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## UNCORRECTED PROOF OF THE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



### JOURNAL OF THE SENATE IN JOINT SESSION.

*Wednesday, January 16, 2013.*

At eleven minutes before seven o'clock P.M., the two branches met in

#### CONVENTION

In the Chamber of the House of Representatives, for the purpose of receiving such communication as His Excellency Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth, may be pleased to make relative to the concerns of the Commonwealth; and were called to order by the Honorable Therese Murray, President of the Senate.

#### *Order Adopted.*

On motion of Ms. Chandler,--

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to consist of members of the Senate and the House of Representatives to wait upon His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, the Constitutional officers, members of the Executive Council and other distinguished guests and inform them that the two branches are now in Convention and request the honor of their presence.

Senators Rosenberg, Spilka, Hart and Tarr were appointed on the part of the Senate; and Representatives Peisch of Wellesley, Donato of Medford, Pignatelli of Lenox, Frost of Auburn, D'Emilia of Bridgewater and Lewis of Winchester were appointed on a part of the House.

Subsequently, Mr. Rosenberg, for the committee, reported that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, the Constitutional officers, members of the Executive Council and the other distinguished guests would immediately attend upon the convention.

Shortly thereafter, His Honor Timothy P. Murray, Lieutenant-Governor, William F. Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Martha Coakley, Attorney General of the Commonwealth, Steven Grossman, Treasurer and Receiver-General of the Commonwealth, Suzanne M. Bump, Auditor of the Commonwealth, the members of the Executive Council, members of the Supreme Judicial Court and Major General L. Scott Rice, The Adjutant General, entered the Chamber under the Sergeant-at-Arms.

#### *Invocation.*

The President then introduced Reverend Liz Walker who gave the following Invocation:

Almighty and eternal God who has shaped the arc of the universe and to whom we look for whatever good the future holds...Bless these proceedings tonight that what is said here and proposed here will glorify you.

We ask you to bless the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and those who lead it. Send down upon them truth, power, charity, and justice; that with steadfast purpose they may faithfully serve in their offices to promote the well-being of us all in the tough days ahead.

We gather here tonight not only to hear the governor's plans and not only to maintain a tradition of order and ritual, but to acknowledge the potential of our power, that which is collective and most importantly that which is moral.

Because we will not and cannot move this commonwealth or humanity itself forward if our efforts are not grounded in your presence and motivated by your righteousness.

We pray for a spirit of boldness to rise up from these hallowed halls, a daring to take the difficult right road, even when conventional wisdom calls for the path of least resistance.

We pray for the preservation of the disciplined standard of civility where the aspiration for decency remains as important as the power of persuasion.

We pray for hearts of humility so that in all deliberations and decisions, these leaders will understand that power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice.

We pray for the Governor of this commonwealth --one man in an intensely solitary position who bears an extraordinary responsibility for so many.

Surround him with support, encouragement and creative minds stimulated to raise new questions and new possibilities that will improve our common life.

Open his mind to hear those who agree and those who challenge It takes all the voices to make this body stronger

Grant him continued wisdom that allows him to look beyond the ever present perils to conceive our greatest potential.

Lord grant this governor the vision to see what we can achieve, to stretch our capabilities as well as our dollars, to increase our sense of purpose, and to help us always seek out not only common ground but higher ground as he continues to give heed to your constant call

May we all live in justice and peace; in the name of all that we hold holy...for me that is Jesus Christ. Let the people of God together say Amen.

*Order Adopted.*

On motion of Mr. Welch,--

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to consist of members of the Senate and the House of Representatives to wait upon His Excellency the Governor and inform him that the two branches are now in Convention for the purpose of receiving such communication as he may be pleased to make to them, relating to the concerns of the Commonwealth.

Senators Richard T. Moore, Donoghue, Flanagan and Knapik were appointed on the part of the Senate; and Representatives Sciortino of Somerville, Nyman of Hanover, Scibak of South Hadley, Holmes of Boston, Howitt of Seekonk and Wong of Saugus were appointed on a part of the House.

Subsequently, Mr. Richard T. Moore, for the committee, reported that His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick, would immediately attend upon the convention.

*Pledge of Allegiance.*

The President then called upon His Honor Timothy P. Murray, the Lieutenant-Governor, who introduced Vietnam War Veteran Katherine Splinter and Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran Andrea Gayle-Bennett, who led the Convention in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The Lieutenant-Governor then introduced Katherine McGee, the daughter of Senator Thomas M. McGee, and granddaughter of former Speaker of the House Thomas W. McGee, who sang the National Anthem.

Shortly thereafter, His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick entered the Chamber under the escort of the Sergeant-at-Arms

The President then introduced His Excellency the Governor, Deval Patrick, who thereupon addressed the Convention relative to the concerns of the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 1).

*Benediction.*

The President in the Chair then introduced Reverend Dr. Sarai Rivera of Worcester Christian Community Church, who gave the following Benediction:

God of all nation and all people

This evening you bless us with the gifts of life, unity, community, leadership, motivation and inspiration. We gather here today, united searching our souls on how to better serve our families, our neighbors, communities, our state and in turn our nation.

Bless us with the strength and open-minded to stand united and strong, so that together we can work to create, challenge and change policies that can make positive impact for all people in all areas of this state.

Help us to be true agents of change – yes agents of Shalom!

Dear Lord bless this commonwealth- bless the land and its people.

Help us to be instruments of your Peace and justice.

To be a people that will sow love and harmony when confronted with hatred and discord. That when we see hurt let us bring the spirit of forgiveness and healing. When faced with despair and doubt may we bring faith and hope; and when challenged with moments of darkness and sorrow may we be able to offer light and joy.

Let your blessings fall upon on the leadership of this state and in this nation. May they always seek the ways of righteousness, integrity, honesty, justice, compassion and mercy.

Governor, Lieutenant Governor and to the leadership standing here today

*May the Creator*

Bless your eyes so that you may never lose sight of your dreams or vision for without vision the people will perish.

Bless your ears so that you may always hear the whispers of your soul and do the right thing even when it is not the popular thing.

Bless your hands that you may always extend them out to others with love and acceptance.

Bless your feet so that they may never let fear hold them back from walking in the path of righteousness and the journey you were destined for

Continue to be steadfast immovable, always abounding in good works, knowing that your labor is not in vain, stand fast in faith be brave and strong. Let all that you do be done with love.

In the name of our Savior

May the Grace love and Shalom of God be with the State, its people and this Nation.

Amen

The President in the Chair, His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick, the Lieutenant Governor, the Constitutional officers, the members of the Executive Council, members of the Supreme Judicial Court and the Adjutant General then withdrew from the Chamber under the escort of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

On motion of Ms. Lovely, at one minute past eight o'clock P.M, the Convention of the Two Branches was dissolved; and the Senate withdrew from the Joint Session, under the escort of the Sergeant-at-Arms.