

Monday, April 13, 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. God, Our Creator, this morning we begin a new workweek which follows a week of religious observances and celebrations for Christians and Jews. As a result of attending religious services, the minds and hearts of many are filled with peace, joy and hope during this season of the year. In Your goodness, help us to strengthen these traditional values in our own daily lives and in dealing with other people. As elected leaders, grant us the wisdom which, we believe, enables us to understand more clearly and to act more thoughtfully on the difficult and sensitive issues on our agenda. In these changing economic and political times, inspire us to make decisions and choices which are right, reasonable, fair and ethical. May we continue our efforts to build the future of our society, communities and neighborhoods on traditional principles and goals.

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:

Multiple Sclerosis Week. Resolutions (filed by Ms. Malia of Boston and other members of the House) recognizing Multiple Sclerosis Week April 12th-18th, 2009; and

Bennyne Nell Crawford. Resolutions (filed by Mr. Swan of Springfield) celebrating First Lady Bennyne Nell Crawford Appreciation Day;

Mr. Binienda of Worcester, 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. Kafka of Stoughton, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Petition.

Melrose,—traffic safety. Ms. Clark of Melrose presented a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4055) of Katherine M. Clark and others (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Melrose be authorized to establish traffic safety zones; and the same was referred to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Murphy of Burlington, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Senate Bill providing responsible reforms in the pension system (Senate, No. 2026) ought to pass with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 4054. Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling. Pension reform.

Mr. Kafka of Stoughton, for said committee reported recommending that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Kafka of Stoughton, the bill was read a second time forthwith.

The amendment recommended by the committee on Ways and Means then was adopted; and the bill (Senate, No. 2026, amended) was referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Mr. Binienda of Worcester, for said committees, then reported recommending that the bill ought to pass.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Walsh of the Lynn, the bill was considered forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

By Mr. Speliotis of Danvers, for the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, on a petition, a Bill relative to a certain alcoholic beverages license in the town of Dracut (House, No. 3800) [Local Approval Received]. Dracut,—liquor license.

By Mr. Spellane of Worcester, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Cassandra Macklan, an employee of the Department of Health and Human Services (House, No. 3942). Cassandra Macklan.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to establish a sick leave bank for Geraldine Egan, an employee of the Department of Public Health (House, No. 4048). Geraldine Egan.

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Order.

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

At a quarter after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Walsh of Lynn (Mr. Petrolati of Ludlow being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the next day at eleven o'clock A.M.