

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE IN JOINT SESSION.

Thursday, January 4, 2007.

At four minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., the two branches met in Joint Session.

CONVENTION

in the Chamber of the House of Representatives, for the purpose of administering the oath of office to the Governor-elect, the Lieutenant Governor-elect and the several Councillors-elect, and were called to order by the Honorable Robert E. Travaglini, President of the Senate.

Orders Adopted.

On motion of Ms. Wilkerson,—

Ordered, That a committee be appointed to consist of members of the Senate and the House of Representatives to wait upon the Governor-elect, the Lieutenant-Governor-elect and the several Councilors-elect and inform them that the two branches of the General Court are now in convention for the purpose of administering oaths required to qualify them for the discharge of the duties of their offices. Committee to notify officers elected.

Senators Rosenberg of Hampshire and Franklin, Creedon of Plymouth and Bristol, Morrissey of Norfolk and Plymouth, Murray of Plymouth and Barnstable and Knapik of Hampden and Hampshire were appointed the committee on the part of the Senate; Representatives Rushing of Boston, Grant of Beverly, Rodrigues of Westport, Smizik of Brookline, Kaufman of Lexington, Fox of Boston, Petrolati of Ludlow, Festa of Melrose, Kaprielian of Watertown, Jones of North Reading and Rogeness of Longmeadow were appointed the committee on the part of the House.

Subsequently, Mr. Rosenberg, for the committee, reported that the Governor-elect, Lieutenant Governor-elect and the Councilors-elect were duly notified.

On motion of Mr. Creedon,—

Ordered, that the Convention of the two Houses stand in recess, subject to the call of the Chair; and be it further Special order, meet outside State House.

Ordered, That, the honorable members of the Convention of the two Houses shall proceed, under escort of the Sergeant-at-Arms, to the designated area outside of the Bulfinch State House; and be it further

Ordered, That, notwithstanding the provisions of Joint Rule 24, the convention of the two Houses be called to order at such location for the purpose of complying with the provisions of Article I, Chapter VI, Part the Second of the Constitution relative to the administering of the oaths and affirmations which shall be taken and subscribed to by the Governor-elect, Lieutenant-Governor-elect and the several Councilors-elect.

Accordingly, at a quarter past eleven o'clock A.M., the Joint Session recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at nine minutes before twelve o'clock noon, the Joint Session reassembled in the desig- Recess.

nated area outside of the Bulfinch State House, the President in the Chair.

The Sergeant-at-Arms then escorted into the Joint Session the Constitutional Officers and the Attorney-General-elect Martha Coakley, the Executive-Councilors-elect, the Honorable Timothy P. Murray, Lieutenant-Governor-elect and the Honorable Deval L. Patrick, Governor-elect.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The President, members, guests and employees then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The National Anthem was performed by the Mr. Ernest Triplett.

The invocation was offered by Rabbi Jonah Pesner, as follows:

Governor-elect Patrick, elected and civic leaders, people of the Commonwealth, I am most deeply honored to offer these words of invocation to open this sacred assembly.

In the Talmud, the ancient rabbis teach that whenever we encounter a large gathering of people, it is appropriate to offer the following blessing:

“Blessed is the Wise One
Who understands secrets
For the mind of each
Is different from the other
Just as the face of each
Is different from the other.”

Source of all life,
Out of many,
you have made us ONE.
You have created us splendidly
In our distinctiveness:
You have made us a spectacular,
living tapestry
Many colors and complexions
Rich in languages and beliefs,
varied in our blessings,
and challenged by our curses.

Indeed the face of each one
is different than the other —
And here we gather
meeting,
face to face.

Look around! See the beauty of the faces,
Each one unique
Reflecting the very image
Of the divine
Each one from a common source
A single, sacred family.

Yet behind every face
hides so many secrets.

Pledge of
allegiance.

National
Anthem.

Invocation.

