
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2024

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, December 5, 2024.

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

Sophia Bartkow led the Chair (Mr. Timilty), members, guests and staff in the recitation of the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of allegiance.

Distiguished Guests.

There being no objection, the Chair (Mr. Timilty) introduced several guests.

Mr. Timilty introduced, on the Rostrum, Sophia Bartkow. Sophia is an 8th grade student at the Bridgewater-Raynham Middle School and was recognized for her outstanding singing ability. She was accompanied by her parents Jenn and Dave, her sister Emily, her grandparents Helen, Donna and Bob, Bridgewater Police Chief Christopher Delmonte, her teacher Denise Furtado and the entire 8th grade class. Sophia then sang the National Anthem.

Sophia Bartkow.

Mr. Timilty then introduced, seated in the Senate Gallery, former Representative Sarah Peake. The Senate welcomed her with applause and she withdrew from the Gallery.

Sarah Peake

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 November 27, 2024 (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chair of the Committee on Ways and Means) (received December 2, 2024);

Emergency Housing Assistance Program,-- bi-weekly report. SD3560

Communication from the Honorable Michael O. Moore, in compliance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A (received in the Office of the Clerk of the Senate on Thursday, December 5, 2024, at twenty-five minutes past twelve o'clock noon); and

Senator Michael O. Moore,-- Chapter 268A.

Communication from the Honorable Michael O. Moore, in compliance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A (received in the Office of the Clerk of the Senate on Thursday, December 5, 2024, at twenty-five minutes past twelve o'clock noon).

Id.

Reports.

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

Report of the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (pursuant to line item 7004-9024 and line item 7004- 9030 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP), and the Alternative Housing Voucher Program (AHVP) report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Housing) (received December 2, 2024);

EOHLC,-- MRVP and AHVP report. SD3558

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to Section 151 of Chapter 135 of

DPH,-- Community Violence Prevention

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the Acts of 2024) submitting its Community Violence Prevention Task Force report (copies having been forwarded to Her Excellence the Governor) (received December 2, 2024);

Task Force report.
SD3559

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 Senate Chair of the Committee on Ways and Means) (received December 2, 2024);

A&F,-- temporary
respite centers.
SD3561

Report of the Executive Office of Veterans Services (pursuant to Section 18 of Chapter 115 of the General Laws as amended by Section 115 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Women Veterans Network annual report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs) (received December 3, 2024);

EOVS,-- Women
Veterans Network
report.
SD3562

Report of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (pursuant to line item 4000-0054 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its FY24 Behavioral Health Trust report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing and the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery) (received December 3, 2024);

EOHHS,-- FY24
Behavioral Health
Trust report.
SD3563

Report of the Department of Early Education and Care (pursuant to line item 3000-1045 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its FY24 Q2 C3 operational grant program report (copies having been forwarded to the Secretary of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance, the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Education) (received December 3, 2024); and

DEEC,-- FY24 Q2
C3 grant program
report.
SD3564

Report of the Executive Office of Veteran Services (pursuant to Section 12 of Chapter 115A of the Massachusetts General Laws) submitting its 2024 Veterans Homes and Housing annual report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs) (received December 4, 2024).

EOVS,-- 2024
annual report.
SD3565

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill amending the charter of the town of Saugus (House, No. 5059,-- on petition [Local approval received],-- **was read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.**

Saugus,-- charter.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Moran) “commending the Bourne Recreation Authority on the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the John Gallo Ice Arena.”

Bourne Recreation
Authority.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE

Emergency Preamble Adopted.

An engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Jonathan Turner, an employee of the Norfolk county sheriff's office (see Senate, No. 2981), 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 4 to 0.

Jonathan Turner,--
sick leave.

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

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Reports of a Committee.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, reported that the following matter be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session:

The House Bill relative to local law enforcement continuity between the city of Boston and the town of Dedham (House, No. 2299).

