

**Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight
Bill Summary**

BILL NUMBER	House, No. 5088
TITLE	An Act designating asparagus as the official vegetable of the Commonwealth
SPONSORS	Representative Homar Gómez
HEARING DATE	Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 1pm in B-1 [Virtual Hearing]
PRIOR HISTORY	N/A
SIMILAR MATTERS	N/A
CURRENT LAW	Chapter 2: Arms, great seal and other emblems of the Commonwealth Chapter 6: Governor's role, duties, and responsibilities
SUMMARY	Inserts a section that makes the asparagus the official vegetable of the Commonwealth.

HOUSE No. 5088

By Representative Gómez of Easthampton, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Homar Gómez and others for legislation to designate asparagus as the official vegetable of the Commonwealth. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)
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An Act designating asparagus as the official vegetable of the Commonwealth.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Chapter 2 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 65.

Asparagus shall be the official vegetable of the commonwealth.

**Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight
Bill Summary**

BILL NUMBER	House, No. 5315
TITLE	An Act relative to the Veterans Memorial Rink located in the city of Waltham
SPONSORS	Representative Thomas Stanley
HEARING DATE	[Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 1pm in B-1 [Virtual Hearing]
PRIOR HISTORY	N/A
SIMILAR MATTERS	N/A
CURRENT LAW	Chapter 7C, Sections 32-37 (inclusive): Capital Asset Management and Maintenance

SUMMARY

DCAMM shall give Waltham the right of first refusal over the lease of Veterans Memorial rink in Waltham. Before DCAMM puts the lease out to bid, DCAMM shall request a prequalification solicitation from Waltham that includes the ability of Waltham to finance improvements for the rink. If DCAMM determines that Waltham satisfies the prequalification criteria then Waltham shall be awarded the lease for nominal consideration. If Waltham doesn't prequalify or submit a prequalification then DCAMM may put out on RFP.

HOUSE No. 5315

By Representative Stanley of Waltham, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Thomas M. Stanley that the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance be authorized to provide the city of Waltham with a right of first refusal over the lease of the Veterans Memorial rink in said city. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to the Veterans Memorial Rink located in the city of Waltham.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to direct forthwith the division of capital asset management and maintenance to provide the city of Waltham with a right of first refusal for the lease of Veterans Memorial rink in the city of Waltham, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

(a) Notwithstanding sections 32 to 37, inclusive, of chapter 7C of the General Laws, section 52 of chapter 206 of the acts of 2024 and any other general or special law to the contrary, the division of capital asset management and maintenance shall provide the city of Waltham with a right of first refusal over the lease of the Veterans Memorial rink in the city of Waltham authorized pursuant to subsection (a) of said section 52 of said chapter 206 provided that the city meets the prequalification standards set forth in subsection (b).

(b) Before the division sends out a request for proposals for lease of the Veterans Memorial rink in the city of Waltham pursuant to subsection (c) of said section 52 of said

chapter 206, the division shall solicit a prequalification proposal from the city for said lease. The division's prequalification solicitation shall be sent in writing to the clerk and mayor of the city of Waltham and shall seek information to address: (1) the ability of the city to finance any capital improvements determined to be necessary at the rink by the division and to manage, operate and maintain the property; and (2) the terms and conditions set forth in said subsection (c) of said section 52 of said chapter 206. No later than 30 days after receipt of the prequalification solicitation, the city may submit a prequalification proposal to the division. No later than 15 days after receipt of the prequalification proposal from the city, the division shall determine whether the city's proposal satisfies the requirements of the solicitation. If the division determines that the proposal satisfies the requirements of the solicitation, the city shall be considered prequalified and the city shall be awarded the lease for the Veterans Memorial rink in the city of Waltham under the terms and conditions set forth in said section 52 of said chapter 206 for nominal consideration.

(c) If the city fails to apply for prequalification under subsection (b) or is determined not to be prequalified under subsection (b), the division shall proceed with a request for proposal pursuant to subsection (c) of said section 52 of said chapter 206; provided, however, that the city may submit a bid in response to the request for proposal and the division shall consider the city's bid.

**Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight
Bill Summary**

BILL NUMBER	House, No. 5335
TITLE	An Act establishing the official crustacean of the Commonwealth
SPONSORS	Representative Joan Meschino and Senator Patrick M. O'Connor
HEARING DATE	Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 1pm in B-1 [Virtual Hearing]
PRIOR HISTORY	N/A
SIMILAR MATTERS	N/A
CURRENT LAW	Chapter 2: Arms, great seal and other emblems of the Commonwealth

SUMMARY

Inserts a section that makes the lobster the official crustacean of the Commonwealth.

HOUSE No. 5335

By Representative Meschino of Hull and Senator O'Connor, a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Joan Meschino and Patrick M. O'Connor for legislation to designate the American lobster as the official crustacean of the Commonwealth. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)

An Act establishing the official crustacean of the Commonwealth.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Chapter 2 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following new section:-

Section 65. The American lobster shall be the official crustacean of the commonwealth.

**Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight
Bill Summary**

BILL NUMBER	Senate, No. 3073
TITLE	An Act designating asparagus as the official vegetable of the Commonwealth
SPONSORS	Senator Joanne Comerford
HEARING DATE	Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 1pm in B-1 [Virtual Hearing]
PRIOR HISTORY	N/A
SIMILAR MATTERS	N/A
CURRENT LAW	Chapter 2: Arms, great seal and other emblems of the Commonwealth Chapter 6: Governor's role, duties, and responsibilities
SUMMARY	Inserts a section that makes the asparagus the official vegetable of the Commonwealth.

SENATE No. 3073

By Ms. Comerford, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3073) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Joanne M. Comerford and Mindy Domb for legislation to designate asparagus as the official vegetable of the Commonwealth. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act designating asparagus as the official vegetable of the Commonwealth.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Chapter 2 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 65.

Asparagus shall be the official vegetable of the commonwealth.

**Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight
Bill Summary**

BILL NUMBER	Senate, No. 3073
TITLE	An Act designating asparagus as the official vegetable of the Commonwealth
SPONSORS	Senator Joanne Comerford
HEARING DATE	Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 1pm in B-1 [Virtual Hearing]
PRIOR HISTORY	N/A
SIMILAR MATTERS	N/A
CURRENT LAW	Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2002: AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF LOWELL.

SUMMARY

This bill removes certain phrases and sections from the Act related to the parcel becoming a parking garage, therefore the parcel may be used for other purposes.

SENATE No. 3061

By Ms. Howard, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3061) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Vanna Howard for legislation relative to a certain property in the city of Lowell. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to a certain property in the city of Lowell.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2002 is hereby amended in Section 1 by striking the words "for the purposes set forth in Section 2" following the word, "appropriate".

SECTION 2. Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2002 is hereby further amended by striking Section 2 in its entirety.

SECTION 3. Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2002 is hereby further amended by striking Section 6 in its entirety.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon passage.