Private, painful secrets of suffering.
If only we would find your Wisdom O God
Revealing all the secrets,
The pained suffering
Of parents who watch helpless
as their children are plagued
by guns, drugs, and gangs
The private pain
of children struggling to care for their parents
as they age and grow frail,
The secret suffering of immigrants
who like us came to this place
to seek a better life
and labor hidden and underpaid in jobs
Upon which the rest of us depend,
but won't do ourselves
Of our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters
who daily confront blatant discrimination,
inequality and humiliation
Of those who sleep in the streets,
Those who are overworked and underpaid,
those who are abused in their own homes
those who are left behind
by their disabilities.

So many secrets,
private sufferings,

Yet we have hope.
Yes we have faith.
Because we have each other.

Assembled here in the light of day
Bathing in the warmth of your presence,
We affirm that democracy
is not built with bricks and mortar;
We know your ancient wisdom
is found in no cathedral,
temple,
Nor shrine —
It is here,
face to face
It is everywhere humanity gathers
And out of many,
makes one.

Let our secrets of suffering
Give way to stories of
Rebuilding
Repair
And Redemption

Stories of redemption
Like a kid from the South Side of Chicago
Becoming the governor of Massachusetts
Representing the people

Invocation.

We the people;

Let us never forget the faces
The secrets
And the stories

God, grant us your wisdom
That we may never forget that
Democracy happens out here —
face to face —
among the people
as we join together
in one spirit
and write one shared story:

the story of a commonwealth
that acts like a commonwealth
where secrets of private suffering
where tales of lonely languish
are joined
through the power of the people
rising up
together
encountering one another
face to face
and writing a new story
one story:

Echoing Isaiah's ancient call:

If you banish the yoke from your midst
The menacing hand
And evil speech
And you offer your compassion to the hungry
And satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
Then shall your light shine in the darkness
And your gloom shall be like noonday.

You shall be like a watered garden
Like a spring whose waters never fail.
And you shall rebuild ancient ruins
You shall restore the foundations of many generations
You shall be called the repairer of the breach.

This is the story of redemption;
The story of a true commonwealth
rebuilt
repaired
and redeemed.

May this be God's will.

Before the President of the Senate, and in the presence of the two Houses of Assembly, the oaths and affirmations of office were then administered to, and subscribed by Carole A. Fiola of Fall River, Kelly A. Timilty of Boston, Marilyn M. Petitto-Devaney of Water-

town, Christopher A. Iannella, Jr., of Boston, Mary-Ellen Manning, Michael J. Callahan of Medford, Thomas J. Foley of Worcester and Thomas T. Merrigan as Councillors.

Before the President of the Senate, and in the presence of the two Houses of Assembly, the oaths and affirmations of office were then administered to, and subscribed by, His Excellency Deval L. Patrick, as Governor, at sixteen minutes past twelve o'clock noon, and a proclamation was made by the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Before the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and in the presence of the two Houses of Assembly, the oaths and affirmation of office were then administered to, and subscribed by His Honor Timothy P. Murray, as Lieutenant-Governor, at twenty minutes past twelve o'clock noon, and a proclamation was made by the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

His Honor the Lieutenant Governor Timothy P. Murray then addressed the convention, as follows (see Senate, No. 2):

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR TIMOTHY P. MURRAY INAUGURAL ADDRESS

We gather together today in this "city on the hill" at this historic location to mark not only a moment of transition, but a moment of history.

When the oath of office for Governor was given, we not only witnessed a first in the Commonwealth's history, but more importantly, we witnessed, in a vivid and tangible way, how our democratic process continues to endure with strength and vitality.

We are inspired by our new Governor's life story of struggle and striving, of hard work and hope, because it reflects the fundamental tenets upon which this Commonwealth and our nation were founded. Governor Patrick's story reflects a shared experience with families and individuals across this state whose daily efforts are the embodiment of those same values and work ethic.

Many of our ancestors came to this great country in ships...Pilgrims and indentured servants greeted by those who were already here.... hopeful masses on immigrant ships.... and generations of forced laborers on slave ships. And new immigrants continue to arrive by air, rail and highway to join us and to become partners in our beautiful, unique, and ongoing experiment in self government. Today brings honor to their sacrifices and to their aspirations.

Today we affirm that we are one Commonwealth.

The concept of democracy and liberty that sprang from Massachusetts and helped create a nation still lives and breaths in its purest form in city and town halls all across our state.

