

Thursday, May 10, 2007.

Met according to 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:

In our daily struggle to make prudent and objective decisions, we ask You, Our Creator and Protector, for Your guidance and direction. Your spiritual gifts and our own intellects and wills enable us to act in a responsible, just and thoughtful manner on these and all matters. In this era of new scientific break-throughs and vast amounts of new data and information, teach us to keep all issues in clear focus as we learn to cope with new realities. May we have the patience and good will to reason together in resolving the issues of the day and the times.

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.

*Resolutions.*

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

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Rogers of Norwood, Kafka of Stoughton and Ross of Wrentham) congratulating Dr. Kathleen A. Smith on the occasion of her retirement;

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Costello of Newburyport and Dempsey of Haverhill) on the two hundredth birthday anniversary of John Greenleaf Whittier;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. D'Amico of Seekonk) congratulating Kassandra Costa on receiving the Gold Award of the Girl Scouts of America;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. D'Amico of Seekonk) congratulating Maria Lucas on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. D'Amico of Seekonk) congratulating Shannon McBride on receiving the Gold Award of the Girl Scouts of America;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. D'Amico of Seekonk) honoring elders on the occasion of National Nursing Home Week;

Resolutions (filed by Mr. D'Amico of Seekonk) congratulating Christie Vincelette on receiving the Gold Award of the Girl Scouts of America;

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Flanagan of Leominster) congratulating Community Healthlink's Lipton Counseling Centers fiftieth anniversary;

Robert M. Sullivan.

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Fresolo of Worcester and Spellane of Worcester) commending Robert M. Sullivan for his life in public education;

Richard Moser.

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Hall of Westford, Golden of Lowell and Nangle of Lowell) on the retirement of Dr. Richard Moser; and

Women's Action for New Direction.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Khan of Newton and other members of the House) in honor of the twenty fifth anniversary of Women's Action for New Direction (WAND);

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 Ms. Provost of Somerville, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

*Papers from the Senate.*

Breastfeeding,—  
health  
benefits.

A report of the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 78) of Susan C. Fargo, David P. Linsky, Edward M. Augustus, Jr., Lida E. Harkins and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to the public health benefits of breastfeeding, and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Public Health,— accepted by the Senate, was considered forthwith, under Rule 42; and it was accepted, in concurrence.

Petitions were referred, in concurrence, as follows:

Dedham,—  
liquor  
license.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2228) of Marian Walsh (by vote of the town of Dedham) for legislation to authorize the town of Dedham to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages. To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Dedham,—  
room tax.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2231) of Marian Walsh (by vote of the town of Dedham) for legislation to provide for the imposition of a financing fee upon the transfer of occupancy of any room or rooms in any hotel, motel, or other lodging establishment in the town of Dedham. To the committee on Revenue.

Dedham,—  
Cedar Street  
truck traffic.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2229) of Marian Walsh (by vote of the town of Dedham) for legislation to prohibit truck traffic on a portion of Cedar Street in the town of Dedham; and

Dedham,—  
East Street  
truck traffic.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2230) of Marian Walsh (by vote of the town of Dedham) for legislation prohibiting truck traffic on a portion of East Street in the town of Dedham;

Severally to the committee on Transportation.

*Reports of Committees.*

Thomas Connolly,—  
sick leave.

By Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the committee on Rules and the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the petition of Richard J. Ross for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Thomas A. Connolly, an employees of the Department of Correction. Under suspension of the rules, on

motion of Ms. Wolf of Cambridge, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Public Service. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

By Mr. Rodrigues of Westport, for the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 279) of Harold P. Naughton, Jr., relative to telecommunications professionals,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy;

Telecommunication workers.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Housing, asking to be discharged from further consideration

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1235) of Lida E. Harkins and others relative to the disposition of certain property at Medfield State Hospital,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets;

Medfield State Hospital.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1266) of Peter J. Koutoujian and Martin J. Walsh relative to the creation of family justice centers to assist victims of abuse in certain court jurisdictions,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on the Judiciary;

Family justice centers.

By Mr. Koutoujian of Waltham, for the committee on Public Health, asking to be discharged from further consideration

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2195) of J. James Marzilli, Jr., and others for legislation to establish a department of home and community-based services; and

Home services department,— creation.

Of the joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2245) of Brian A. Joyce and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the use of behavior modification techniques used in the Commonwealth;

Behavior modification,— study.

And recommending that the same severally be referred to the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities;

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2039) of Bruce J. Ayers relative to deceptive actions perpetrated against elderly and disabled persons,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Elder Affairs;

Disabled and seniors,— unfair treatment.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2084) of James H. Fagan and Eric J. Ruby for legislation to provide additional funds for the Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund;

Spinal cord injuries.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2119) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others for legislation to establish a commission (including members of the General Court) to study methods of reducing health care administrative costs in the Commonwealth;

Health care administrative costs,— study.

Of the joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2197) of J. James Marzilli, Jr., and others for legislation to regulate and control the costs of health care in the Commonwealth; and

Health care,— costs.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2239) of John W. Scibak and others that hearing aids be included in coverage under health insurance plans;

Hearing aids,— insurance.

And recommending that the same severally be referred to the committee on Health Care Financing;

Publicly  
funded  
beds,—  
removal.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2150) of Peter J. Koutoujian that the Department of Public Health be required to hold public hearings before the removal of publicly-funded beds under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Mental Health and Substance Abuse;

Maribeth  
Ahearn,—  
retirement.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2047) of Garrett J. Bradley and another relative to authorizing the Teachers' Retirement System to grant creditable service to Maribeth Ahearn,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Public Service;

Wheelchair  
transporting.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2040) of Bruce J. Ayers relative to further regulating the transportation of persons in wheelchairs in motor vehicles,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Transportation; and

Sustainable  
building,—  
state  
projects.

By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1901) of Pamela Resor, Frank I. Smizik, Marc R. Pacheco, James E. Timilty and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to sustainable building in state construction projects,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

Under Rule 42, the reports severally were considered forthwith; and they were accepted. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Lexington,—  
town  
meetings.

By Mr. Pedone of Worcester, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill relative to town meeting votes in the town of Lexington (House, No. 1958) [Local Approval Received].

Northampton,—  
property.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to certain real property in the city of Northampton (House, No. 3975). [Local Approval Received].

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

#### *Recess.*

Recess.

At ten minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Peterson of Grafton (Mr. Donato of Medford 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 in the Chair.

#### *Message from the Governor.*

Supplemental  
Appropriations.

A message from His Excellency the Governor submitting requests for making appropriations for the fiscal year 2007 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (House, No. 4020) was filed this day in the office of the Clerk.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Ways and Means.

*Reports of Committees.*

By Mr. Wagner of Chicopee, for the committee on Transportation, on a petition, a Bill designating a bridge in the city of Methuen as the Corporal David M. Vincente Bridge (House, No. 3446). Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Methuen,—  
Vincente  
Bridge.

Mr. Donato of Medford, for said committee, reported that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Campbell of Methuen, 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 Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next  
sitting.

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At five minutes after two o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Peterson of Grafton (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.