The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2018

[76]

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.

Thursday, July 26, 2018.

Met at four minutes past one o'clock A.M. (Mr. Pacheco in the Chair).

The Chair (Mr. Pacheco), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of allegiance.

Committee changes.

Communications.

The following communications were severally received and placed on file, to wit:

Communication from the Honorable Karen E. Spilka, announcing her resignation from the following committees, effective 12:00 P.M. Thursday, July 26, 2018:

Senate Committee on Ways and Means, Chair

Senate Committee on Rules, Vice Chair

Joint Committee on Rules. Vice Chair

Special Senate Committee on Health Care Cost Containment and Reform

Special Senate Committee to Review the Sexual Harassment Policies and Procedures; and

Communication from the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to Section 5H of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting its fiscal year 2018 Capital Gains Tax Revenue/Transfer to Stabilization Fund (received July 25, 2018).

Comptroller,-stabilization fund transfers. SD2733

Report.

Report of the Office of the State Auditor (pursuant to Section 17 of Chapter 11 of the General Laws) submitting the Bureau of Special Investigations fiscal year 2018 3rd quarter report (received July 25, 2018),-- was placed on file.

Auditor,-- BSI 3rd quarter report. SD2732

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Notice was received from the House announcing the following changes:

That Representative Kafka of Stoughton had been relieved of duty (at his own request) from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches, with reference to the House amendment of the Senate Bill to protect animal welfare and safety in cities and towns (Senate, No. 2347); and that Ms. Peake of Provincetown had been appointed to said committee to fill the vacancy.

Animal welfare and safety.

Comunication.

The Clerk read the following communication:
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE
Office of the President

July 26, 2018

Senator Stanley C. Rosenberg,-- leave of absence.

Mr. William Welch

Clerk of the Massachusetts Senate State House Boston, MA 02133

Dear Mr. Welch,

In a time when the darkness of hate creeps across the country, it has been my life's greatest pleasure to lead the Massachusetts Senate, a source of light in the darkness.

As one of the oldest legislative bodies in this country, we carry a profound responsibility to serve as a beacon for the world, representing the enduring promise of democracy, and demonstrating the power and freedom provided by a government of the people, for the people.

I harbor the deepest respect for this institution – for its promise, its virtues, its accomplishments, and its singular place in the world.

Where others may follow, we set the path. By way of those who settled here thousands of years ago; on the backs of fishermen and laborers and soldiers; the small business owners of Main Street and through the immigrants landing on our hopeful shores this very afternoon, we write the future. And we will always serve as that city on a hill.

I leave my seat as President today proud of this body's accomplishments and its resiliency through the most trying of times.

And I leave encouraged by the next generation of leaders as we confront an ever-changing face of the future. Those who lead us through to the other side, I believe, will come more from the ranks of our children and grandchildren's classrooms than from the ranks of legislatures.

Maria Stewart, one of our nation's early pioneers for equality said, "Talk, without effort, is nothing."

History will judge us not on the words we utter, but on the dedication we show to bettering the lives of those who have entrusted these seats to us.

Indeed, the need for public service persists. Our work today is history tomorrow. And though we may quarrel with each other, we continue to be unified with an idealistic belief that we can change lives, change Massachusetts, and change the world for the better.

As we go forward, maintain belief in the greatness of Massachusetts, and in each other, to make it an ever greater Commonwealth.

Today, it is my great honor to be part of a historic transition, as the office of the President of the Massachusetts Senate is handed from one woman to another for the first time.

It is with this that I submit my resignation as President of the Massachusetts Senate, gratefully, and moved by my experience.

Sincerely, Harriette L. Chandler President of the Senate

The Chair (Mr. Pacheco) declared that the Office of the Senate President is now vacant.

Pursuant to the provisions of Senate Rule 4A, the Senate shall proceed forthwith to the election of an Acting President.

Mr. Rush placed in nomination for President, Ms. Spilka of Second Middlesex

Office of the President,-- vacant. Election of a

President.

and Norfolk, and Mr. Rush briefly addressed the Senate.

Nomination Speech for Karen E. Spilka to be Elected Senate President

By Senator Michael F. Rush.

Thank you Mr. President and through you to the members: Today is Thursday, July 26th, 2018. An extremely important day in History.

Statement of Senator Michael F. Rush.

- Today was an ingenious day in 1775 when the Continental Congress established the United States Postal System.
- It was a world changing day in 1947 when President Harry Truman signed The National Security Act.
- Today was a day for extreme celebration in 1990 when President George Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act into Law.

And today is a momentous day here in this chamber as we are about to elect the 97th President of the Massachusetts State Senate.

The Massachusetts State Senate has been electing one of our members to lead this body as our President since 1780 with the election of Thomas Cushing as the very first President of the Senate.

It was 1936 the the very first woman, Senator Sybil Holmes was elected to the State Senate. Now, some 82 years later we are getting ready to elect the Senate's third female President and as President Chandler so eloquently stated yesterday it is the first time in history that the Presidency is handed from one Female to another, certainly an outstanding day in History!

An important side note dealing with history to the Gentle Lady from Ashland, she is not the first Senate President from her District..... State Senator Henry Wilson of Natick assumed the Senate Presidency in 1851 just prior to being elected to the United States Senate and then Vice President of the United States.... And to the Gentle Lady from Ashland I quote William Shakespere in reminding her that "the past is prologue...".

But we are not here today to honor the past..... We are here today to focus on the present, and chart the course of the future..... By making our own history.

It is my profound honor and highest privilege to stand before you today, my colleagues and the citizens of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and offer the first nomination of my good friend, the Gentle Lady from Ashland, Senator Karen Spilka to be the next President of the Massachusetts State Senate.

I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Senator Spilka since we were office mates in my Freshman term in the House of Representatives on the 4th floor.

We became instant friends and it was a pleasure to learn about her background, her family, her legislative priorities and her District which I inadvertently continued to refer to as Western Massachusetts... until she finally told me it was not Western Mass.... or even Central Mass but in fact Metro West.....

However, due to the nature of our offices having no windows, no real walls, no privacy, I have often wondered if she thought she was somehow being punished by House Leadership to get me in the cube next door and have to endure hearing my every phone call... my every conversation... my every off the cuff remark and my

editorial comments about just everything and anything.... Nevermind the Presidency, after that experience.... She is ready for Sainthood....

