

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Tuesday, December 2, 2008.

Met according to adjournment, at one o'clock P.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:

Eternal God, we believe that we can depend upon You, Your assistance and guidance during every moment of the day. Inspire us to open our hearts and minds and incline our wills to You, Your ways and Your spiritual and material gifts and values as we carry out our tasks and responsibilities. May the spirit of this joyous season, Christmas, be a time for happy celebrations, renewal of friendships, family gatherings and religious reflections and observances. Let the spirit of goodwill of this unique season fill us with openness to others, to those in need and the importance of protecting the common good in strengthening our basic institutions, our communities and families.

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.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Mr. Hargraves of Groton) relative to the unveiling of the Pennies Memorial on May 31, 2008, commemorating the lives of the one and one half million Jewish children killed in the Holocaust, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the committee on Rules, then reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Kujawski of Webster, 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.

A Bill relative to the pronouncement of death in a rest home (Senate, No. 1319) (on a petition), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Sharon Brady (Senate, No. 2891) (on Senate bill No. 2888), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Tewksbury,
pension
fund.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2890) of Susan C. Tucker, Barry R. Finegold and James R. Miceli (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Tewksbury to issue pension funding bonds or notes, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Reports of Committees.

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 following petitions:

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Alice Hanlon Peisch and others for legislation to eliminate tolls on certain roadways and provide an increase in the tax on gasoline. To the committee on Revenue.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Steven M. Walsh and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the equity of tolls charged motorists by the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority. To the committee on Transportation.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Kafka of Stoughton, the reports were considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 then was suspended, in each instance. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

By Mr. Donato of Medford, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the following matters be scheduled for consideration by the House:

Senate bills

Designating a certain bridge in the towns of Erving and Orange as the Franklin County Purple Heart Memorial Bridge (Senate, No. 2036);

Prohibiting discrimination against physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in securing medical malpractice insurance (Senate, No. 2215);

Authorizing the county commissioners of the county of Dukes County to borrow money to replace the roof of a certain courthouse (Senate, No. 2535);

Designating a certain education center on Chickatawbut Hill in Milton as the Norman Smith Environmental Education Center at Chickatawbut Hill (Senate, No. 2720);

Relative to the sewer system of the town of Ware (Senate, No. 2731);

Establishing a revolving fund in the town of Ware (Senate, No. 2732);

Establishing a selectmen-administrator form of government for the town of Newbury (Senate, No. 2801); and

Increasing the membership of the Board of Selectmen in the town of Newbury (Senate, No. 2802); and

House bills

Relative to the District Court of Malden (House, No. 1408);

Relative to the positions of treasurer and tax collector in the town of Becket (House, No. 4940);

Relative to authorization of a long term lease between the city of Cambridge and the Mount Auburn Memorial Post No. 8818, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Inc. (House, No. 4945);

Relative to the town of Paxton (House, No. 4984);

Relative to the issuance of certain bonds by the town of Northborough (House, No. 5090, changed);

Authorizing the city of Lowell to pay funeral and burial expenses of employees killed in performance of duty (House, No. 5126);

Authorizing the city of Lowell to lease certain city owned land (House, No. 5127); and

Relative to the municipal government of the city of Chicopee (House, No. 5128);

Severally were read a second time forthwith, under suspension of Rule 7A, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Galvin of Canton; and they were ordered to a third reading.

By Mr. Pedone of Worcester, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a message from His Excellency the Governor, a Bill validating the actions taken by the town of Webster open town meeting and establishing a charter for the town of Webster (printed in House, No. 5133).

By Mr. Kaufman of Lexington, for the committee on Public Service, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for a certain employee of the Department of Mental Retardation (House, No. 5151, changed by adding at the end thereof the following paragraph:

“Sick leave bank days may not be used for absences unrelated to the illness or disability that necessitated the establishment of the sick leave bank as determined by the department.”)

By Mr. Wagner of Chicopee, for the committee on Transportation, on a joint petition, a Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Newbury as the William L. Plante Bridge (House, No. 5129).

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

Order.

On motion of Mr. DiMasi of Boston,—

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

Tolls and
gasoline
tax.

Turnpike
tolls,
study.

Purple Heart
Memorial
Bridge.

Physical
therapists.

Dukes
County,
Courthouse.

Milton.

Ware.

ri

Newbury.

ri

Malden court.
Becket.

Cambridge,
VFW Lease.

Paxton.
Northborough.

Lowell.

ri

Chicopee.

Webster,
town
charter.

Michael
German,
sick leave.

Newbury,
William
Plante
Bridge.

Next
sitting.

Speaker DiMasi and Representative Keenan of Salem then moved that as a mark of respect to the memory of Kevin B. Harrington, a member of the Senate from 1958 to 1978, inclusive, serving as President of the Senate from 1970 to 1978, inclusive, the House adjourn; and the motion prevailed.

Accordingly, at half past 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 Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.