People at the local level have the opportunity to voice and shape their future through the electoral process, and through active engagement and participation in civic affairs. Today we affirm that tradition, and I pledge to you to work with our new governor to create a meaningful collaboration between state and local governments.

We will form a true partnership that respects and encourages civic engagement and works for the advancement of all, because we are one Commonwealth.

Lieutenant-Governor Timothy P. Murray, Inaugural Address.

Lieutenant-
Governor
Timothy P.
Murray,
Inaugural
Address.

We are all so lucky to live here in Massachusetts, where America was born and the American Dream was conceived. Yet, for too many in our state this dream is becoming increasingly out of reach.

Dreams must not be deferred.

The responsibility, therefore, falls to each of us to foster a positive economic environment from one end of the state to the other that encourages inclusion, innovation and industry.

Innovation, coupled with intellectual capital, has allowed this state to reinvent its economy time and again. It values the dignity of honest work and good citizenship and it rewards families like the one that I grew up in where a public school teacher and nurse, children of immigrants themselves, could work hard and build a better future for their five children.

Only through a growing vigorous economy can we ensure that the American Dream is within reach for all in our Commonwealth. It is the dream my wife Tammy and I have worked hard to build for our family, and one that I know all of us here today share.

In pursuit of that goal I believe our economic well-being is inextricably linked to the educational achievement of our people. Historically, in Massachusetts, our leading industries, from early textile manufacturing to financial services and high-tech, from shipping to software engineering to medical research, have been fueled by brainpower and innovation. Today our ability to chart an economic future in the emerging industries of life sciences, nano-technology, renewable energy, and many others that remain on the horizon of our imagination will require a renewed commitment to educational achievement and equality of educational opportunities for all people.

Moreover, we must make Massachusetts an affordable place to live and raise a family so we can retain the graduates of our schools, colleges and universities so that our best and brightest will be here to help create and lead our innovation economy.

I understand these goals are challenging, and that's as it should be. We must aim high.

I believe all things are possible when citizens are keenly aware and are actively engaged in the civic life of their community. I am heartened and encouraged that the recent campaign and transition period saw increased levels of citizen participation all across the Commonwealth.

We need to nurture and foster that important trend. Because with resources limited by the current economic situation, strong, public involvement will be required not only from those in government, but from business and educational leaders, and from our labor, civic, charitable and non-profit organizations, to help us move Massachusetts forward.

Looking out upon this stunning gathering today, and as I reflect on the people I've met all across the state, it is my deepest hope and fervent prayer that years from now it will be said that this Administration made history, not just on its first day, but many, many times over by innovating, adapting and getting the job done. I commit myself completely to that goal and ask every citizen of the Commonwealth to join us in this great effort.

As we go forward from this momentous day, let us, as John Adams said, "cheerfully engage" the opportunities and challenges that confront us knowing our task is both difficult and worthy.

Thank you.

His Excellency the Governor, Deval L. Patrick thereupon submitted his address upon the general concerns of the Commonwealth, as follows (see Senate, No. 1):

GOVERNOR DEVAL L. PATRICK INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Mr. President and Members of the Senate;
Mr. Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives;
Lieutenant Governor and Members of the Governor's Council and the Cabinet;
Madame Chief Justice and Members of the Judiciary;
Former Governors, Honorable Elected Officials and Members of the Diplomatic Corps;
Reverend Clergy;
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen Every One of You;

Governor
Deval L.
Patrick,
Inaugural
Address.

We meet today on a singular occasion. More than the passing of title and honor, more than the ritual transfer of the power of government — this is the occasion when the people charge new leadership to steward the public trust. It is a profound responsibility. I accept it humbly, mindful of the history that brought us here, and the challenges before us.

For a very long time now we have been told that government is bad, that it exists only to serve the powerful and well-connected, that its job is not important enough to be done by anyone competent, let alone committed, and that all of us are on our own. Today we join together in common cause to lay that fallacy to rest, and to extend a great movement based on shared responsibility from the corner office to the corner of your block and back again.