I was particularly inspired when then Representative Spilka invited me to an event that I will never forget. Karen became aware that the State House Great Hall, which is supposed to display the flags of all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth was missing a particular flag.

There was no flag for her hometown of Ashland because they had no Town Flag.

She enlisted the Ashland Girl Scouts to design a flag, got the entire town involved, personally matched donations to have the flag made and invited those girl scouts and Ashland residents to come to an official Flag Raising and the event was outstanding.

I will always remember that event and have spoken of it often to visiting groups because I could not help but be impressed by a public servant who motivated and inspired an entire town to work together for the goals of civic engagement, town pride

In several minutes, the Senate will take a vote and Senator Spilka will share her vision for the future of this Senate and for the people of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Senator Spilka has a record of accomplishments a mile long, we all know this.

She has achieved these accomplishments because she is a leader, a worker, a listener, a visionary, she is intelligent, tough, and she is willing to tackle difficult issues and she is willing to work with anyone, anyone who has a good idea... no matter of ideology or political party as long as that idea is with the intent on helping people and making our Commonwealth the very best it can be.

In particular during my time in the Senate, I have had the privilege to work closely with Senator Spilka on issues important to our almost 400,000 veterans and their families here in Massachusetts. As the daughter of a WWII Veteran whose father struggled with wartime issues she has understood their issues and stands steadfast with veterans.

Upon receiving the Marine Corps League of Massachusetts Semper Fidelis award this past year, Karen said

"I pledge to you in honor of my father and in honor of all of you here, I will work to ensure that we do stay No. 1 in the country (for veteran services) and give you all the honor, glory and benefits that each one of you deserve,"

Anyone who knows Karen however knows that out of all her accomplishments, she is most proud of the accomplishments of husband and best friend Joel and her sons Jake and Scott....

Senator Spilka has devoted her life to public service and has epitomized the words of Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, a Boston native and the first woman to serve in a President's Cabinet,

"The people are what matter to government, and a government should aim to give all people under its jurisdiction the best possible life."

From my perspective, that quote has not only described the career of Senator Spilka but has been her guiding principle in public service, not mere words but constant action to put people first and it will continue to be as she leads this Senate forward.

Mr. President, I stand here today honored, privileged and humbled to place the name of Senator Karen Spilka of Ashland before this Historic body to be the 97th President of the Massachusetts State Senate.

Thank you.

The nomination of Senator Spilka for President was seconded by Ms. Friedman, who also briefly addressed the Senate.

Nomination Speech for Karen E. Spilka to be Elected Senate President

By Senator Cindy F. Friedman.

Good afternoon, everyone.

I'm elated to stand before you today to recognize the Senator from the 2nd Middlesex and Norfolk District, Senator Karen Spilka, and second the motion to nominate her for Senate President.

For the last ten years I've worked in the State House, I've had the privilege of getting to know Karen – first as a staffer watching her debate bills on the Senate floor, then as a colleague, and most recently as a close friend.

Karen's accomplishments have been impressive and far-reaching and I will certainly get to that in a moment, but I would like to take this time to speak personally of Karen.

As you all may remember, last spring I stepped outside of my comfort zone to run for office after the passing of our good friend Senator Ken Donnelly.

I went from staff to senator in what felt like overnight.

Transitions like the one I experienced can often be difficult, but thankfully, there were many people along the way who helped me evolve from the "person behind the scenes" to state Senator – and key among those people was Karen.

Senator Spilka was one of the first people to reach out to me when I got elected to make sure I felt comfortable in my new role. She answered my questions, chilled me out, and gave me useful advice that I'm incredibly grateful for.

Since I was sworn into the Senate almost a year ago, Karen has been a steadfast guide, mentor, and resource -- someone I can truly count on - and as Senate President, I know she will be someone we can **all** count on.

Karen has always been devoted to public service – she started out as a social worker, after I think a stint on a goat farm, became an attorney to work on labor and workforce issues, and served as a trainer of adult mediation and school-based peer mediation programs – all the while being a community activist. She, then, took a leap of faith and ran for office.

After being elected, and largely due to her unwavering desire to serve the greater good and make a difference in the lives of others, Karen immediately distinguished herself by being appointed the first Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, and then as Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Economic Development.

She eventually earned two leadership roles under former Senate President Therese Murray and was ultimately appointed Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means – only the **third** woman to ever chair the Committee.

As we all know, the Chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee is one of the busiest people in the East Wing with some of the most demanding responsibilities.

They must manage the state's budget and finances, take into account the needs of the entire Commonwealth, propose and move policy forward, and collaborate with every single senator in this chamber to ensure they serve the best interests of their constituents. And, *on top of that*, they must represent their *own* constituency.

Throughout my time at the State House, I've been continually impressed with Karen's ability to perfect all of her responsibilities with poise, diligence, and

Statement of Senator Cindy F. Friedman.

fairness.

She has to wear many different hats, and she has the skills to do it well – vital attributes of an effective leader.

And as we all know, great leaders attract and surround themselves with great people – especially staff members.

Both as a staffer myself and as a senator, I've always enjoyed working with Karen's wonderful staff.

Anyone who has had the opportunity to collaborate with them understands that, like Karen, her staff is always available, responsive, thoughtful, and articulate, even on the busiest of days. She has chosen people who reflect the values and ethics of their leader and they do it exceptionally well.

But, of all the skills and assets Karen has displayed over the years, her most significant one *by far* is her ability to be a good listener.

There has never been a time that I felt I couldn't have an open and honest conversation with Karen. And, at the same time, she has *always* stayed true to her values.

Her diplomatic nature and ability to listen and understand the needs of those on both sides of the aisle have resulted in accomplishments that will forever benefit the Commonwealth and the people living in it, especially those most in need.

As a staunch advocate for working people, Karen led the effort in the Senate to strengthen the Massachusetts Equal Pay Act, further closing the wage gap between male and female workers in the Commonwealth.

She fought to ensure confidential access to healthcare for those seeking treatment services they need with the passage of the PATCH Act earlier this year.

Karen led the way on a resolution to ensure businesses have an equitable representation of women on company boards, creating more opportunities for women in business and also giving businesses a more competitive edge in the global economy.

She has continually shown relentless advocacy for children and families by fighting for policy initiatives related to child welfare and self-sufficiency.

She also fought for the inclusion of juvenile justice reforms in the omnibus Criminal Justice Reform bill passed this spring, giving young adults a second chance and the resources they need to be productive members of society.

