

Thursday, May 17, 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:

Prayer.

Gracious God, in Whom we place our trust, we try each day with Your guidance to cope successfully with our many personal and legislative responsibilities and challenges. Your assistance also helps us to accept gratefully all opportunities for serving others to the best of our ability. In these uneasy and uncertain times, help us to be leaders who can read the signs of the times correctly. With Your guidance, we will make sound and reasonable decisions on all the items before us. Inspire us to keep in mind both the current and future needs of people in our communities.

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. Donato), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Statement of Representative Kocot of Northampton.

A statement of Mr. Kocot of Northampton was spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

Statement of Representative Kocot of Northampton.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call to the attention of the House the fact that I was not able to be present in the House Chamber for the final roll call of yesterday's sitting due to official business in another part of the State House.

Resolutions.

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

Elia Marnik.

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Jones of North Reading and Natale of Woburn) honoring Elia Marnik;

Leader Bank.

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Brownsberger of Belmont, Kaufman of Lexington and Marzilli of Arlington) honoring the fifth anniversary of the founding of Leader Bank in Arlington;

World Peace Tour Day.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Allen of Boston) recognizing World Peace Tour Day;

Anthony and Marguerite Martin.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Fagan of Taunton) congratulating Anthony and Marguerite Martin on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary;

Charles A. Winchester.

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Murphy of Burlington, Kaufman of Lexington, Casey of Winchester, Jones of North Reading and Miceli of Wilmington) congratulating Charles A. Winchester on his retirement;

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Poirier of North Attleborough, Barrows of Mansfield and D'Amico of Seekonk) congratulating Matthew Salvus on receiving the Eagle Scout Award of the Boy Scouts of America; Matthew Salvus.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Vallee of Franklin) honoring the memory of Lester J. Chelotti for his many accomplishments and admirable service to the Commonwealth and the nation as a veteran of World War II; Lester J. Chelotti.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Verga of Gloucester and other members of the House) recognizing National Safe Boating Week, May 19 to 25, 2007; National Safe Boating Week.

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Walrath of Stow) congratulating Axel P. N. Anderson on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America; Axel P.N. Anderson.

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Walrath of Stow) congratulating John Patrick Delaney on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America; John Patrick Delaney.

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Walrath of Stow) congratulating Zachary Louis Simmons on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America; and Zachary Louis Simmons.

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Walrath of Stow) congratulating Steven Andrew Sterling on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America; Steven Andrew Sterling.

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

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Mr. Dempsey of Haverhill, petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4040) of Brian S. Dempsey and others (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the use of voting machines in the city of Haverhill; and Haverhill,— voting machines.

By Mr. Conroy of Wayland, petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4042) of Thomas P. Conroy and Pamela P. Resor (by vote of the town) relative to extending the election date for the approval of a debt exclusion vote in the town of Sudbury; Sudbury,— debt exclusion.

Severally to the committee on Election Laws.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Donato of Medford, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the Bill providing for creditable service in a retirement system for out of state service as a police officer (House, No. 2586, changed),— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Ways and Means. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted. Police officers,— retirement.

Golf courses,—
alcoholic
beverages.

By Mr. Donato of Medford, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the Bill relative to the issuance of certain special alcoholic beverages licenses (House, No. 285),— and recommending that the same be recommitted to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted.

Awarding
authorities,—
cost
estimates.

By Mr. Torrisi of North Andover, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1778) of Antonio F. D. Cabral relative to outdated cost estimates by awarding authorities;

September 11,—
half-staff flag.

By Mr. Kaufman of Lexington, for the committee on Public Service, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3743) of Walter F. Timilty and others for legislation to require the flag of the Commonwealth to be flown at half-staff annually to honor the victims of the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001;

And recommending that the same severally be referred to the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

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

Health Care,—
study.

By Mrs. Walrath of Stow, for the committee on Health Care Financing, on House, Nos. 1122, 1157, 1159 and 1163, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Health Care Financing to make an investigation and study of certain House documents concerning health care mandates and prescription drugs (House, No. 4038).

Libraries,—
study.

By Mr. Turkington of Falmouth, for the committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development, on Senate, No. 2005 and House, No. 3403, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Affairs to make an investigation and study of certain Senate and House documents concerning library issues (House, No. 4039).

Severally referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Subsequently Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for said committees, reported, in each instance, asking to be discharged from further consideration of said orders; and recommending that the same severally be referred to the House committee on Rules.

Under Rule 42, the reports severally were considered forthwith; and they were accepted.

Nursing
homes,—
spousal
income.
Long term care
facilities,—
allowances.

By Mr. Correia of Fall River, for the committee on Elder Affairs, on a petition, a Bill to correct income calculation for spouses of nursing home residents (House, No. 601).

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 431 and House, No. 1126, a Bill to increase the personal care allowance for residents of long term care facilities (House, No. 1126).

Severally referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Housing, on House, Nos. 1729 and 3786, a Bill relative to employer assisted housing (House, No. 3786). Read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means. Housing,—
employer
assisted.

By Mr. Bradley of Hingham, for the committee on Election Laws, on a petition, a Bill regulating preliminary elections in the city of Woburn (House, No. 3973) [Local Approval Received]. Woburn,—
elections.

By Mr. O’Flaherty of Chelsea, for the committee on the Judiciary, on a petition, a Bill relative to the fines for illegal dumping in the city of Fitchburg (House, No. 3939) [Local Approval Received]. Fitchburg,—
illegal
dumping.

By Mr. Pedone of Worcester, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill relative to the investment of trust funds for the city of Newton (House, No. 3951) [Local Approval Received]. Newton,—
investments.

By Mr. Kaufman of Lexington, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Thomas A. Connolly, an employee of the Department of Correction (House, No. 4023). Thomas
Connolly,—
sick leave.

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

Recess.

At nine minutes after eleven o’clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Stanley of Waltham (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed until the hour of twelve o’clock noon; and at that time the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair. Recess.

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill relative to the maximum age requirement for police officers for the city of Boston (see House, No. 4016), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was put upon its final passage. Boston,—
police
officers.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be enacted, Mr. Wallace of Boston moved that Rule 40 be suspended; and the motion prevailed.

The same member then moved that the bill be amended by adding at the end thereof the following section:

“SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.”.

The amendment was adopted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

At nineteen minutes after twelve o’clock noon, on motion of Mr. Lepper of Attleboro (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed until one o’clock P.M.; and at that time the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair. Recess.

The Senate having concurred in the amendment, the bill, having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, then was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate. Bill
enacted.

Orders of the Day.

The House Bill relative to the relocation and alteration of the layout of High Pole Hill Road in the town of Provincetown (House, No. 3755), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to Third
reading
bill.

be correctly drawn, was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Order.

On motion of Mr. DiMasi of Boston,—

Next
sitting.

Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

At seven minutes after one 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 Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.