My journey here has been an improbable one. From a place where hope withers, through great schools and challenging opportunities, to this solemn occasion, I have been supported and loved and lifted up. And I thank the family, the mentors, the teachers — every one of whom is here today in body or in spirit — just as I thank the tens of thousands of campaign volunteers and millions of voters across the Commonwealth who shared this improbable journey with me.

America herself is an improbable journey. People have come to these shores from all over the world, in all manner of boats, and built from a wilderness one of the most remarkable societies in human history. We are most remarkable not just for our material accomplishments or military might, but because of the ideals to which we have dedicated ourselves. We have defined those ideals over time and through struggle as equality, opportunity and fair play — ideals about universal human dignity. For these, at the end of the day, we are the envy to the world.

Governor
Deval L.
Patrick,
Inaugural
Address.

Massachusetts invented America. American ideals were first spoken here, first dreamed about here. Our constitution is the oldest, and one of the most explicit about individual freedoms. Our legislature is the longest continuously operating democratic body on the face of the earth. In so many ways, our struggle, our sacrifice, our optimism shaped the institutions and advanced the ideals of this Nation.

Our founders came on the Mayflower, the Arabella, and the early clipper ships. But there were other boats, too. There was the Amistad and her cargo of kidnapped Africans, who commandeered the ship to sail home to Africa, but who were seized in Long Island Sound and imprisoned in New Haven.

On this very day 165 years ago, a young man named Kinna, who had been part of that rebellion, sent a letter from prison to our own John Quincy Adams, who had retired from public life at home in Massachusetts.

Kinna pleaded with Adams to help the 36 captives from his ship to earn their freedom. Adams took the case all the way to the United States Supreme Court and won.

As a gesture of thanks and respect, the Africans gave Adams a Bible, called the Mendi Bible, after their tribal homeland.

I took the oath this morning with my hand resting on that same Bible — and with my resolve strengthened by that same legacy. I am descended from people once forbidden their most basic and fundamental freedoms, a people desperate for a reason to hope and willing to fight for it. And so are you. So are you. Because the Amistad was not just a Black man's journey; it was an American journey. This Commonwealth — and the Nation modeled on it — is at its best when we show we understand a faith in what's possible, and the willingness to work for it.

So, as an American, I am an optimist. But not a foolish one. I see clearly the challenges before us.

I see the young talent and jobs leaving our state, driven away by the high cost of housing.

I see the poor in terrible shape, and the middle class one month away from being poor.

I see the heroin in the cities and the oxycotin in the suburbs, destroying families with cold indifference to class and status.

I see the way the public schools too often fail poor kids and the how the cost of public colleges is pushing young people out.

I see the broken roads and bridges, the soaring health care costs, the high property taxes, the violence in our streets.

But I also see the creativity of our universities.

I also see the ingenuity of our industries.

I also see the skill of our hospitals, the inspiration of our artists.

And I see above all the imagination, the compassion and the energy of our people.

I see what we are capable of — not just as a matter of history, but as a matter of character.

And I am asking you to touch that part of our shared legacy, and reach with me for something better.

I know that we can have more and better jobs, and a stronger economy. But we will need the best prepared workforce on the planet, sim-

pler and faster regulatory processes, a stable and simplified corporate tax structure, and a more cooperative relationship between labor and business. Let's reach for that.

I know we can have better schools to support that emerging economy, and to prepare today's and tomorrow's citizens. But we will need high expectations for our kids at home as well as at schools, more flexibility in the classrooms and even in what we consider to be a "classroom," early education and after-school programs, and public colleges and universities every bit as well-supported and honored as their private counterparts. Let's reach for that.

I know we can have more accessible and more affordable health care for ourselves and our families. But it will take transparency among clinicians and health insurers, a system of care that makes more use of community settings, simplified administrative systems, and government stewardship for the good of the whole. Let's reach for that.

I know we can have safer neighborhoods. But it will take more community-based patrols, after-school and enrichment programs, summer job and volunteer opportunities for young people, training and pre-release preparation for inmates, and sensible reform of both CORI and sentencing. Let's reach for that.