And because of Karen's leadership and persistence, Massachusetts now has the strongest paid family and medical leave program in the country.

These are just a few of Karen's achievements that have played an enormous role in moving Massachusetts forward.

And while Massachusetts has progressed in many areas due to Karen's leadership and as a result of the hard work and diligence of every member in this chamber, there is *still* so much work to be done.

At a time when the rights of women, immigrants, the LGBTQ community, and people of color are under threat, we need effective leaders in state government who are going to fight for our values, advocate for the most vulnerable and marginalized among us, and never back down no matter what happens at the federal level.

We are in the midst of troubling times and it's vitally important that the individuals we put into power reflect the true interests of the people.

As Ruth Bader Ginsburg once said, "We live in an age in which the fundamental principles to which we subscribe - liberty, equality and justice for all - are encountering extraordinary challenges, but it is also an age in which we can join hands with others who hold to those principles and face similar challenges."

Karen is ready to take on those challenges. And I – like many, many others –

will proudly stand behind her and support her in this effort.

Her ability to take issues to heart, her willingness to listen to and learn from others, and her intrinsic need to fight for what is right make her worthy to serve as the next Senate President.

I have tremendous faith in Senator Spilka and I know that she will successfully build on the foundation we've created in Massachusetts to make a difference in the lives of the next generation.

So, without further ado, it is my great honor and privilege to nominate my good friend and colleague, the gentle lady from Ashland, Karen Spilka, to be our Senate President.

I hope that when the vote is taken that it be unanimous.

Mr. Humason placed in nomination for President, of Mr. Tarr of Essex and Middlesex.

Mr. Humason briefly addressed the Senate.

Nomination Speech for Bruce E. Tarr to be Elected Senate President

By Senator Donald F. Humason, Jr.

Thank you Mr. President. Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, colleagues, and guests. On behalf of the people of my district in Western Massachusetts I am happy to extend a warm welcome to all our special guests and visitors today.

When I was first elected to the Massachusetts Senate 5 years ago, I came in on a special election. The day of my swearing in, November 20, 2013, was the last day of formal sessions for that year. I started my Senate career as most senators were finishing up their busy year of representing the people of Massachusetts.

There is something familiar to me about that pattern. The Legislature will conclude its formal sessions on July 31, just 5 days from now. We have all been very busy working to conclude the important business of the senate and state government. But today we pause just a moment from that labor to undertake the historic task of electing a new Senate President.

First, I wish to thank the gentle lady from Worcester, Senator Harriet Chandler, for her service to this senate as our President for the past 8 months. This may have been a difficult chapter in our history but she has represented this body with elegance and grace. She has been tireless and industrious in her time as our leader.

Second, I would like to congratulate the gentle lady from Ashland, Senator Karen Spilka, for her nomination to be our Senate President. It has been my pleasure to serve on the Senate Ways and Means Committee with Chairwoman Spilka. I thank her for her friendship, and her hard work and great service to this senate. I was especially excited to learn recently that Senator Spilka and I have something in common. We are both big fans of *Game of Thrones*. So I guess that means if we run out of legislative things to talk about we can always discuss dragons or the way to kill off our favorite characters in the show.

All of us as senators or as senate staff and employees have been through a lot in the past year. These have surely been challenging times in the history of this senate. Today we are called upon to select a person who can be a new leader for this body. I am honored to nominate Senator Bruce E. Tarr of the Ist Essex and Middlesex District to be the new President of the Massachusetts State Senate.

I am so proud to be able to call this man **my friend**. In fact, we all should be. There is no one in this chamber who would not consider Senator Tarr a good friend. Certainly we can all think of many occasions when Senator Tarr has been there to

Statement of Senator Donald F. Humason, Ir

offer his assistance, guidance, or support with a bill, budget amendment, or bit of policy.

If I needed to describe Bruce Tarr in just a few words I would use **collaborate**, **mediate**, and **orate**.

Despite the partisan nature of his role as Minority Leader Senator Bruce Tarr has consistently shown his eagerness to **collaborate** with every member, rank and file or leadership, his willingness to **mediate** to help the body reach consensus on sometimes contentious issues, and his ability to **orate** on topics from fishing to finance, public safety to the state economy.

I once heard it said that "It's nice to be important but it's more important to be nice." That describes Senator Tarr perfectly. Bruce is among the most experienced senators with the most years of seniority in this chamber and is clearly very intelligent, extremely competent and highly accomplished. Yet he is also humble, thoughtful, funny and kind.

As the ranking Republican in this senate he must often lead the battle to represent the minority party and fight for our positions on the issues of the day and yet he is perhaps one of the biggest peacemakers in the body.

With an astute legal mind, a gift for eloquence, a passion for good public policy, and a strong sense of fair play, Senator Tarr could be among the great leaders in the history of this senate. He would be a Senate President we would all be proud to work with side by side.

The Gentleman from Gloucester is a strong advocate for his district, his constituents, his Commonwealth, and his country. His integrity, humility, reputation, and character are beyond reproach. He is admired and respected by Republicans and Democrats alike. He has been more than a leader to us in Minority Constellation. He has been a mentor, a teacher, a cheerleader, and again, a friend. This state senate would be fortunate to have a person like Bruce Tarr wielding the gavel.

I invite you to join me in supporting the nomination of our good friend Senator Bruce E. Tarr for Senate President. Thank you.

The nomination of Senator Tarr for President was seconded by Mr. Tran, who also briefly addressed the Senate.

Nomination Speech for Bruce E. Tarr to be Elected Senate President

By Senator Dean A. Tran.

Mr. President,

Thank you and thank you very much for this opportunity to speak to the membership through you. Who would envision that one day a little boy who was born in a communist country and lived in a refugee camp would rise before you, as a member of this great institution and as a Senator from the Worcester Middlesex District. So it is with great honor that I second the motion for our colleague, Senator Bruce E. Tarr, to be the next Senate President. His qualifications are numerous and his outstanding reputation, character, and achievements demonstrate his worthiness for the high office of Senate President. During his 23 years in the Senate and 7 years as the Senate Minority Leader, Senator Tarr has been a tireless advocate for everyone in his district and the Commonwealth. Further, I can say from personal experience that he is someone who constantly strives to promote bipartisan cooperation and friendliness.

As you know, I have been a minority all my life and so it is befitting that I find

Statement of Senator Dean A. Tran.

myself as a member of the minority party and there is no other place I would rather be because of the leadership and mentorship from the minority leader, Senator Tarr.

