

Monday, January 3, 2000.

Met at eight minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.

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

Prayer.

Holy Spirit of God, let our hearts and minds be filled with a dynamic spirit and an openness to You and to all truths at the beginning of the third millennium. As we carry out our commitment to serve the best interests of the people, we pray for a vision of the future which is realistic, for the courage to make decisions which are thoughtful, and for the intellectual maturity to deal with people honestly. Grant us the patience to develop our listening skills so that we will be open to the insights of others and to new information. Inspire us to place our trust in You, Our Creator, as we journey into an unknown world of technological discoveries and breakthroughs.

Bestow Your blessings on the Speaker, the members of this House and their families. Amen.

Pledge of allegiance.

At the request of the Speaker, 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:

Matthew Greenberg.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Petersen of Marblehead) congratulating Matthew Greenberg on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America; and

Sarah Rose.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Verga of Gloucester) on the occasion of the eightieth birthday of Sarah "Sadie" Gertrude Alves Rose;

Mr. Nagle of Northampton, 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. Scaccia of Boston, 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:

Newton,—
utilities.

By Mr. Koutoujian of Newton, petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4949) of David B. Cohen (mayor) and Peter J. Koutoujian (with the approval of the city council) that the commissioner of public works in the city of Newton be authorized to act upon certain petitions for the relocation of existing utilities. To the committee on Government Regulations.

By Mr. George of Yarmouth, petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4950) of Thomas N. George and Henri S. Rauschenbach (by vote of the town) relative to the financing of a golf course by the town of Brewster. To the committee on Local Affairs.

Brewster,—
golf course.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Mr. Binienda of Worcester, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of John J. Binienda and other members of the General Court relative to establishing a municipal fire department fund for the purchase of thermal imaging devices with funds generated by the creation of a new scratch card game within the State Lottery.

Fire
departments,—
thermal
imaging
devices.

By Mrs. Cleven of Chelmsford (by request), petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Dennis P. Sheehan relative to the registration of non-commercial trailers.

Trailers,—
registration.

By Mr. George of Yarmouth, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Thomas N. George and Henri S. Rauschenbach relative to betterment assessments in cities and towns.

Betterment
assessments.

By Mrs. Murray of Cohasset, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Mary Jeanette Murray and others for legislation to prohibit the implementation of needle exchange programs in the Commonwealth.

Needle
exchange
programs.

By Mrs. Simmons of Leominster, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Mary Jane Simmons and Robert A. Antonioni relative to unemployment contributions for the calendar year two thousand one.

Unemployment
insurance
contributions.

By Ms. Sydney of Brookline, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Ronny M. Sydney, Brian Paul Golden and David T. Donnelly for legislation to further define retaliatory actions in employee matters.

Employees,—
retaliatory
actions.

By the same member, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Ronny M. Sydney, Brian Paul Golden and David T. Donnelly relative to appeals to decisions of regional medical panels concerning the disability retirement of public employees.

Public
employees,—
disability
retirement.

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

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. McManus of Worcester, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the Senate Bill allowing for the sale of innovative insurance and financial planning products (Senate, No. 1996) be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Insurance,—
combined
coverage.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mrs. Paulsen of Belmont, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, for the committee on Election Laws, on a message from His Excellency the Governor, a Bill validating the results of the annual town election held in the town of Dudley on May 3, 1999 (printed in House, No. 4886). Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Dudley,—
town
election.

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Bills
enacted.

Authorizing the lease of certain parcels of land in the town of Natick (see Senate, No. 1785) (which originated in the Senate); and Relative to the election of town officials in the town of Shelburne (see House, No. 4423) (which originated in the House);

Severally having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, were passed to be enacted; and they were signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Orders of the Day.

House bills

Third
reading
bills.

Relative to the Provincetown Pier Corporation (House, No. 4903); and

Requiring salaries paid by a domestic company be authorized by its board of directors or trustees (House, No. 4906) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading);

Severally reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

At twenty-six minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Nagle of Northampton, the House adjourned.

[Under the provisions of Article X of the Amendments to the Constitution, the 1999 session of the General Court was dissolved on the day next preceding the first Wednesday of January, without any proclamation or other act of His Excellency the Governor.]

ATTEST:

STEVEN T. JAMES,
Clerk.

[P.S. Subsequently a communication was received from the Secretary of the Commonwealth, to wit:—

SUMMARY OF THE ACTS AND RESOLVES APPROVED AND ACTS DECLARED EMERGENCY LAWS BY THE GOVERNOR UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CONSTITUTION.

During the first session of the General Court held in 1999, 181 Acts were enacted of which 181 Acts received the Governor's approval. No resolves were passed.

This summary does not include those line item vetoes by the Governor on Appropriations Acts nor any subsequent legislative actions on those vetoes.

Six Acts were declared to be emergency laws by the Governor under Article XLVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution. These are Chapters 22, 44, 62, 77, 169 and 178.]