

Thursday, October 15, 2009.

Met according to adjournment, at eleven o'clock A.M., 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.

Prayer was offered by the Reverend Robert F. Quinn, C.S.P., Chaplain of the House, as follows:

Gracious God, the Ultimate Source of Truth and Goodness, we look to You for guidance and direction as we take up and discuss the items on today's Calendar. We believe that Your gift of wisdom enables us to make decisions and choices which are just, seasoned and ethical. In our decision making actions, inspire us to be sure of the needs of people and of the Commonwealth in these difficult economic times. May the common good remain a priority on our common agenda. Teach us to be conscious of the basic constitutional rights and the dignity of all individuals in our society. Help us to motivate all people to use their personal intellectual talents and gifts in a productive and beneficial manner for their own good and the good of society. May we enjoy the blessings of Your peace as we carry out our daily tasks and responsibilities.

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.

Silent Prayer.

Susan Travis.

At the request of Representatives D'Amico of Seekonk, Haddad of Somerset, Fagan of Taunton, Poirier of North Attleborough and Barrows of Mansfield, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent prayer in memory of Susan M. (Lapiere) Travis, wife of former Representative Philip Travis of Rehoboth, who passed away on October 9th.

Resolutions.

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

Joseph Hassett.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Atsalis of Barnstable) congratulating Joseph Hassett on the occasion of his retirement;

Paul J. Lanzikos.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Grant of Beverly) congratulating Paul J. Lanzikos on being honored by the Chelsea Jewish Foundation at its 2009 Mensch of the Year Breakfast;

Michael P. Sacco.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Pedone of Worcester) honoring Michael P. Sacco on receiving the 2009 Achievement Award; and

Fall River,— Salvation Army.

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Sullivan of Fall River, Aguiar of Fall River and Rodrigues of Westport) congratulating the Fall River branch of the Salvation Army of Massachusetts on the occasion of its one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary;

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

Communication.

A communication from the Health Care Quality and Cost Council providing notice of a public hearing on Tuesday, November 24, 2009 at 10:00 A.M., relative to proposed fees for health care claims data, was spread upon the records of the House and place on file.

Health care claims data,— fees.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Mr. Nangle of Lowell, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of David M. Nangle relative to the sale of tombstones.

Tombstones.

By Mr. Peterson of Grafton, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of George N. Peterson, Jr., relative to naming the portion of state highway Route 140 located in the town of Upton as the George L. Wood Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #5594 and the Marshall-Leland American Legion Post #173 Roadway.

Upton,— Route 140.

Severally referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Papers from the Senate.

The Senate Bill relative to pandemic and disaster preparation and response (Senate, No. 2028, amended), came from the Senate with the endorsement that said branch had non-concurred with the House in its amendments (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 4275; and striking out the title and inserting in place thereof the following title: "An Act relative to public health emergency preparation and response in the Commonwealth."). The bill bore the further endorsement that the Senate had appointed a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches; and that Senators Richard T. Moore, Fargo and Hedlund had been appointed the committee on the part of the Senate.

Public health emergency preparation.

On motion of Mr. Sánchez of Boston, the House insisted on its amendments; and concurred with the Senate in the appointment of a committee of conference. Representatives Sánchez, Grant of Beverly and Evangelidis of Holden then were appointed the committee on the part of the House. Sent to the Senate to be noted.

Committee of conference.

Bills

Designating a certain bridge in the town of Raynham as the SFC Jared C. Monti Bridge (Senate, No. 2177) (on a petition); and

Raynham,— Monti Bridge.

Designating a certain bridge in the city of Taunton as the SSG Adelino Paulo Bridge (Senate, No. 2178) (on a petition);

Taunton,— Paulo Bridge.

Severally passed to be engrossed by the Senate, were read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Aquinnah Sarah Burgess.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2179) of James E. Timilty, Scott P. Brown, Bill Bowles and Elizabeth A. Poirier (by vote of the town) for legislation to increase the pension benefits to Aquinnah Sarah Burgess by the Attleboro retirement system, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Public Service.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Binienda of Worcester, for the committees of Rules of two branches, acting concurrently, that the following bills ought to pass:

Poet laureate.

To create the position of poet laureate for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (House, No. 3146, changed); and

Food council.

Establishing a Massachusetts food policy council (House, No. 4255); Severally referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Bridgewater State Hospital.

By Ms. Malia of Boston, for the committee on Mental Health and Substance Abuse, on a petition, a Bill relative to Bridgewater State Hospital (House, No. 1936).

Minors,— drug overdoses.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 752 and House, No. 1961, a Bill to require parental notice of treatment of minors for drug overdoses (House, No. 1961, changed by inserting after section 2 the following section:

“SECTION 2A. The department of public health will design a pamphlet to be distributed in emergency rooms to parents or legal guardians of a person 17 years of age or younger who is treated for a non-fatal overdose. Said pamphlet shall include, but not be limited to: information on how treatment can help, information on what a parent or legal guardian can do to prevent future overdoses, and information on where the patient can go to get treatment.” and in section 4, in line 15, by striking out the following: “1 and 2” and inserting in place thereof the following: “1, 2 and 2A”).

Emergency mental health.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill improving emergency access to mental health services (House, No. 3465).

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

Low opportunity communities.

By Ms. Forry of Boston, for the committee on Community Development and Small Business, on a petition, a Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to creating and expanding access to opportunity in low-opportunity communities (House, No. 199).

Creative and innovative education.

By Ms. Walz of Boston, for the committee on Education, on House, No. 3547, a Resolve establishing a commission relative to an index of creative and innovative education in the Commonwealth (House, No. 4283).

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

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill ratifying, validating and confirming the election calendar established by the city of Peabody for elections to be held in 2009 (see House, No. 4219) (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; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate. Bill enacted.

Orders of the Day.

The House Bill relative to kayak safety (House, No. 2281), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence. Third reading bill.

Order.

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

Accordingly, without further consideration of the remaining matters in the Orders of the Day, at seventeen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. deMacedo of Plymouth (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.