As the minority leader, Senator Tarr, has been a strong advocate on behalf of our caucus and I know that I and my fellow minority members share the belief that there is no one better to lead all of us in this important time in the Commonwealth's history.

Mr. President, I know that you and the members of this body are well aware of the long list of accomplishments our minority leader has, some of which I would like to share today.

Senator Tarr is widely renowned for being a gifted legislator and a gifted speaker. Not many of us can do what he can at this podium. He has proposed and passed many notable pieces of legislation such as Melanie's Law, stem cell research laws, and MBTA Fiscal Control laws, among many others. Most recently, he led this body through the passage of the bill, An Act Relative to Firearms, and he was a constant rallying point as we strove to strike a balance between civil rights and safety. The majority of us, including in the House of Representatives, said the final version was far better than the original bill. This would not have been possible had it not been for the tireless work of our Minority Leader, Senator Bruce Tarr. He is an unwavering ally of working families, those in need, and every other resident, not only in his district, but in the rest of the Commonwealth. I have had the privilege of working with him on many amendments during my time in office. I don't believe there is anyone in this chamber who will disagree with me when I say, he is a walking bank of knowledge.

Through you, Madame President/Mr. Chair, I would like to personally thank Senator Tarr for his guidance and leadership throughout my first term as the Senator from the Worcester Middlesex district and I look forward to continuing to work with him in the next session.

Madame President/Mr. Chair, through you, I would like to urge this body to support Senator Tarr's nomination to the Senate Presidency. Senator Tarr has selflessly devoted himself for many years to the service of our Commonwealth and has been such a strong and stabilizing force for all of us here. Through many late nights spent on Beacon Hill, he is the glue that has kept and continues to keep the Senate together and the light that guides us all in the right and legal direction. I would like to close with this quote from former US Senator Margaret Chase Smith on the value of service. She says, "Public service must be more than doing a job efficiently and honestly. It must be a complete dedication to the people and to the nation". Madame President, and through you to my colleagues, Minority Leader Tarr is that kind of a leader and public servant to the people of his district and the commonwealth. Thank you very much and I believe my vote counts as 26 votes.

On motion of Mr. Cyr, the nominations were closed.

The roll was called at a quarter before two o'clock P.M. [Yeas and Nays No. 481], and the following named members voted for Karen E. Spilka of Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester:

Barrett, Michael J.

Boncore, Joseph A.

Brady, Michael D.

Brownsberger, William N.

Chandler, Harriette L.

Chang-Diaz, Sonia

Jehlen, Patricia D.

Keenan, John F.

Lesser, Eric P.

Lewis, Jason M

L'Italien, Barbara

Lovely, Joan B.

Collins, Nick Montigny, Mark C. Creem, Cynthia Stone Moore, Michael O. Crighton, Brendan P. O'Connor Ives, Kathleen Cyr, Julian Pacheco, Marc R. DiDomenico, Sal N. Rodrigues, Michael J. Eldridge, James B. Rush, Michael F. Feeney, Paul R. Spilka, Karen E. Friedman, Cindy F. Timilty. Walter F. Gobi, Anne M. Welch, James T. ---31

Hinds, Adam G.

The following named members voted for Bruce E. Tarr of Essex and Middlesex:

deMacedo, Viriato M. Ross, Richard J. Fattman, Ryan C. Tarr. Bruce E. Humason, Donald F., Jr. Tran. Dean A --- 7

O'Connor Patrick M.

The Chair announced the results of the votes as follows:

| Whole number of votes | 38 |
|---|----|
| Necessary for a choice | 21 |
| Stanley C. Rosenberg of Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester had | |
| Bruce E. Tarr of Essex and Middlesex had | 7 |

The roll call having been completed at eleven minutes past twelve o'clock noon, Mr. Rosenberg was declared elected as President of the Senate.

Mr. Tarr moved that it be the sense of the Senate that the vote for Karen E. Spilka for President should be made unanimous and that this expression of opinion be made a part of the records of the Senate.

There being no objection, this motion was entertained; and it was unanimously adopted.

There being no objection, this motion was entertained; and it was unanimously adopted.

Ms. Spilka was escorted to the Chair by Senators Brownsberger of Suffolk and Middlesex and Lovely of Essex.

The President then addressed the Senate as follows:

Thank you...

I'd like to begin today with a story. The story of a young man – a teenager – who fled Russia in 1906. The story of a young man who, one day, was protesting the oppressive policies of the Czar with his best friend; and the next day, discovered the body of that friend hanging in the square of his small village.

The young man's friend had been killed for his religious and political beliefs, and that young man's father knew his son would be next.

And so, that day, the father said goodbye to his son, and his son set out for America to save his own life.

That young man, who left everything he knew and everyone he loved, was my grandfather, Joseph Goldstein. His story is my family's story.

By the time I became aware of the details of my grandfather's harrowing journey, our family was like any other successful immigrant family.

America had welcomed him with open arms, and many of his family members joined him over time.

Sense of the Senate.

My father served in World War II, and my mother left her job as a social worker to care for her four children, one of whom -- my dear sister Susie -- was born with Down Syndrome.

My parents worked hard, my siblings and I received public school educations, and three of us went on to college.

Inspired by my mother to help others, I followed in her footsteps as a social worker after graduating from the state-supported School of Human Ecology at Cornell University.

Like any typical American family, things weren't always easy, and life was sometimes hard, but because America had a generous immigration policy, my family's story didn't end in tragedy in a small Russian village.

And my story – the story of a social worker who became an improbable legislator, let alone Senate President – was able to be written.

Every day, the stories of people's lives shape the choices that we make, and the choices we make -- as legislators, as advocates and as citizens -- shape the stories of individuals and families across the Commonwealth.

I received a poignant reminder of this recently, when a young person in my district named Ella sent me a letter about a driver's license.

What should have been a day of celebration and rite of passage for this young person turned into a source of stress and frustration.

The letter read, "I am going to start driving lessons this fall and I would be ecstatic to have a more neutral option than 'Male' or 'Female' on my license."

In an instant, my understanding of a driver's license went from that of a mundane government document to that of an opportunity to make the state a more inclusive place.

The last two sentences of their letter really struck me. They said, "This is about validating and letting people be who they are. I need you to step up as an elected official and be an advocate for myself and others like me."

I was so impressed that I called Ella that day, and said let's work together on a change.

