

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, January 19, 2017.

Met at seven minutes after 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 Father Rick Walsh of the Paulist Center of Boston, Chaplain of the House, as follows:

Prayer.

Loving God, we pray for the membership of the House of Representatives and for their hard-working staff. Today we remember one born on this day in 1749. Isaiah Thomas was the publisher of *The Massachusetts Spy*, a newspaper that supported the cause of freedom for the colonies during the difficult times prior to the American Revolution. In printing truthful accounts of abuses by then Governor Hutchinson and other British officials, Isaiah Thomas risked his life. Days before the Battles of Lexington and Concord he smuggled his printing press out of Boston, moving it to Worcester, where he was able to continue publishing accounts of various battles in the War for Independence. And so we pray today for those members of the State House News Service, may they be as brave and tireless in their work as was Isaiah Thomas. May God continue to bless our Commonwealth.

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.

John A. Benedetti.

At the request of Speaker DeLeo of Winthrop and Representative Coppinger of Boston, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute to the memory of John A. Benedetti of West Roxbury. John was a dedicated employee of the House for over 28 years. He passed away after a brief illness on January 13th.

John is survived by his sisters Pauline Benedetti of Millis and Patricia Melville of Dedham.

Members Qualified.

Representatives Denise C. Garlick of Needham, Paul Heroux of Attleboro and Denise Provost of Somerville,— qualification.

The Speaker announced that the special committee of the House appointed at the preceding sitting, relative to the qualification of Denise C. Garlick of Needham, member-elect from the Thirteenth Norfolk District, Paul Heroux of Attleboro, member-elect from the Second Bristol District and Denise Provost of Somerville, member-elect from the Twenty-seventh Middlesex District, had completed the assignment, and that Representatives Garlick, Heroux and Provost had, on Wednesday, January 18, 2017, taken and subscribed the necessary oaths of office, and were now duly qualified as members of the House.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2017.

Guest of the House.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), declared a brief recess, and introduced former Speaker of the House of Representatives of the State of Connecticut, J. Brendan Sharkey, a resident of Hamden, Connecticut. He was the guest of Speaker DeLeo of Winthrop.

J. Brendan Sharkey.

Appointment to a Special Task Force.

The Speaker announced that he had appointed Representative Michlewitz of Boston to the Ride For Hire Task Force established (under Section 7 of Chapter 187 of the Acts of 2016) to review the current laws, regulations and local ordinances governing licensed hackneys, taxis, livery and transportation network companies in the Commonwealth and to make recommendations concerning public safety, consumer protection and the economic fairness and equity of the regulatory structure governing the ride for hire industry.

Ride For Hire Task Force.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk) were considered, under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Ms. Peisch of Wellesley, and they were adopted, as follows:

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Hogan of Stow) congratulating Sarah Cressy on the occasion of her thirtieth anniversary with the Assabet Valley Chamber of Commerce; and

Sarah Cressy.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Peisch of Wellesley) honoring Chief Terrence M. Cunningham on his retirement from the Wellesley Police Department.

Terrence Cunningham.

Communications.

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From the Office of the District Attorney of the Cape and Islands District (see Section 6 of Chapter 258B of the General Laws) submitting a program plan of said office including a description of the services to be provided to victims and witnesses in said district;

Cape and Islands District,— wiretaps.

From the Special Commission on the Status of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (established under Section 69(h) of Chapter 3 of the General Laws) submitting the eighth annual report of its activities for the calendar year 2016; and

Grandparents raising grandchildren.

From MassDevelopment (see Section 46(m) of Chapter 23G of the General Laws) submitting the annual report for the Transformative Development Initiative Cowork program [copies of said report were forwarded to the committee on Ways and Means; and the committees on Economic Development and Emerging Technology and Labor and Workforce Development].

Transformation Development Initiative.

Severally were placed on file.

Reports.

A report of the District Attorney of Bristol County (under of Section 99 of Chapter 272 of the General Laws) submitting a report relative to wiretaps for the calendar year 2016; and

Bristol County District,— wiretaps.

MassDOT,—
owner's
representative
program.

The annual report of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (under Section 39M½ of Chapter 30 of the General Laws) detailing the Owner's Representative Program for SFY2016; Severally were placed on file.

Recess.

Recess.

At the fourteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Hill of Ipswich (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at twelve minutes before one o'clock P.M., the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Order.

Next
sitting.

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.

At ten minutes before one o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Hill of Ipswich (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.