

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2024

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, November 7, 2024.

Met at eleven minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Rush 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. Rush), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of allegiance.

Distinguished Guests.

There being no objection, the following guests were introduced:

The Chair (Mr. Rush) introduced, on the Rostrum, Congressman Stephen Lynch of South Boston. Congressman Lynch was sworn in as a member of the United States House of Representatives on October 16, 2001. He is currently a member of the Financial Services Committee, where he serves as Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Digital Assets, Financial Technology and Inclusion and is a member of the Subcommittee on Capital Markets. Congressman Lynch also serves as the lead Democrat to the Financial Services Committee's bipartisan Working Group on Artificial Intelligence. Prior to being elected to the United States House of Representatives, he was the State Representative from the 4th Suffolk District from 1995-1996 and then became the State Senator from the 1st Suffolk District from 1996 to 2001. Congressman Lynch was also recognized for his work with the Ironworkers Union, becoming the youngest president in the history of the union at the age of 30. The Senate welcomed him with applause, he addressed the Senate from the Rostrum, signed the guestbook and withdrew from the Chamber.

Congressman Stephen Lynch.

The Chair (Messrs. Rush and Timilty) introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, Representative John Rogers of Norwood and former Representative Jim Brett. They were visiting the Senate Chamber in recognition of the adjournment remarks in honor of Lucille Brett. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Reps. John Rogers and Jim Brett.

Communication.

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

Communication from the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to line item 1599-0514 of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023 and Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting a copy of its bi-weekly report on the status of the Emergency Housing Assistance Program dated October 31, 2024 (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received November 4, 2024);

Emergency Housing Assistance Program,-- bi-weekly report. SD3518

Communication from the Department of Public Health relative to its plan of correction for the Dukes County Jail and House of Correction inspection on May 30, 2024 (received November 5, 2024); and

DPH,-- plan of correction. SD3521

Communication from the Honorable Karen E. Spilka, President of the Senate, announcing the appointment of Senator Julian Cyr (pursuant to Section 5 of Chapter 150 of the Acts of 2024) to the Seasonal Communities Advisory Council (received November 7, 2024).

Seasonal Communities Advisory Council. SD3523

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Reports.

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

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to Section 52 (a $\frac{1}{2}$) of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Commonwealth Trust Fund Projects 2024 Report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation) (received November 1, 2024);

A&F,-- CTF
projects report.
SD3513

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to Section 62 of Chapter 7 of the General Laws) submitting its FY24 Capital Spending Report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets) (received November 1, 2024);

A&F,-- capital
spending FY24
report.
SD3514

Report of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Office of Medicaid Division (pursuant to Line Item 4000-0700 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its MassHealth FY24 Dental Coverage Report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received November 4, 2024);

MassHealth,--
Dental Coverage
FY24 report.
SD3515

Report of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Office of Medicaid Division (pursuant to line item 4000-0300 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its FY23 Health Safety Net Trust Fund Report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing) (received November 4, 2024);

Health Safety Net
Trust Fund 2023
report.
SD3516

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its monthly report on Temporary Respite Centers (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received November 4, 2024);

A&F,-- temporary
respite centers.
SD3517

Report of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs and the Division of Energy Resources (pursuant to Section 41 of Chapter 179 of the Acts of 2022) submitting its Massachusetts Offers Rebates for Electric Vehicle (“MOR-EV”) Program FY 2023 Report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of Senate Committee on Ways and Means, the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications Utilities and Energy, and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation) (received November 4, 2024);

DOER,-- MOR-EV
FY2023 report.
SD3519

Report of the Department of Telecommunications and Cable (pursuant to Section 6 of Chapter 25C of the General Laws) submitting its FY24 Annual Report (received November 5, 2024);

DTC,-- FY 2024
annual report.
SD3520

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to line item 4512-2020 of Chapter 126 of the Acts of 2022) submitting a copy of its FY24 Equitable Approaches to Public Safety Program (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received November 6, 2024) and

DPH,-- FY24 EAPS
report.
SD3522

Report of the Department of Youth Services (pursuant to Section 16 of Chapter 123A of the General Laws) submitting its 2024 annual report regarding the treatment offered to sexually dangerous persons (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received October 31, 2024).

DYS,-- SDP report.
SD3524

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5098) of Frank A. Moran, Pavel Payano and Estela A. Reyes (with approval of the mayor and city council) relative to defining a governing structure for the Lawrence School Board upon the exit of state receivership,-- **was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional**

Lawrence,-- state
receivership.

Government.

A Bill authorizing Gustavo Romero to take the civil service examination for the position of police officer in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 4860, amended,-- on petition) [Local approval received],-- **was read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.**

Haverhill,--
Gustavo Romero.