When we help write the stories of our residents, I believe we must always aspire to justice and do our part to uphold human dignity.

So I'm confident that, with the support of the leaders in this room, we will soon have a law in Massachusetts that will create a Gender X option for all licenses and state IDs.

And with it, we will be one step closer to writing a story that lets people be who they are.

It can be easy to think of what we do in government as separate from our day-to-day lives, but nothing could be further from the truth.

Here in the Massachusetts State House, the choices we make, big and small, help to shape the stories that will be told for years to come.

In my own story, I can point to one policy decision that had far-reaching consequences in my life: the creation of the formula which determines the funding for our state's public schools.

As a young MetroWest mom back in the 1990s, I was happily running my own business as a mediator and arbitrator, after graduating from Northeastern Law School and going into labor and employment law.

My husband, Joel, also ran his own small business, and we were enjoying life in Ashland with our two young boys.

Frustration with our local school funding, however, led me to make choices which, ultimately, brought me here today.

I studied the education funding formula, and, just like Ella, I contacted my legislators and asked for a change.

As a school committee member, I invited like-minded parents, educators, advocates and others from all over Massachusetts to collaborate on funding reform.

The possibility of making real change – in the lives of my sons and the lives of other children across the state – inspired me, and so when the State Rep seat opened up in my district, I knew that day that I would run.

My belief in fairness in education funding propelled me to run for office, and it is a belief that I will never waver from, because I know that the story of each child will be written here based on the choices we make.

Sometimes, it isn't until years later that you realize how your story shapes your life.

My father, like so many other World War II veterans, suffered from undiagnosed mental illness in the years after returning home.

As a teenager, I could see how much he was struggling, and I often wondered what his life – and mine – would have been like if he had received the services he needed.

His story taught me: how vital the need is for comprehensive veteran's services; how important it is to instill resiliency in children who grow up in difficult situations; and how great the need is to eliminate the stigma around mental illness – and achieve mental health parity here in Massachusetts once and for all.

My story is also intertwined with that of my sister, Susie, who was born with Down Syndrome.

I spent 26 years as her legal guardian, and through our close relationship she helped both ground me – and inspire me.

She taught me how much our lives and communities are enriched when we include people of all abilities.

"I got my paycheck!" was her rallying cry each week, which taught me that giving people the opportunity to participate in our economy – as well as the tools to succeed – benefits us all.

When more people fulfill their economic potential, they will be more independent, they will be less likely to be involved in the child welfare or criminal justice systems, and they will be less likely to end up living alone, isolated and vulnerable to health problems, mental illness or substance abuse.

This is how we will unlock our fullest potential as a Commonwealth – by building community through creating healthy families and thriving neighborhoods, and this is how we positively shape the stories of our families, our friends, our neighbors – and, ourselves.

But let's be honest: there are those out there who love nothing more than to criticize the work of government.

In my experience, however, my fellow Senators – as well as our Representatives, those in the Administration, and our local officials -- are here because you share my belief that you can help shape our collective story for the greater good.

And the fact remains, that in the system of government that our forefathers set out for us, we are responsible for each other.

We are responsible for writing our own story, and so we must do the hard work of decision-making and policymaking – of listening and deciding when to

compromise and when to stand firm.

Throughtout my career, I have never apologized for my strong belief that we are here to do policy and do it well.

When policy affects everything from our institutions to our communities, our businesses to individual lives, it is worth putting in the hard work.

That is the job we have been sent here to do, and we must always remember that it is an honor and a privilege to do the work entrusted to us by the people, just like it is an honor, and a privilege, to have the opportunity to write a small part of the story of Massachusetts.

And what a story we have to tell.

From the Revolution to public education, from abolition, to civil rights, and from healthcare reform to equal marriage, we have always led our nation by being bold in our vision and in our actions.

Here in Massachusetts, we prove that crafting thoughtful policy and making careful investments in our people works.

Here in Massachusetts, wages are higher, our workforce is more educated, and our economy is one of the strongest in the nation.

Here in Massachusetts, we lead the way in clean energy, education and veterans benefits, and our imprisonment rate is among the lowest.

Here in Massachusetts, we tell the story every day that caring for each other works.

This is not to say that we don't have areas we must improve upon but by working together, by building on the strengths we bring from each region, and by tackling our challenges head on, we will continue to be a leading light in our nation; and by our willingness to bring all voices to the table, we can write a story of a Commonwealth that is vibrant, diverse, dynamic and strong

I am so thankful that my story has led me here, to the Massachusetts Senate -- an institution I can honestly say I love with all my heart.

As I stand before you, I am struck by the awesome – and awe-inspiring -- responsibility of leading this body.

Our chamber has experienced difficult times of late, but I have always believed that out of difficulty comes opportunity – a chance to write a different story.

As we turn the page and look to the future, I pledge to uphold and maintain the integrity of the Senate – for the public and for each and every Senator, staff member, advocate and intern that passes through our doors, and I promise that when the next chapter in the story of the Massachusetts State Senate is written, it will say that we created a welcoming, inclusive, collaborative and safer place, where differences of opinion are not only tolerated, but celebrated, and no one fears discrimination based on their race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, country of origin, ability or background.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate – and with Speaker DeLeo and members of the House, and Governor Baker and those in the Administration – to usher in a new era here at the State House.

Serving in the Senate has been – and will continue to be – one of the greatest chapters in MY life story.

I am grateful for this opportunity each and every day.

And so I would like to sincerely thank all of you for your trust in me, and for sharing my belief that the act of crafting policy, when done in good faith, really can make a positive difference in our collective story.

As I have done many times in this chamber, I will look to you, my fellow Senators, for ideas on how we continue to build and implement our shared vision.

I am so thrilled that we will get to write the next chapter of this wonderful institution together.

And so, I stand before you, incredibly humbled, honored, and ready to be your next President of the Massachusetts Senate.

Mr. Tarr asked unanimous consent to make a statement; and, there being no objection, he addressed the Senate as follows:

Well, well, well. Thank you very much, Madam President; and Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Speaker, colleagues in the House and the Senate, Constitutional Officers, Mr. Mayor, Mr. Mayor and all of the people that are here today with us, for this special day in the Senate, you are all special guests, because in this chamber every citizen, every visitor, every person is a special guest and thank you for sharing this special day with all of us.

Sen. Rush, I want to invite you to establish a cubicle in my office this afternoon. It doesn't need to have walls, it doesn't need to have anything above it or below it, but we would love to have you.