Boston/Dedham,--
law enforcement.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Brady, and the bill was read a second time, ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to read as follows:- “An Act promoting local law enforcement continuity between the city of Boston and the town of Dedham”.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, reported that the following matter be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session:

The House Bill designating a certain roundabout in the town of Orleans in honor of Dorofei Klimshuk (House, No. 4484).

Orleans,-- Dorofei
Klimshuk
roundabout.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Keenan, and the bill was read a second time, ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, reported that the following matter be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session:

The House Bill authorizing an extended term of agreement between the town of Foxborough and the town of Sharon for municipal sewer service (House, No. 4754).

Foxborough/Sharon
,-- sewer services.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Collins, and the bill was read a second time, ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to read as follows:- “An Act authorizing the towns of Foxborough and Sharon to extend a certain agreement for municipal sewer service”.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, reported that the following matter be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session:

The House Bill 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) (the committee on Rules recommending that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 2987; and by striking out the title and inserting in place thereof the following title:- “An Act prohibiting hunting on property owned by the department of correction in the town of Concord”.

Concord,-- hunting
regulations.

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

The bill, as amended, was then ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence with the amendment.

Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.

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 Kate Sout-Sorm, an employee of the

Kate Sout-Sorm,--

department of transitional assistance (Senate, No. 2986),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed.**

sick leave.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

The House Bill waiving the maximum age requirement for police officers for the city of Methuen (House, No. 2548) (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.**

Methuen,-- police officers.

The House Bill relative to designation of the state public health laboratory campus in honor of Dr. Alfred DeMaria, Jr. (House, No. 5063),-- was read a second time, and was amended, as previously recommended by the committee on Rules striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 2975.

Dr. Alfred DeMaria, Jr.,-- lab.

The bill, as amended, was then ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with the amendment, its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to read as follows:- “An Act designating the state public health laboratory campus as the Doctor Alfred DeMaria, Jr. campus”.

Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.

Report of a Committee.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, reported that the following matter be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session:

The House Bill repealing the prohibition of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority from locating a facility within a certain distance of the Arlington Catholic High School (House, No. 4236) (the committee on Rules recommending that the bill be amended by striking out section 2; and by inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:- “*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to repeal forthwith the prohibition on the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority from locating a facility within a certain distance of Arlington Catholic high school, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.”.

Arlington,-- MBTA facility.

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

The bill, as amended, was then ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence with the amendment, its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to read as follows:- “An Act repealing the prohibition on the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority from locating a facility within a certain distance of Arlington Catholic high school”.

Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Engrossed Bill Returned with Recommendation of Amendment.

A message from Her Excellency the Governor, returning with recommendation of amendment the engrossed Bill relative to motor vehicle insurance (see House, No. 5111) [being the text contained in Sections 221, 222 and 223 of the engrossed Bill relative to strengthening Massachusetts’ economic leadership] [for message, see Attachment A of House, No. 5112],-- came from the House with endorsement that the House adopted the amendment recommended by the Governor (as approved by committee on Bills in the Third Reading), as follows:

Motor vehicle insurance.

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By striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following four sections:

“SECTION 1. Section 34A of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 102, the words “at least twenty thousand dollars” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- not less than \$25,000.

SECTION 2. Said section 34A of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in lines 104 and 105, the words “at least forty thousand dollars” and inserting in place thereof the words:- not less than \$50,000.

SECTION 3. Section 34O of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 17, the words “five thousand dollars” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- \$30,000.

SECTION 4. Sections 1 through 3, inclusive, shall apply to motor vehicle liability policies issued or renewed on or after July 1, 2025.”

The message was read; and, under the provisions of Article LVI of the Amendments to the Constitution, the bill was before the Senate subject to amendment and re-enactment.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Keenan, and the Governor’s amendment was considered forthwith.

On motion of the same Senator, the Governor’s amendment was adopted, in concurrence (as corrected BTR).