Reports 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 Paul R. Feeney and F. Jay Barrows for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Jonathan Turner, an employee of the Norfolk County sheriff's office;

Jonathan Turner,--
sick leave.
SD3480

Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mr. Collins, 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.

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 relative to parking violations in the town of Provincetown (Senate, No. 2743),-- was read a third time.

Provincetown,--
parking violations.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Cyr presented an amendment substituting a new draft entitled: "An Act authorizing the select board of the town of Provincetown to establish a schedule of fines for parking violations (Senate, No. 2978).

The amendment was adopted.

The bill (Senate, No. 2978) was then passed to be engrossed.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. O'Connor) "congratulating Lukas Malloy on his elevation to the rank of Eagle Scout"; and

Lukas Malloy.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. O'Connor) "congratulating Beckett Woolley on his elevation to the rank of Eagle Scout."

Beckett Woolley.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Engrossed Bills.

The following engrossed bills (all of which originated in the House), having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, were severally passed to be enacted and were signed by the Acting President (Mr. Rush) and laid before the Governor for her approbation, to wit:

Authorizing the town of North Reading to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (see House, No. 4784);

Bills laid before the
Governor.

Authorizing the town of Oxford to continue the employment of Craig Gagner (see House, No. 4797);

Authorizing the select board of the town of Bernardston to appoint an associate

member to the board of health (see House, No. 4886);

Further regulating the fiscal authority of the town administrator of the town of Dudley (see House, No. 4887);

Designating a certain overpass in the city of New Bedford as the Andre Lopes Korean War Veteran overpass (see House, No. 4954, amended); and

Authorizing the town of Rowley to continue the employment of call firefighter Donald Dupray (see House, No. 5024).

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Timilty), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Lucille Brett.

Moment of silence.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. O’Connor,--

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

Time of meeting.

Adjournment in Memory of Lucille Brett.

The Senators from Norfolk, Plymouth and Bristol, Mr. Timilty, Norfolk and Suffolk, Mr. Rush, Suffolk, Mr. Collins, Bristol and Norfolk, Mr. Feeney, Norfolk and Plymouth, Mr. Keenan and Plymouth and Norfolk, Mr. O’Connor moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it does so in memory of Lucille Brett.

Lucille E. (Vermette) Brett, a beacon of love and joy, passed away on May 22, 2024, at the age of 89. Born on March 9, 1935, in Roxbury, MA, Lucille’s life was a testament to the power of kindness, family, and faith.

Lucille was the cherished daughter of her late parents Benjamin and Elizabeth (Mahoney) Vermette of Roxbury, where she grew up surrounded by the vibrant life of the city.

She was a proud graduate of Girls High School. After high school, Lucille began her working career at Dorchester Savings Bank where she met Henry, the man who would become her husband.

Lucille later embarked on a fulfilling career as a claims clerk at Kemper Insurance. Her diligence and warm personality made her a favorite among her colleagues.

Later, she found joy in serving as a receptionist at St. Albert the Great Church in Weymouth, where she was not only a friendly face to parishioners but also an integral part of the church community.

She was the beloved wife of 63 years of Henry Brett, known as “Harry”, and together they built a life filled with love and laughter. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her son Harry Brett and his wife Jacqueline of Hanson, daughter Maryellen Brett of Braintree, son William Brett and his wife Stephanie of Braintree, and daughter Margaret Hastings and her husband John of Norwood, and many nieces and nephews.

Lucille was the dear sister-in-law of Margaret McCobb of Weymouth, William and Virginia Brett of Hingham, and James and Patricia Brett of Dorchester. She was predeceased in death by her beloved sister Elizabeth (Betty) and brother-in-law Gill Vermette, brother-in-law Bill McCobb, sister-in law Mary McCarthy, and brother-in-law Jack Brett.

Lucille’s role as a grandmother was one that she cherished deeply. She adored her grandchildren, Christopher Brett of Halifax, Michael Brett of New York City, Patrick Brett of Chicago, Hannah Brett of Hanson, and Aidan Brett of Braintree. Her great-grandchildren,

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Harrison and Emilia Brett of Halifax, brought her immense joy and pride.

Those who knew Lucille will remember her for her loving nature, her thoughtful gestures, and her spirited demeanor. She had a gift for making everyone feel special and valued.

Moreover, Lucille's interests reflected her love for life; she relished following her beloved Red Sox, reading voraciously, and indulging in her passion for shopping.

Her memory will continue to inspire those who were fortunate enough to know her. Lucille lived a life, full of purpose and joy, and she will be deeply missed by all.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Lucille Brett, at seven minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Timilty, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Tuesday next at eleven o'clock A.M.