Sen. Humason, I want to thank you so much for your words and your kind nomination of me, and for your work being a very, very strong voice for the citizens of Western Massachusetts and this entire Commonwealth.

And Sen. Tran, I want to thank you for your nomination as well. Your life story is an inspiration to all of us in Minority Constellation and all of us in this chamber, and it should be an inspiration to all of us in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Thank you so much.

I also want to say thank you to all of the members of the Republican minority caucus, for supporting me with your trust and your confidence this day; and I know that today I appreciate your support, but I realize also that the victor in this race is a great leader who will serve this Senate well.

So, this is an amazing time for all of us. We have lived through some very difficult days in this Senate. We need to remember that; We need to think it. And we need to think about the words of Eleanor Roosevelt who said you gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face; you are able to say to yourselves, I lived through this, and I can take the next thing that comes along. During those difficult and tumultuous and tempest-filled days, in this Senate, we were all challenged to rise to be the very best leaders we could be, and I am so proud of all of my colleagues for showing their best to get us to this day; and there was one person who stepped into the breach and said, "Send me". I will give you stability, I will give you strength and time has proven she did it with so much grace. So, from all of the members of the minority caucus and I dear say the entire Senate, Senator Chandler, thank you for what you have done for this institution.

And so, with those darkest of days behind us for the Massachusetts Senate, it is a new day. It is a new day when we have so many challenges to face, and to face together. You know, when you're in the minority, and I learned this lesson once again very painfully today, you need to know how to count. I don't mean numbers, I mean you need to know how to count in the process. And in this Senate, minority members do count in the process because of the respect that all of you have for each and every one of us; and in return we promise you that we will continue to work with you with respect, and collaboration and productivity to address all of the issues that we face; and there are so many of them. We will continue to bring, Madam President, our principled ideas to the table on things that I believe we share so much in common; having clean, renewable, cost-effective energy, having affordable and accessible

Remarks of Senate Minority Leader Bruce E. Tarr.

health care, making sure that we support everyone who deserves an economic opportunity in Massachusetts, every single one, until we have fulfilled that vision of promise for prosperity in our State. We've got to protect our natural resources, and we need to stand for something that should never be a partisan issue; not for once, not for one moment and that is supporting our veterans, our students, our seniors, and everyone in between. And we should make a solemn commitment that we will do everything in our power with our colleagues and Government and with the people of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to do every conceivable thing possible to support the men and woman in our police and fire departments who protect us in Massachusetts each and every day.

So, we have work to do, and we have work to do on those issues and so many more, and with regard to this legislative session, we have a very short span of time in which to achieve it. But, but we have a lifetime to set an example for the people of this nation about the power of bipartisanship and the legacy that we can create by working together. So, as we think about all of those issues and we think about the very bright future, we realize that a new day has arrived in the Senate because we have gotten through those difficult times. We have never wavered, we have never stopped, and we have never forgotten our commitment to the people of the Commonwealth. And We in Minority Constellation will never stop seeking the opportunities to work with everyone in this building to be able to do that. But more importantly perhaps than any single issue is the faith that we need to have in each other; the way that we need to treat each other and the example that we need to show of the power that we have when we work together.

Eleanor Roosevelt also spoke about new days. And she said with the new day comes new strength and new thoughts. The strength of bipartisanship and collaboration is ours if we choose to find it, and powerful if we choose to use it. So let the world be on notice. It is a new day. The Massachusetts Senate is open for business to make Massachusetts stronger, more prosperous and healthier for everyone within its orders, and to send a clarion beacon to this country that there is power in working together and respecting each other. The Massachusetts Senate is open for business to carry on the traditions of this body and to take us, Madam President, with your leadership to new heights, because we know that you value consensus. Your whole life you have worked to be a mediator, a consensus builder, someone who finds solutions that allow not one person to say we accomplished something, but to say everyone is allowed to say we accomplished something. We're open for business. There are great things yet to come. May the world take notice; May the Commonwealth stand to benefit; and May God bless this Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

On motion of Mr. Barrett, all the above addresses were ordered printed in the Journal of the Senate.

Ordered printed.

His Excellency the Governor, Charles D. Baker, Her Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Constitutional officers and the Honorable Council then withdrew from the Chamber.

Withdrawal of dignitaries.

Orders Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Moore,--

Ordered, that the House of Representatives be notified of the organization of the Senate; and that the Honorable Karen E. Spilka of Second Middlesex and Norfolk

House of Representatives,-organization of the

District has been elected President of the Senate.

Senate.

Ms. Creem offered the following order, to wit:

Ordered, that notwithstanding any rule to the contrary, there is hereby established the position of Senate President Emerita.

Senate President Emerita.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Ms. Creem, and the order was considered forthwith and adopted.

Communication.

The following communications were severally received and placed on file, to wit:

Communications from the Honorable Karen E. Spilka, President of the Senate, announcing leadership and committee appointments that have been ratified by the Majority Party Caucus:

Leadership and committee appointments.

Harriette L. Chandler

Senate President Emerita Senate Committee on Steering and Policy, Chair Joint Committee on Higher Education, Vice Chair

Recess.

There being no objection, at twenty-four minutes before three o'clock P.M., the President declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair; and, at seven minutes past four o'clock P.M., the Senate reassembled, the President in the Chair.

Recess.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions (having been filed with the Clerk) were severally considered forthwith and adopted, as follows:-

Resolutions (filed by Mr. O'Connor) "congratulating Salem Adda-Berkane on his elevation to the rank of Eagle Scout";

Resolutions (filed by Mr. O'Connor) "congratulating Leland Frantz on his elevation to the rank of Eagle Scout";

Resolutions (filed by Mr. O'Connor) "congratulating Edward Schultze on his elevation to the rank of Eagle Scout";

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Ross and Rush) "congratulating Jacob Donald Cullison on his elevation to the rank of Eagle Scout"; and

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Ross and Rush) "congratulating Stephen Patrick DeMaio on his elevation to the rank of Eagle Scout."

Salem Adda-Berkane.

Leland Frantz.

Edward Schultze.

Jacob Donald Cullison.

Stephen Patrick DeMaio.

Matters Taken Out of the Orders of the Day

There being no objection, the following matters were taken out of the Orders of the Day and considered as follows:

The Senate Bill promoting awareness of sewage pollution in public waters (Senate, No. 2394),-- was read a second time and was amended, as previously recommended by the committee on Ways and Means substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2617).

