

October 1966

# Journal of the Constitutional Convention, 1966 Oct 24

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**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations**

**JOURNAL OF THE  
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION**

Providence, Rhode Island

October 24, 1966

The Convention was called to order by Mr. Dennis J. Roberts, Chairman, at 2:05 P.M.

INVOCATION

The Chairman presented Reverend Valley Andresen, Pastor of the Friendship Baptist Church of Warwick, for the purpose of giving the Invocation. The Invocation was given.

The roll of delegates was called; there were 73 present and 27 absent.

Absentees were Messrs. Appolonia, Beauchemin, Mmes. Capuano and Castiglia, Messrs. Chaharyn, Champion, DeCiantis, DiLuglio, Dodge, Fanning of Cumberland, Gallagher, Geoffroy, Giguere, Greenhalgh, Jordan, Mrs. Lacroix, Mr. Lallo, Mrs. Lambros, Messrs. LaSalle, Merolla, Moon, Mulligan, Parrillo, Mrs. Pell, Messrs. Pickard, SaoBento and Sherry.

The names of the absentees were called.

On motion of Mr. Nathanson, the delegates extended a rising vote of appreciation to Reverend Andresen for his kindness in giving the Invocation.

On motion of Mr. Dolbashian, seconded by Mr. Baccari, the reading of the Journal of the previous day was dispensed, on a voice vote.

Mr. Wexler, for the Committee on Style and Drafting reported back that, by a vote of 10 to 0, the Committee recommended adoption of the following proposal:

Proposal No. 32, Substitute B "The Executive Power"

The proposal and report were accepted, placed in order for Second Reading of Proposals at the next session of the Convention.

Mr. Wexler, for the Committee on Style and Drafting reported back that, by a vote of 10 to 0, the Committee recommended adoption of the following proposal:

Proposal No. 39, Substitute A "Of Continuity of Government  
During an Emergency"

The proposal and report were accepted, placed in order for Second Reading of Proposals at the next session of the Convention.

Mr. Wexler, for the Committee on Style and Drafting, reported back that by a vote of 10 to 0, the Committee recommended adoption of the following proposal:

Proposal No. 165, Substitute B "Legislative Auditor"

The proposal and report were accepted, placed in order for Second Reading of Proposals at the next session of the Convention.

Mr. Doris, for the Committee on the Legislative Department, reported back that by a vote of 8 to 0, the Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 207 "Limitation on State Debt"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF PROPOSALS

The Chairman announced receipt of the following proposal:

Proposal No. 10028, offered by a qualified elector, Serafino F. Raponi of Providence. The proposal was referred to the Committee on Rules and Credentials.

REFERENCE OF PROPOSAL AFTER SECOND READING

The Chairman announced that the following proposal was referred to the Committee on Style and Drafting after second reading and vote on passage by the Convention at its session on October 3, 1966:

Proposal No. 190, Substitute B "Claims against Governmental Units"

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Chairman announced that he would present the Report of the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole for August 25, 1966, a copy of which was on the desk of each delegate.

On motion of Mr. Dolbashian, seconded by Mr. Murphy of Tiverton, reading of the report was dispensed and the Convention proceeded to act thereon, on a voice vote.

The Chairman, as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole on August 25, 1966, presented a report of the Committee of the Whole to the Convention and action was taken thereon as follows:

"The Committee of the Whole meeting on August 25, 1966, considered

Proposal No. 189, Section L, "Article XIV - Of Continuity of Government During and Emergency."

"The Committee on the Executive Department did not recommend adoption. On a division vote, the Committee of the Whole did not recommend adoption."

Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Dolbashian, moved that the proposal be rejected.

On a division vote the motion prevailed, 63 delegates voting in the affirmative and 0 delegates voting in the negative.

#### GENERAL ORDERS

Mr. Warren, seconded by Messrs. Lawrence and Cochran, moved that the Convention resolve into a Committee of the Whole upon the General Orders of the Day.

The motion prevailed on a voice vote.

(For Journal of the Committee of the Whole, see appendix, this Journal.)

Upon the rising of the Committee of the Whole, the Chairman again called the Convention to order.

#### RECESS

At 2:26 P.M., on suggestion of Mr. Wexler, by unanimous consent, the Chairman declared that the Convention be in recess for a period of five minutes.

#### ORDER

At 2:32 P.M. the Chairman called the Convention to order.

By unanimous consent on suggestion of Mr. Wexler the Convention referred back to reports of Standing Committees.

#### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Mr. Wexler, for the Committee on Style and Drafting reported back that by a vote of 9 to 1, the Committee recommended adoption of the following proposal:

Proposal No. 36 "Of Impeachments"

The proposal and report were accepted, placed in order for Second Reading of Proposals at the next session of the Convention.

Mr. Wexler, for the Committee on Style and Drafting reported back that by a vote of 10 to 0, the Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 55 "Line of Succession to Governorship"

The proposal and report were accepted, placed in order for Second Reading of Proposals at the next session of the Convention.

Mr. Wexler, for the Committee on Style and Drafting reported back that by a vote of 9 to 1, the Committee ordered to be reported without recommendation the following proposal:

Proposal No. 202 "Term of Members of the House of Representatives"

The proposal and report were accepted, placed in order for Second Reading of Proposals at the next session of the Convention.

Mr. Wexler, for the Committee on Style and Drafting reported back that by a vote of 9 to 1, the Committee ordered to be reported without recommendation the following proposal:

Proposal No. 205 "Term of Office of Representatives"

The proposal and report were accepted, placed in order for Second Reading of Proposals at the next session of the Convention.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2:35 P.M., on motion of Mr. Doris, seconded by Messrs. Foster and Ricci, the Convention adjourned to meet on Monday, November 21, 1966, at 1:30 P.M. in the Chamber of the House of Representatives at the State House, on a voice vote.

August P. LaFrance, Secretary  
Constitutional Convention

A P P E N D I X

Journal of the Committee of the Whole

October 24, 1966

Upon the resolving of the Convention into a Committee of the Whole, the Chairman called the Committee of the Whole to order.

GENERAL ORDERS

The Committee of the Whole proceeded to consider and act upon the General Orders of the Day.

Proposal No. 38    "LOCAL GOVERNMENT"

(The Committee on Local Government does not recommend adoption.)

By unanimous consent the Committee of the Whole dispensed with reading of the proposal.

Mr. Coleman, seconded by Messrs. Cannon, Viall and Lawrence, moved that the Committee of the Whole recommend rejection of the proposal.

On a division vote the motion prevailed, 59 delegates voting in the affirmative and 0 delegates voting in the negative.

Proposal No. 84    "OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT"

(The Committee on Local Government does not recommend adoption.)

By unanimous consent, the Committee of the Whole dispensed with reading of the proposal.

Mr. Coleman, seconded by Messrs. Murphy of Tiverton, Lawrence, Cannon and Mrs. Barber, moved that the Committee of the Whole recommend rejection of the proposal.

On a division vote the motion prevailed, 58 delegates voting in the affirmative and 0 delegates voting in the negative.

Proposal No. 189, Section K    "OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT"

(The Committee on Local Government does not recommend adoption.)

By unanimous consent, the Committee of the Whole dispensed with reading of the proposal.

Mr. Coleman, seconded by Messrs. Cannon and Viall, moved that the Committee of the Whole recommend rejection of the proposal.

On a division vote the motion prevailed, 61 delegates voting in the affirmative and 0 delegates voting in the negative.

Mr. Warren, seconded by Messrs. Cannon and Foster, moved that the Committee of the Whole rise.

The motion prevailed on a voice vote.

August P. LaFrance, Secretary  
Constitutional Convention