

Monday, January 29, 2007.

Met according to adjournment, at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Petrolati of Ludlow 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:

Prayer.

Eternal God, we begin this legislative workweek with enthusiasm, hope and confidence in You and Your assistance, which You freely offer to us each day. In Your goodness, help us to comprehend accurately the many complicated public policy and legislative issues on our personal and legislative agenda. Help us to measure up to the needs of constituents, our communities and the times. We pray for the patience to be good and objective listeners in our search for truth and sound and fair decisions. Teach us to respect and to be open to the opinions of others, but to remain faithful to traditional principles, personal goals and human and spiritual values.

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

Pledge of allegiance.

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

Resolutions.

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

Albert Sherman.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. DiMasi of Boston) congratulating Albert Sherman on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Jewish Community Relations Council;

Emery Haskell.

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Fallon of Malden and Donato of Medford) honoring United States Navy Commander Emery Haskell upon his return from active military service in Iraq;

Charles F. Monahan, Jr.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Koutoujian of Waltham) congratulating Charles F. Monahan, Jr., on his decade of service as President of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences;

Shirley Gomes.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Peake of Provincetown and other members of the House) congratulating State Representative Shirley Gomes;

Bishop Feehan High School.

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

Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore.

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Poirier of North Attleborough) congratulating Ralph and Donna Gilmore on their fiftieth wedding anniversary;

Saint John's School.

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

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;

Saint Mary's School.

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 Attleboro; and

Saint Mary's Sacred Heart School.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Walz of Boston) recognizing February 2007 as American Heart Month in Massachusetts;

American Heart Month.

Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the 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. Speliotis of Danvers, the resolutions were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Orders of the Day.

House bills

Authorizing the town of Monroe to exempt certain property from taxation (House, No. 2008) (its title having been changed);

Third reading bills.

Establishing an office of finance in the town of Spencer (House, No. 2013);

Relative to the procedures of town meeting in the town of Burlington (House, No. 2014) (its title having been changed);

Authorizing the town of Wellesley to establish a group insurance liability fund (House, No. 2015);

Authorizing the town of North Attleborough to enter into a certain lease (House, No. 2016);

Authorizing the town of Westborough to release an easement over land (House, No. 2017);

Relative to health benefits in the town of North Andover (House, No. 2018) (its title having been changed);

Establishing a golf course capital improvement fund in the town of Dennis (House, No. 2019);

Establishing a sick leave bank for Anthony Ferrara, an employee of the Department of Revenue (House, No. 2022);

Authorizing the abatement of certain property tax assessments in the town of Danvers (printed in House, No. 2023);

Relative to the sewerage facilities and betterments in the town of Millbury (House, No. 2024); and

Authorizing the town of Florida to exempt certain property from taxation (House, No. 2025) (its title having been changed);

Severally having been perfected by the House Counsel, in accordance with an order previously adopted by the House, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Recess.

At thirteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford (Mr. Petrolati of Ludlow being in the Chair), the House recessed until the hour of two o'clock P.M.; and at that time the House was called to order with Mr. Donato of Medford in the Chair.

Recess.

Resignation of Representative Coughlin of Dedham.

The following communication, received this day by the Clerk from the office of the Speaker, was read for the information of the House; and placed on file, to wit:—

January 29, 2007.

The Honorable Salvatore F. DiMasi
Speaker of the House
State House, Boston, MA 02133

Dear Mr. Speaker,

Resignation of
Representative
Robert K.
Coughlin of
Dedham.

I am writing to offer my resignation as State Representative from the 11th Norfolk District, effective today, Monday, January 29, 2007.

It has been a pleasure working with you and all of our colleagues in the House and Senate. I look forward to our continued relationship.

Sincerely,

ROBERT K. COUGHLIN,
*State Representative,
Eleventh Norfolk District.*

Engrossed Bill.

Bill
enacted.

The engrossed Bill authorizing the abatement of certain property tax assessments in the town of Danvers (see House bill printed in House, No. 2023) (which originated in the House), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be enacted (more than two-thirds of the members having agreed to pass the same); and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Recess.

Recess.

At seven minutes after two o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Rush of Boston (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed until a quarter after three o'clock; and at twenty-four minutes after three o'clock the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Order.

The following order (filed this day with the Clerk by Mr. DiMasi of Boston) was considered forthwith, under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Rush of Boston, as follows:

Eleventh
Norfolk
Representative
District,—
time for
election to
fill vacancy.

Ordered, That the precept to be issued by the Speaker, under the provisions of Section 141 of Chapter 54 of the General Laws, appointing a time for the election to fill the vacancy existing in the office of Representative in the General Court from the Eleventh Norfolk District shall designate, Tuesday, May 15, 2007, as the time ordered by the House of Representatives for said election.

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill prohibiting certain dumping in the city of Brockton (Senate, No. 5) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received], passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read. Brockton,—
illegal
dumping.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Rush of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

A Bill relating to the railroad depot contamination remediation and redevelopment project in the city of New Bedford (Senate, No. 7) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received], passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read. New Bedford
Depot,—
clean-up.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Rush of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

A Bill authorizing the town of Rockland to issue an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (Senate, No. 8) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received], passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read. Rockland,—
liquor
licenses.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Rush of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

A Bill relative to residency requirements for regular fire and police officers (Senate, No. 9) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received], passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read. Boxborough,—
police
and fire.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Rush of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

Order.

On motion of Mr. DiMasi of Boston,—
Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M. Next
sitting.

At twenty-eight minutes before four o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Lepper of Attleboro (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.