

## JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

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Monday, December 12, 2005.

Met at ten minutes past 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:

Gracious God, the Ultimate Source of Goodness and Truth, we pause for a moment of personal reflection and prayer. As elected leaders, help us to identify correctly the many material and spiritual needs and concerns of the people in our communities. Grant us the wisdom to respond to these often emotional issues in a reasoned and mature manner. The special spirit of the season, the Christmas Season, reminds us that these days are a time for giving and not merely receiving and for serving and not for being served. Inspire us to work together in building a compassionate, concerned and ethical society which meets the needs of these changing 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.*

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Mr. Atsalis of Barnstable) congratulating Frederick John Scully on the occasion of his retirement, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Mrs. Harkins of Needham, for the committee on Rules, then reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Flynn of Bridgewater, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

### *Reports of Committees.*

By Mrs. Owens-Hicks of Boston, for the committee on Children and Families, on Senate, No. 124 and House, No. 2836, a Bill relative to medical screening and evaluation within the foster care system (House, No. 2836). Read; and referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

By Mrs. Owens-Hicks of Boston, for the committee on Children and Families, on a petition, a Bill relative to family preservation and rights of families in care and protection of children (House, No. 1450).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to discrimination in public education (House, No. 1452).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing an office of the family and children's ombudsman (House, No. 2807).

Social  
Services.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to employees of the Department of Social Services (House, No. 2808).

Foster  
children.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing a hotline for foster children (House, No. 2809).

Domestic  
violence.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the protection of children in cases of domestic violence (House, No. 2813).

Social  
workers.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to social worker caseloads and service plans (House, No. 2818).

Child  
support.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 117 and House, No. 2823, a Bill to let child support come home (House, No. 2823).

Social  
workers.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill regarding time lines for social workers in the Department of Social Services (House, No. 2832).

Minor  
children.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to minor children (House, No. 2833).

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By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing for the protection and care of certain children (House, No. 2834).

Social  
workers.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to social worker caseloads in the Department of Social Services (House, No. 3142).

Child  
care.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the daily living needs of children in the care of the Commonwealth (House, No. 3869).

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

*Emergency Measure.*

Maureen A.  
Sullivan,  
sick leave  
bank.

The engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Maureen A. Sullivan, an employee of the Massachusetts Parole Board (see House, No. 4357), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was considered, the question being on adopting the emergency preamble.

A separate vote was taken, as required by the provisions of Article XLVIII (as amended by Article LXVII) of the Amendments to the Constitution; and the preamble was adopted, by a vote of 10 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

*Orders of the Day.*

Third  
reading  
bill.

The Senate Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Dighton as the Lance Corporal John J. Van Gyzen IV memorial bridge (Senate, No. 1945, changed) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading), reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

*Order.*

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

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At eighteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mrs. Paulsen of Belmont (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet tomorrow at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.