Gabriel Rosa to take the civil service examination for the position of police officer in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement; and

Haverhill,-- Gabriel Rosa employment.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5070) of Andres X. Vargas (with the approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to authorize Juan Jimenez to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement;

Haverhill,-- Juan Jimenez employment.

**Severally to the committee on Public Service.**

A Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2024 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (House, No. 5077,-- on House, No. 5049, in part),-- **was read and, under Senate Rule 27, referred to the committee on Ways and Means.**

Supplemental appropriations.

**Bills**

Authorizing the town of Bedford to adopt alternative methods for notice of public hearings (House, No. 2062,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Bedford,-- public hearings.

To establish a surcharge on specific commercial development activities for the purpose of funding the creation of community housing (House, No. 2740,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Lexington,-- community housing.

Allowing print-free digital legal notices for the town of Arlington (House, No. 4027,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Arlington,-- digital notices.

Allowing print-free digital legal notices for the town of Lexington (House, No. 4650,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Lexington,-- digital notices.

Allowing print-free digital legal notices for the town of Lincoln (House, No. 4664,-- on petition) [Local approval received]; and

Lincoln,-- digital notices.

Relative to the enforcement of the Williamstown town charter (House, No. 5004,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Williamstown,-- charter.

**Were severally 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 severally considered forthwith and adopted, as follows:-

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Creem) "congratulating Lynda and Jeffrey Bussgang on

Lynda and Jeffrey

receiving the Terezín Legacy Award from Terezín Music Foundation, Inc.”; and Resolutions (filed by Ms. Moran) “congratulating Peter Scavotto on his retirement after 30 years of service to the Commonwealth.”

Bussgang.  
Peter Scavotto.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

*Engrossed Bill.*

An engrossed Bill authorizing the town of Milton to issue an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (see Senate, No. 2518) (which originated in the Senate), **having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be enacted and signed by the Acting President (Mr. DiDomenico) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.**

Bill laid before the Governor.

*Order.*

The following House Order (approved by the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently) was considered forthwith as follows:

*Ordered,* That notwithstanding the provisions of Joint Rule 10, the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure be granted until Tuesday, December 31, 2024 within which time to make its final report on current Senate document numbered 2843, and House documents numbered 4663, 4846, 4907 and 4931.

Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure,-- extension order.

**The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Tarr, and, after remarks, the order (House, No. 4961) was considered forthwith; and, was adopted, in concurrence.**

*Order Adopted.*

On motion of Mr. Tarr,--

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

Time of meeting.

*Moment of Silence.*

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Tarr), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Kevin Riley.

Moment of silence.

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*Adjournment in Memory of Kevin Riley.*

The Senator from Essex and Middlesex, Mr. Tarr, moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it does so in memory of Mr. Kevin Riley of Newburyport.

Mr. Riley passed away on August 4, 2024, of pancreatic cancer. Mr. Riley owned and operated Partridge in a Bear Tree in Market Square Newburyport for 23 years. His store is an iconic presence in downtown, drawing in shoppers from the North Shore and beyond. Originally started as a Christmas themed store, Kevin grew the business to include decorations and gifts for a variety of holidays. As the business grew, he added a second store on Salem’s Pickering wharf 10 years ago.

Kevin knew that it was important to support local craftsmen and made it a point to carry products produced by a number of local manufacturers. He was a passionate supporter of his fellow merchants and understood that their collective success played a significant role in making Newburyport such a special community.

Kevin was particularly proud of seeing familiar faces return each year with many families using his well decorated store as a backdrop for their holiday photo.

After being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in February 2023, Kevin formed a team

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to support PanCan, a group that raises money for pancreatic cancer research and helps families with treatment. With the support of family, friends and the business community, he raised \$46,795, making him the second top fundraiser out of 182 teams. Kevin tragically lost his battle with pancreatic cancer on August 4, 2024.

When he wasn't busy at his stores, Kevin spent time both instructing and participating in color guard. He was an instructor at several high schools in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. One former student recalled that he had a way of instilling confidence and rooting for the underdog. For the past several years he performed with the New England Pride Color Guard, a group that performed at Pride events around the region.

Kevin is survived by his husband Ronald Senter, his partner for the past 18 years. His stores and joyful presence will continue as a vibrant part of the community through the work of his husband, other family members and the support of friends and his fellow small business owners.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Kevin Riley, at twenty minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

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