After remarks, the bill (Senate, No. 2617) was then ordered to a third, read a third time and passed to be engrossed.

Senate to the House for concurrence.

Public waters,--

The Senate Bill protecting research animals (Senate, No. 2387),-- was read a second time and was amended, as previously recommended by the committee on Ways and Means substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2624).

After remarks, the bill (Senate, No. 2624) was then ordered to a third. The rules were suspended on motion of Mr. Lewis and the bill was read a third time.

The question on passing the bill to be engrossed was determined by a call of the yeas and nays, at twenty-one minutes past four o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, as follows to wit (yeas 38 – nays 0) [Yeas and Nays No. 482]:

YEAS.

Barrett, Michael J. Jehlen, Patricia D. Boncore, Joseph A. Keenan, John F. Brady, Michael D. Lesser, Eric P. Brownsberger, William N. Lewis, Jason M. Chandler, Harriette L. L'Italien, Barbara A. Chang-Diaz, Sonia Lovely, Joan B. Collins, Nick Montigny, Mark C. Creem, Cynthia Stone Moore, Michael O. Crighton, Brendan P. O'Connor, Patrick M. Cyr, Julian O'Connor Ives, Kathleen deMacedo, Viriato M. Pacheco, Marc R. DiDomenico, Sal N. Rodrigues, Michael J. Ross, Richard J. Eldridge, James B. Fattman, Ryan C. Rush, Michael F. Feeney, Paul R. Spilka, Karen E. Friedman, Cindy F. Tarr, Bruce E. Gobi, Anne M. Timilty, Walter F. Tran. Dean A. Hinds, Adam G.

NAYS - 0.

Welch, James T. -38.

The yeas and mays having been completed at twenty-six minutes past four o'clock P.M., the bill was passed to be engrossed.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

Humason, Donald F., Jr.

The Senate Bill regarding breakfast after the bell (Senate, No. 2441),-- was read a second time and was amended, as previously recommended by the committee on Ways and Means, substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2626).

After remarks, the bill (Senate, No. 2626) was then ordered to a third. The rules were suspended on motion of Mr. Hinds and the bill was read a third time.

The question on passing the bill to be engrossed was determined by a call of the yeas and nays, at twenty-one minutes past four o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, as follows to wit (yeas 37 - nays 0) [Yeas and Nays No. 483]:

YEAS.

Barrett, Michael J.

Boncore, Joseph A.

Brady, Michael D.

Brownsberger, William N.

Chandler, Harriette L.

Chang-Diaz, Sonia

Collins, Nick

Lehlen, Patricia D.

Keenan, John F.

Lesser, Eric P.

Lewis, Jason M.

L'Italien, Barbara A.

Lovely, Joan B.

Montigny, Mark C.

Research animals,-protect.

Classroom,-breakfast.

Creem, Cynthia Stone Crighton, Brendan P. Cyr, Julian

deMacedo, Viriato M. DiDomenico, Sal N. Eldridge, James B. Fattman, Ryan C. Feeney, Paul R. Friedman, Cindy F.

Gobi, Anne M.

Hinds, Adam G. Humason, Donald F., Jr. Moore, Michael O. O'Connor, Patrick M. O'Connor Ives, Kathleen Pacheco, Marc R. Rodrigues, Michael J. Ross, Richard J.

Rush, Michael F. Tarr, Bruce E. Timilty, Walter F. Tran, Dean A.

Welch, James T. -37.

NAYS - 0.

The yeas and mays having been completed at twenty-six minutes past four o'clock P.M., the bill was passed to be engrossed.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

The Senate Bill expanding the sale of products by farmer breweries and distilleries (Senate, No. 2459),-- was read a second time and was amended, as previously recommended by the committee on Ways and Means substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2627).

After remarks, the bill (Senate, No. 2627) was then ordered to a third reading. The rules were suspended, on motion of Ms. Creem, and the bill was read a third time and passed to be engrossed.

Senate to the House for concurrence.

Committee of Conference Report.

By Mr. Rush, for the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches, with reference to the House amendments to the Senate Bill relative to veterans' benefits, rights, appreciation, validation and enforcement (Senate, No. 2509) (amended by the House by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of House document numbered 4540),-- reports, a "Bill relative to veterans' benefits, rights, appreciation, validation and enforcement" (Senate, No. 2632).

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Rush, and the report was considered forthwith.

After remarks, the question on acceptance of the report of the committee of conference was determined by a call of the yeas and nays, at seven minutes before five o'clock, P.M., on motion of Mr. Rush as follows, to wit (yeas 38 – nays 0) [Yeas and Nays No. 484]:

YEAS.

Barrett, Michael J.
Boncore, Joseph A.
Brady, Michael D.
Brownsberger, William N.
Chandler, Harriette L.
Chang-Diaz, Sonia
Collins, Nick
Creem, Cynthia Stone
Crighton, Brendan P.

Jehlen, Patricia D. Keenan, John F. Lesser, Eric P. Lewis, Jason M. L'Italien, Barbara A. Lovely, Joan B. Montigny, Mark C. Moore, Michael O. O'Connor, Patrick M. Farmer breweries,--sales.

Brave Act.

Cyr, Julian O'Connor Ives, Kathleen deMacedo, Viriato M. Pacheco, Marc R. DiDomenico, Sal N. Rodrigues, Michael J. Eldridge, James B. Ross, Richard J. Fattman, Ryan C. Rush. Michael F. Feeney, Paul R. Spilka, Karen E. Friedman, Cindy F. Tarr, Bruce E. Gobi. Anne M. Timilty, Walter F. Hinds, Adam G. Tran, Dean A. Welch, James T. -38. Humason, Donald F., Jr.

NAYS - 0.

The yeas and nays having been completed at five minutes before five o'clock, P.M., the report was accepted.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

Report of a Committee.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Senate Bill relative to critical incident intervention by emergency service providers (Senate, No. 1373),-- ought to pass, with an amendment substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2633).

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Moore, and the bill was read a second time and was amended, as recommended by the committee on Ways and Means.

The bill (Senate, No. 2633) was then ordered to a third reading and read a third time.

After remarks, the question on acceptance of the report of the committee of conference was determined by a call of the yeas and nays, at one minute past five o'clock, P.M., on motion of Mr. Moore as follows, to wit (yeas 38 – nays 0) [Yeas and Nays No. 485]:

YEAS.