Sent to the House for re-enactment.

Engrossed Bill.

An engrossed Bill directing the city of Boston police department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Paul O’Brien (see House, No. 4592) (which originated in the House), **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. Timilty) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.**

Bill laid before the Governor.

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 relative to property tax classification in the city of Boston (House, No. 5114),--was considered, the main question on ordering the bill to a third reading.

Boston,-- property tax classification.

The pending motion, previously moved by Mr. Collins, to lay the matter on the table was considered; and it was *negatived*.

After remarks and pending the question on ordering the bill to a third reading, Mr. Collins moved that the matter be laid on the table; and, in accordance with the provisions of Senate Rule 24, the consideration of the motion to lay on the table was postponed, without question, until the next session.

Moment of Silence.

At the request of Mr. Timilty, the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of William Alexopoulos.

Moment of silence.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE

Engrossed Bill.

An engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Jonathan Turner, an employee of the Norfolk county sheriff’s office (see Senate, No. 2981) (which originated in the Senate), **having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final**

Bill laid before the Governor.

passage, was passed to be enacted and signed by the Acting President (Mr. Timilty) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Collins,--

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 William Alexopoulos.

The Senator from Norfolk, Plymouth and Bristol, Mr. Timilty and the Senator from Plymouth and Norfolk, Mr. Brady, moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it does so in memory of William Alexopoulos.

Randolph Town Council President William Alexopoulos passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on November 3rd, 2024. Bill was the loving son Christos and Georgia Alexopoulos.

Born in Boston, Bill and his family moved to Randolph in 1963. Notably, Bill loved the town of Randolph and the citizens of Randolph loved him right back. In his early years, he attended the Devine School in Randolph, graduated from Thayer Academy, and later Boston University with a degree in Biology. After a year in Graduate School, William decided to pursue his career in the family business, Randolph Automotive Service Center. In 2007, Bill and his devoted wife, Alexandra, became the owners, succeeding his father. Through his hard work and management of the business, it flourished to where it is now: a state-of-the-art repair facility and a flourishing Mobil mart, still servicing the community for more than 60 years.

As a public servant, Bill dedicated more than 40 years of his life to the town of Randolph, serving numerous roles, including as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Board of Health, a Town Meeting Member, Chairperson on the Joint Water Board, Member of the Board of Selectmen, and finally as long-term member of the Randolph Town Council. Here, he served multiple stints as Town Council President. Specifically, Bill was elected by his peers to serve as the first Town Council President. Moreover, recently, Bill served as President for the last 4 years.

Known for his unwavering principles and gentlemanly demeanor, Bill was a familiar face at town hall, often stopping by multiple times each week to check in on town business. In addition, he and his wife Alexandra were quiet but generous donors to a myriad of charitable endeavors in both Randolph and in the region.

A man of great faith, Bill was a dedicated parishioner of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, in Brockton, Massachusetts. In addition, Bill served many terms on the Parish Council. Most recently, Bill held the position of Vice President of the Parish Council. Here, he undertook many projects to beautify the church and make updates where needed. Bill's Orthodox faith and Greek roots were fundamental parts of his life.

Bill was happily married for more than 37 years to the love of his life, Alexandra (Orphanos) Alexopoulos, whom he met at a church event. He was the loving father to Christos Alexopoulos, and Nicole Alexopoulos and her fiancée, Robert McElhinney, all of Randolph.

Bill leaves behind his sister Evangeline Zervos, and her husband Diamantis, and their children, Anastasia and her husband George Scrivanos of Brookline, Michael and his wife Meeghan Zervos of Randolph, his sister Artemis and her husband Ike Tingos of Belmont and their children, Kostas, Chloe, and Joanna, all of Watertown, and his loving mother Georgia Alexopoulos of Canton.

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William's life was a testament to faith, family, friendship, and community and he will be missed by family and friends.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of William Alexopoulos, at five minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Brady, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.