

Monday, March 30, 2009.

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 depend upon You for guidance in our legislative and personal decision-making actions. We are confident that with Your assistance we will select the most reasonable, relevant, fair and ethical options which are available to us. In these days of crowded schedules and complex and sensitive legislative issues, inspire us, as elected leaders, to have good listening skills and goodwill to plan together in meeting our current and future needs. Teach us to be open to the sound suggestions of both constituents and colleagues. At the same time, may we have the courage to reject those suggestions and programs which do not serve the current or future best interest of the people, our communities and society. In this era of vast amounts of information, data and technological knowledge, grant us the good sense and the self-confidence to accept or reject the validity of the reports which come to us for legislation action.

Grant Your blessings to the Speaker, 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:

Ed Porter. Resolutions (filed by Mr. Guyer of Dalton) honoring Ed Porter for his work with the United Arc of Franklin and Hampshire County;

Gerald L. Stevens. Resolutions (filed by Messrs. O'Day of West Boylston, Binienda of Worcester, Fresolo of Worcester, Pedone of Worcester and Spellane of Worcester) honoring Gerald L. Stevens for his dedicated service to the Tris Speaker Little League and to the families of Worcester;

Brendan F. Quinn. Resolutions (filed by Mr. Ross of Wrentham) congratulating Brendan F. Quinn of Medfield upon his elevation to the rank of Eagle Scout;

Luke Sullivan. Resolutions (filed by Mr. Ross of Wrentham) congratulating Luke Sullivan of Medfield upon his elevation to the rank of Eagle Scout; and

Jon K. Ward. Resolutions (filed by Mr. Ross of Wrentham) congratulating Jon K. Ward of Norfolk upon his elevation to the rank of Eagle Scout;

Mr. Binienda of Worcester, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Linsky of Natick, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Petition.

Mr. Honan of Boston presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Kevin G. Honan relative to the use of housing stabilization and investment trust funds for the soft second mortgage program, so-called; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Homeowner-ship,—soft second mortgages.

Mr. Binienda of Worcester for the committee on Rules and the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently then reported recommending that Joint Rule 12 be suspended. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Peisch of Wellesley, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Housing. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Paper from the Senate.

A Bill modernizing the transportation systems of the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 2024) (on Senate bill No. 2023) passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 17G, to the committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets.

Transportation systems,—modernization.

Orders of the Day.

House Bills Establishing a sick leave bank for Michael P. Harrington, an employee of the Department of Conservation and Recreation (House, No. 2579) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading);

Third reading bills.

Relative to the town clerk of the town of Weston (House, No. 3472); and

Authorizing the city of Beverly to issue additional liquor licenses to Joseph A. Leone, d/b/a the Black Cow Restaurant, and to the American BBQ LLC d/b/a The American BBQ (House, No. 3795);

Severally reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Order.

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

Next sitting.

At twenty-four minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Kafka of Stoughton (Mr. Petrolati of Ludlow being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Thursday at eleven o'clock A.M.