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State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

JOURNAL OF THE
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Providence, Rhode Island

October 16, 1967

The Convention was called to order by Mr. Dennis J. Roberts, Chairman, at 2:17 P.M. pursuant to the following written order:

"October 10, 1967

Delegates to the Constitutional Convention: -

The delegates will, under the authority granted to the chair to call a session, meet on Monday, October 16, 1967, at 1:30 P.M. in the House Chamber.

At this session the report of the special committee of which Judge John Doris was chairman will present a report to the Convention. Please make every effort to attend.

Sincerely,
Dennis J. Roberts
Chairman "

The roll of delegates was called; there were 77 present and 21 absent.

Absentees were: Mr. Appolonia, Mrs. Barber, Mr. Beauchemin, Mmes. Capuano, Castiglia, Messrs. Crandall, DeCiantis, DiSandro, Dodge, Fanning of Cumberland, Gallagher, Mrs. Lacroix, Messrs. Martin, McCabe, Merolla, Moon, Mulligan, Murphy of Coventry, Pucci, Toolin and Stapleton.

The names of the absentees were called.

On motion of Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Messrs. Dolbashian and Cote, the reading of the Journal of the previous day was dispensed, on a voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman announced receipt of communications from Providence Jr. Chamber of Commerce, Greater Woonsocket Chamber of Commerce and The League of Women Voters of Rhode Island, relative to postponement of the special election set by the Convention for November 7, 1967, on the question of approval of the proposed Constitution.

The communications were read.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Mr. Doris as Chairman of the Committee to conduct public hearings on the proposed constitution submitted his report, as Chairman, on public hearings held in Providence, Newport, Woonsocket, Bristol, South Kingstown, East Greenwich and Westerly.

The report was read.

Mr. Doris, seconded by Messrs. Cochran, Bizier, Wexler and DiLuglio, moved that the convention reconsider Resolution No. 41, entitled:-

"RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR SUBMISSION OF THE CONSTITUTION TO THE ELECTORS", which was passed at the previous session of the Convention.

The motion was debated.

Mr. Pickard, seconded by Mrs. Foster and Mr. Willey, moved that the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

Mr. Vacca requested a roll call vote on the motion to lay on the table.

The Chairman inquired whether there was a sufficient number of delegates requesting a roll call vote thereon. There was not a sufficient number so requesting.

On a division vote, the motion to lay on the table did not prevail- 19 delegates voting in the affirmative and 54 delegates voting in the negative.

Mr. LaSalle requested a roll call vote on motion to reconsider.

The Chairman inquired whether there was a sufficient number of delegates requesting a roll call vote thereon. There was not a sufficient number so requesting.

On a division vote, the motion to reconsider prevailed, 56 delegates voting in the affirmative and 14 delegates voting in the negative.

Mr. Doris, seconded by Messrs. Foster, Cote and McGrath, moved that Resolution No. 41 be laid on the table.

On a division vote, the motion to lay on the table prevailed, 55 delegates voting in the affirmative and 13 delegates voting in the negative.

Mr. Doris, seconded by Messrs. DiLuglio, Foster, Wrenn, Kagan, Cote, Wexler, Pickard, Bizier, Cochran, and McGrath, moved that the Convention reconsider the following which had been adopted at the previous session of the Convention:

CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE

PLANTATIONS (Proposal No. 20 Substitute C, 25, 26 Substitute B, 27 Substitute B, 30 Substitute B, 31 Substitute B, 32 Substitute B, 33 Substitute B, 34 Substitute B, 35 Substitute C, 36, 37, 39 Substitute A, 41 Substitute B, 155 Substitute D, 171 Substitute C, 190 Substitute B.)

On a division vote, the motion to reconsider prevailed, 65 delegates voting in the affirmative and 5 delegates voting in the negative.

Mr. Pickard, seconded by Messrs. Nathanson, Gallogly, Warren, Cannon, Cunningham, offered the following written motion to amend:-

" I move to amend Article I, Section 6, by striking out the last sentence of the section. Sentence begins with the words, "The right of the people...." and ends with the words, "shall not be violated."

Robert F. Pickard

The motion was read.

The motion was debated.

Mr. LaSalle, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, moved that the motion to amend be referred to the Committee on Personal Liberties.

On a division vote, the motion did not prevail, 3 delegates voting in the affirmative and 53 delegates voting in the negative.

Mr. DiLuglio, seconded by Messrs. Doris, Wexler, Cunningham and La Salle, moved that the motion to amend be laid on the table.

On a division vote, the motion to lay on the table prevailed, 49 delegates voting in the affirmative and 14 delegates voting in the negative.

Mr. Doris, seconded by Messrs. Wexler, Bizier, and McGrath offered the following written motion: -

"I move that the Chairman and Secretary certify to the Secretary of State, the action of the Convention with respect to Resolution 41 at today's session."

John F. Doris

The motion was read.

The motion prevailed on a voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:42 P.M. on motion of Mr. Doris, seconded by Mr. Cochran, the Convention adjourned to meet on Monday, October 23, 1967, at 1:30 P.M. in the Chamber of the House of Representatives at the State House, on a unanimous rising vote.

August P. LaFrance
Secretary
Constitutional Convention

jjj