

Monday, January 26, 2009.

Met according adjournment, at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Donato of Medford in the Chair (having been appointed by the Speaker, under authority conferred by Rule 5, to perform the duties of the Chair).

Prayer was offered by the Reverend Robert F. Quinn, C.S.P., Chaplain of the House, as follows:

God, Our Creator, we depend upon You, Your guidance and Your spiritual values as our guide in addressing the legislative and administrative issues, sometimes controversial, which come before us on a daily basis. Inspire us to select the right, ethically correct and just legislative options which are available to us. Grant us the wisdom to use correctly our reasoning and listening skills as we together try in a constructive manner to work through the challenges which we face as a diverse society. Teach us to be aware of the many needs of people and our communities in crafting legislation and programs which try to resolve the economic, political and social conditions of the present time. May we continue to respect our national tradition of recognizing the rights and well being of all with emphasis on rights of the most vulnerable, dependent and the innocent.

Grant Your blessings to the Speaker, the members and employees of this House and their families. Amen.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Donato), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Resignation of Representative Salvatore F. DiMasio of Boston.

The following communication, received this day in the office of the Clerk, was read for the information of the House, and placed on file:

January 26, 2009.

Steven T. James, Clerk
House of Representatives
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Mr. Clerk:

I am writing to inform you that I am resigning as Speaker of the House of Representatives and as a member effective Tuesday, January 27, 2009 at 5:00 P.M.

I wish to express my sincerest thanks to all the members of the House of Representatives with whom I have had the honor to serve since 1979. Members of the House have been family to me and words could never properly describe how much I appreciate all of the kindnesses, that they have extended to me. To the dedicated

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staff of the House of Representatives my heartfelt thanks for all that you do each day to help the citizens of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
As I reflect on my 30 years of public service I realize one thing above all, that I have truly been blessed.

Very truly yours,

SALVATORE F. DIMASI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Appointments of the Minority Leader.

The Minority Leader announced that he had made the following appointments on Thursday, January 22, 2009:

Assistant Minority Leaders.

That Representative Hill of Ipswich had been appointed Second Assistant Minority Floor Leader and Representative Poirier of North Attleborough had been appointed Third Assistant Minority Floor Leader; and

Ranking minority party committee members.

That Representative Frost of Auburn had been appointed as the ranking member of the minority party on the House committee on Rules;

That Representative Ross of Wrentham had been appointed as the ranking member of the minority party on the joint committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies;

That Representative Barrows of Mansfield had been appointed as the ranking member of the minority party on the joint committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets; and

That Representative Hargraves of Groton had been appointed as the ranking member of the minority party on the joint committee on Health Care Financing.

Recess.

Recess.

At five minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Jones of North Reading (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed, subject to the call of the Chair; and at five minutes after five o'clock P.M., the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Message from His Excellency the Governor.

Turnpike Authority,—payment obligations.

A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to extending the Commonwealth's power to guarantee obligations of the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority (House, No. 100), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Friday, January 23.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, to the temporary committee on Transportation.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions (filed with the Clerk) were referred, under Rule 85, to the temporary committee on Rules:

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Poirier of North Attleborough and Bowles of Attleboro) on the occasion of the observance of National Catholic Schools Week by Bishop Feehan High School in Attleboro;

Catholic Schools Week.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Poirier of North Attleborough, Fagan of Taunton, Haddad of Somerset and Canessa of New Bedford) on the occasion of the observance of National Catholic Schools Week by Coyle Cassidy High School in Taunton;

Id.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Poirier of North Attleborough, Fagan of Taunton, Haddad of Somerset and Canessa of New Bedford) on the occasion of the observance of National Catholic Schools Week by Our Lady of Lourdes School in Taunton;

Id.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Poirier of North Attleborough, Barrows of Mansfield and Kafka of Stoughton) on the occasion of the observance of National Catholic Schools Week by Saint Mary's School in Mansfield;

Id.

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Poirier of North Attleborough) on the occasion of the observance of National Catholic Schools Week by Saint Mary's/Sacred Heart School in North Attleborough;

Id.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Poirier of North Attleborough and Bowles of Attleboro) on the occasion of the observance of National Catholic Schools Week by St. John's School in Attleboro;

Id.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Poirier of North Attleborough, Fagan of Taunton, Haddad of Somerset and Canessa of New Bedford) on the occasion of the observance of National Catholic Schools Week by Taunton Catholic Middle School in Taunton;

Id.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Stanley of West Newbury) congratulating Aldene Gordon on the occasion of her ninetieth birthday, January 18, 2009; and

Aldene Gordon.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Turner of Dennis) congratulating Aaron M. Tokarz on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America;

Aaron M. Tokarz.

Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the temporary committee on Rules, reported, in each instance, that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Walsh of Lynn, the resolutions were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Order.

On motion of Mr. DiMasi of Boston,—
Ordered. That, unless otherwise ordered, when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet tomorrow at one o'clock P.M.; that when the House adjourns tomorrow, it adjourn to meet on Wednesday at half past one o'clock P.M., that when the House adjourns on Wednesday, it adjourn to meet on Thursday at eleven o'clock A.M.; that when the House adjourns on Thursday, it adjourn to meet on Friday at eleven o'clock A.M.; that when the House adjourns on Friday, it adjourn to meet on the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M.; and that the hour of meeting for next week be at eleven o'clock on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Next sittings.

At ten minutes after five o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Costello of Newbury (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following day at one o'clock P.M., in an Informal Session.