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UNCORRECTED PROOF OF THE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



JOURNAL OF THE SENATE IN JOINT SESSION.

Tuesday, January 28, 2014.

Pursuant to assignment, at fourteen minutes before seven o'clock P.M, the two branches met in

JOINT SESSION

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 Mr. Brownsberger,--

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

Senators Keenan, Lovely, Downing and Tarr were appointed on the part of the Senate; and Representatives Ferrante of Gloucester, Linsky of Natick, Kahn of Newton, Mannal of Barnstable, Peterson of Grafton, deMacedo of Plymouth, Moran of Lawrence and O'Flaherty of Chelsea, were appointed on the part of the House.

Subsequently, Mr. Keenan, for the committee, reported that the Constitutional officers, the Executive Council and distinguished guests would immediately attend upon the convention.

Shortly thereafter, the Constitutional officers, members of the Executive Council, members of the Supreme Judicial Court, Major General L. Scott Rice, Adjutant General of the Commonwealth, and distinguished guests entered the Chamber under the escort of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Invocation.

The President then introduced Father Barry Langley of Saint Anthony Shrine and Ministry Center, who gave the following Invocation:

Good and gracious God.

St. Francis of Assisi called you "The Great Almsgiver."

Hear us, tonight, your humble beggars in the spirit.

We ask you to bless all of us gather here tonight.

We beg you to bless Governor Patrick, Senate President Murray, Speaker DeLeo and all your public servants and all of us who seek to do your will here and throughout this great Commonwealth.

We beg that you give us eyes to see the needs of our sisters and brothers.

We beg that you give us ears to hear the spoken and unspoken cries of those who suffer.

We beg that you give us hearts that are broken open, to let your love and healing, flow from us to them.

We beg that you help us to work together as partners – to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and grieve with those who have no one else to grieve with or for them.

We beg that you help us to forge new partnerships among those in the nonprofit sector, those in private enterprise and those in our public institutions to make sure that every member of our community tangibly knows of the goodness of you and your will for all of us in this Commonwealth.

We beg that you continue to nudge us onward in our journey, our pilgrimage to find you, to see you and to embrace you in every person we meet since we are all created in your beautiful image and likeness.

We beg you, O Great Almsgiver. Hear us.

And, help us hear and listen to you.

Amen.

Order Adopted.

The President in the Chair, on motion of Mr. Richard T. Moore,--

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 Spilka, Forry, Donoghue and Ross were appointed on the part of the Senate; and Representatives McMurtry of Dedham, Holmes of Boston, Peisch of Wellesley, Balser of Newton, Rushing of Boston, Orral of Lakeville, Mirra of Newbury, Pignatelli of Lenox, Cabral of New Bedford, D'Emilia of Bridgewater, Sciortino of Medford, Andrews of Orange, Fiola of Fall River, Wong of Saugus and Silvia of Fall River, were appointed on the part of the House.

Subsequently, Ms. Spilka, for the committee, reported that His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick, would immediately attend upon the convention.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The President then introduced Nikhil Chopra, from Andover High School, Vice-Chair of the Governor's Statewide Youth Council. Mr. Chopra then introduced MBTA Polcie Officer Richard Donahue who led the Convention in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The President in the Chair, then introduced Louisa Carmen, a student at Harvard University and an alumna of the Governor's Statewide Youth Council, who then introduced Private First Class Blair Lynn Leavitt, 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. 2](#)).

Benediction.

The President in the Chair, she then introduced Reverend Brent Damrow of the First Congregational Church of Stockbridge, who gave the following Benediction:

People of the Commonwealth, will you pray with me,

God of all we are and all we might yet to be;

God of our parent's parents and our children's children;

God of rich and poor, foolish and wise, gay and straight, powerful and powerless;

You O God, who defy all boundaries of identity and race;

You who we meet in Mosque, Temple, Church and all manner of holy place;

We gather here in this space in profound gratitude.

We give thanks for this Commonwealth; and for the beauty and diversity of her people.

We give you thanks for the blessings of bounty, the calling to live in covenant and the demands of discipleship.

We give you thanks for all the leaders gathered here; and for those all across this land who offer themselves to make Massachusetts a place of justice and joy, of abundance and hope on this night we thank you God for your son, Deval; a man who has answered the call to serve as our Governor with courage, compassion and conviction; Bless him that he might yet lead us to even greater heights.

God we ask you to send your Holy Spirit into our hearts and minds; inspire our old ones to see visions and our young ones to dream dreams.

Make tonight more than about words...Give us humility to truly listen to one another;

Give us compassion that we might strive not to our own benefit but toward the Commonwealth;

Give us strength that we might run and not grow weary, walk and not faint;

Give us courage to transcend lines of party of theology, to break barriers down that we might build ideas up, build people up, build this Commonwealth up.

At the close of this evening; send us forth from this great room to love and serve; send us forth to kindle the spark you have placed in every child of your creation;

Grant us eyes to see the inherent dignity and beauty of all people;

Give us ears to listen for their stories and their dreams;

Give us hands to serve them; to nourish and stoke their gifts until their spark burns so brightly we barely dare look;

God help us to stand on the shoulders of our forebears in the work to make this Commonwealth a beacon; a beacon to the whole

world of justice, equality, camaraderie and possibility.

Sisters and brothers, the one I follow, the one I know as Jesus said this; that we ought to always pray and never faint. And so I say to you, do not pray for easy lives; pray to be stronger women and men. Do not pray for tasks equal to your power but for power equal to your tasks; then the doing of your work will be no miracle, you will be that miracle and every day you will wonder at yourself and the richness of life which has come to you by the grace of God.

So go now in the blessing of peace to bring hope and love and joy, and if you are ready to join me in this prayer, will you say Amen?

The President in the Chair, His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick, 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 Mr. DiDomenico, at eight minutes 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.