Barrett, Michael J. Jehlen, Patricia D. Boncore, Joseph A. Keenan, John F. Brady, Michael D. Lesser, Eric P. Brownsberger, William N. Lewis, Jason M. Chandler, Harriette L. L'Italien, Barbara A. Chang-Diaz, Sonia Lovely, Joan B. Collins, Nick Montigny, Mark C. Creem, Cynthia Stone Moore, Michael O. Crighton, Brendan P. O'Connor, Patrick M. Cyr, Julian O'Connor Ives, Kathleen deMacedo, Viriato M. Pacheco, Marc R. DiDomenico, Sal N. Rodrigues, Michael J. Eldridge, James B. Ross, Richard J. Fattman, Ryan C. Rush, Michael F. Feeney, Paul R. Spilka, Karen E. Friedman, Cindy F. Tarr, Bruce E. Gobi, Anne M. Timilty, Walter F. Hinds, Adam G. Tran, Dean A. Humason, Donald F., Jr. Welch, James T. -38.

NAYS - 0.

Emergency services,-- critical incident.

The yeas and nays having been completed at three minutes past five o'clock, P.M., the bill was passed to be engrossed.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

A Bill relative to the release of a restriction on land in the city of Taunton (printed in House, No. 3712,-- being a message from His Excellency the Governor),-- was read.

Taunton,-- land restriction.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Pacheco, and the bill was read a second time and ordered to a third reading.

A Bill authorizing the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to convey certain parcels of land in the town of Grafton (House, No. 4636,-- on House, No. 4511) [Local approval received on House, No. 4511],-- was read.

Grafton,-- land conveyance.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Fattman, and the bill was read a second time and ordered to a third reading.

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Carol Poladian, an employee of the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (House, No. 4653,-- on petition),-- was read.

Carol Poladian,-- sick leave.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Feeney, and the bill was read a second time and ordered to a third reading.

A Bill authorizing the grant of easements relative to the Obery Street Roadway Improvement Project to the town of Plymouth (House, No. 4813,-- on House, No. 4477) [Local approval received on House, No. 4477 and 4813],-- was read.

Plymouth,-- easements.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. deMacedo, and the bill was read a second time and ordered to a third reading.

A Bill authorizing the sale of real property in Chelmsford (House, No. 4814,--on House, No. 4510),-- was read.

Chelmsford,-- real property.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Barrett, and the bill was read a second time and ordered to a third reading

A Bill authorizing the Commissioner of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to convey certain land to the town of Foxborough for fire department use (House, No. 4816,-- on House, No. 4637),-- was read.

Foxborough,-- land conveyance.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Feeney, and the bill was read a second time and ordered to a third reading

The House Bill relative to Alzheimer's and related dementias in the Commonwealth (House, No. 4116, amended),-- came from the House with the endorsement that the House had concurred in the Senate amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 2612 with a further amendment striking out all after the enacting clause (inserted by amendment by the Senate) and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 4817.

Alzheimer's,-- prevention.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Ms. L'Italien, and the further House amendment was adopted, in concurrence.

Report of Committees.

By Mr. Montigny, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the Senate petition of Michael O. Moore and Kate D. Campanale for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Tiffany Sonnier, an employee of the Department of Mental Health

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Moore, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Public Service.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Ms. Lovely,--

Ordered, That when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Monday next at a half past ten o'clock A.M., in a full formal session without a calendar.

Tiffany Sonnier,-sick leave. SD2731

Time of meeting.

Adjourn In Memory of Gregory F. Buckley

The Senator from Plymouth and Bristol, Mr. Brady, moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it do so in memory Gregory F. Buckley of Brockton.

Mr. Brady in the Chair, Gregory F. "Big Gus" Buckley passed peacefully on Tuesday, July 17, 2018, at his home, after a brief battle with stupid cancer. Gus was surrounded by his obnoxiously close family, lots of Jameson, and Lonesome Dove playing in the background. Heaven gained a true legend. Throughout Boston, Cape Cod, and the South Shore he was best known as a mediocre guitar player who was saved by unwavering charisma and showmanship. A devoted family man, Gregs love for his children was surpassed only by his story book love affair with his wife of 46 years Nancy. His loves included fishing, whiskey, politics, golf, the Red Sox, his deck, cigars, White Russians, his country, his Irish heritage, doo wop, boxing, the city of Brockton, the beach, sunshine and the stars. His dislikes are too numerous to mention. He was a man of deep faith whose kindness and humor touched all he encountered.

Born in Brockton, May 13, 1950, Greg was the eldest son of Marilyn K. (Kane) Buckley of Brockton and the late Gregory A. Buckley. He attended Brockton High School and graduated in 1968. While at Brockton High, he excelled as quarterback of the football team, catcher on the baseball team, and fighter on the hockey team. Greg attended Massasoit Community College before joining the Army National Guard in 1970. His late mother-in-law, former Senator Anna P. Buckley, inspired him to serve the city of Brockton as a Ward 2 City Councilor. He worked for the Massachusetts State Lottery for many years before taking a fulfilling position at the Department of Veterans Affairs. Upon retirement, he and his wife Nancy decided to wash ashore in Dennisport.

For the past thirteen years he made a million friends and had a blast. Gus was a member of the Democratic City Committee, the Sons of Erin of Cape Cod, AMVETS, and a founding member of Cape Cod Veterans Inc. His wit, kindness, and blue eyes will be greatly missed by all. "Cheerful in all weather, splendid behavior." Some of Greg's favorite organizations and charities were Cape Cod Veterans Inc. and ALS of Massachusetts. Greg is survived by the love of his life, his special lady of 46 years, Nancy (Buckley) Buckley of Dennisport; his children, Nora

Buckley Dyer of Norton, Keri Buckley and Tom Hassett of Easton, Gregory M. and Jaclyn Buckley of Dennisport; his three grandsons, Declan and Finnian Dyer of Norton, and Gregory William Buckley of Dennisport. In addition to his mother with whom he shared a very special bond, Greg is survived by his loving siblings, Diane Buckley Joy and Philip of Brockton, Stephen Buckley and Nancy of Hingham, Robert Buckley and Leslee of North Easton and Brian Buckley and Kara of Bridgewater. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews that he loved dearly but most likely couldn't call by name, and a thousand cousins.

The President in the Chair, accordingly, as a mark of respect in memory of Gregory F. Buckley, at twenty-two minutes past five o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Brownsberger, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at a half past ten o'clock A.M.