We know what to do. We know that our challenges were long in the making and will require long-term solutions. We know what to reach for. And we ought to know that either we invest today or we will surely pay excessively tomorrow. We know that investment in education today beats investment in prisons tomorrow.

Quick fixes, gimmicks and sound bites are not enough. That's not in the spirit of what built this country. That is not what cleared the forest and planted New England's earliest farms. It's not what inspired our great universities and museums. It's not what created the boom in textile manufacturing in its time or a flourishing biotech industry today. It's not what freed the colonies from oppression or the slaves from bondage or women from second class citizenship.

What has distinguished us at every signature moment of our history is the willingness to look a challenge right in the eye, the instinct to measure it against our ideals, and the sustained dedication to close the gap between the two. That is who we are.

We will need different tools and different approaches, ones for our times. As your governor, I have broad responsibility for what goes right and what goes wrong, but far less authority than I need to influence the course of either. For that reason, I will reorganize the executive branch, to simplify our systems, to make it more modern and accessible and accountable, to enable our public employees to concentrate on the public service at the core of their assignments, and to enable your governor to advance the agenda you elected me to do.

I will ask municipalities to enter into a new partnership with state government, so that we can work together to reduce their operating costs, to better plan across regions, and to rebuild city and town centers into stronger economic cores.

And I will be calling on you each one of you to stay engaged, to bring forward your solutions, not just your problems, to suggest a better way, to keep your eye on the higher ground we seek, and to act like this State House is your House. You stood up, and you reached out,

Governor
Deval L.
Patrick,
Inaugural
Address.

from every corner of the Commonwealth, working together in the best example in recent memory of a bedrock democratic principle: that to make any difference in our common realities, we must see our stake in each others' dreams and struggles as well as our own, and act on that.

My point is that we will be doing some things differently. Moving today's rituals within reach of you is symbolic of that. Change is not always comfortable or convenient or welcome. But it is what we hoped for, what we have worked for, what you voted for, and what you shall have.

I got a letter from a woman in Worcester named Stacy Amaral a few weeks ago. She told me how she — like my own mother — had raised two children on her own, now both grown and doing well. Stacy now helps care for her mother, a frail 82-year-old woman of just 85 pounds, who is recovering from cancer and a broken hip.

On Election Day, when Stacy went to collect her mother to go to the polls, she arrived to find the elevators in the building weren't functioning. She had to walk up six flights of stairs to her mother's apartment. When she told her mother that she was sorry she wouldn't be able to get down (or back up for that matter) because the elevators were not working, her mother got her coat and started down the six flights of stairs. Half an hour later, one cautious step after another, her daughter following her with the walker in one hand and two pocketbooks in the other, Stacy's mother got down those six flights of stairs. I have no idea how long it took her to get back up again later on.

That frail 82-year-old did not walk down six flights of stairs for us to conduct the business of government the same old way. It is time for a change. And we are that change.

To the earliest settlers of this Commonwealth, as we have been reminded on a couple of occasions today, this Commonwealth was their shining "city on a hill." To this kid from the South Side of Chicago, Massachusetts is my city on a hill. For every mother living month to month; for every student struggling to get through school; for every dad working two jobs and wondering which one is going to be shipped overseas; for every fisherman wondering whether this year's catch will do; for every immigrant wondering whether the American Dream is a myth; for every teacher, every bus driver, every government clerk, every firefighter, every small business owner doing your best and wondering whether anyone appreciates you; for every one of God's children who calls Massachusetts home — let's rebuild our "city on a hill," and make it shine again.

God bless our work and God bless you all.

Thank you.

On motion of Ms. Murray, the remarks of the Lieutenant-Governor and Governor were ordered printed in the Journal of the Joint Session.

The musical selection was then performed by the Boston Children's Choir.

The benediction was given by Reverend Charles J. Dumphy.

Ordered
printed.

Boston s
Children s
Choir.

Benediction.

His Excellency the Governor, His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, the Constitutional Officers and the Honorable Executive Council then withdrew from the Joint Session, under the escort of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

On motion of Mr. Walsh, at three minutes before one o'clock P.M., the Convention of the Two Branches was dissolved; and the House withdrew from the Joint Session, under the escort of the Sergeant-at-Arms.