

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1036
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to liability for accidents and collisions with vulnerable road users involving large motor vehicles and trailers
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Brownsberger
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

None

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 231: PLEADING AND PRACTICE; New section: 140E

SUMMARY

This bill creates a rebuttable presumption of negligence in personal injury or wrongful death lawsuits involving large vehicles (over 10,000 lbs, Class 3 or above) that collide with vulnerable road users (e.g., pedestrians, cyclists). If the vehicle lacks specific safety equipment—lateral protective devices, convex mirrors, crossover mirrors, and backup cameras—the defendant is presumed negligent unless proven otherwise.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1038
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to the protection of small businesses and workers
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Brownsberger
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	H.1982; Sabadosa, Lindsay N.

PRIOR HISTORY

None

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 93: REGULATION OF TRADE AND CERTAIN ENTERPRISES; Section 2: Definitions

SUMMARY

This bill strengthens Massachusetts' antitrust laws by defining and prohibiting abuses of monopoly and monopsony power in business and labor markets. Key provisions include:

New definitions for monopoly, monopsony, and dominant market power.

Makes it illegal to monopolize or monopsonize, or abuse a dominant market position—especially through coercive contracts, exclusive dealing, or wage suppression.

Presumes certain restraints by dominant firms are illegal, unless proven to have overriding competitive benefits.

Allows the Attorney General to issue rules and guidance, and permits both AG and private plaintiffs to recover expert fees if they prevail.

Increases criminal penalties for willful violations to up to \$100 million for corporations and \$100,000 or 1 year imprisonment for individuals.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1041
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to consumer protection and civil rights
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Collins
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

None

CURRENT LAW

Notwithstanding any general or special law

SUMMARY

This bill gives the Massachusetts Attorney General the authority to pursue civil action against individuals or companies that violate the civil rights of Massachusetts residents in other states—especially when the harm involves Massachusetts wages, banks, or consumer contracts. It also tolls the statute of limitations while either party is outside the state where the violation occurred.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1078
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act protecting employee free speech
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senators Edwards, Mark, and Eldridge
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	H.1653; Decker, Marjorie C.

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023 - 2024) S.958; studied

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 149: LABOR AND INDUSTRIES; Section 1: Definitions; Section 2: Enforcement of chapter

SUMMARY

This bill protects employees in Massachusetts from being disciplined or fired for refusing to attend employer-sponsored meetings or communications primarily focused on political or religious matters. It defines “political” and “religious” matters and allows employees to sue for damages, including lost wages and attorney's fees, if their rights are violated. Exceptions are made for legally required communications, job-related information, academic discussions, casual conversations, and religious institutions under federal exemption.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1091
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to direct food donations
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senators Fattman and Tarr
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2017 - 2018) S.848; studied

(2019 - 2020) S.934; studied

(2021 - 2022) S.1025; studied

(2023 - 2024) S.963; studied

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 94: INSPECTION AND SALE OF FOOD, DRUGS AND VARIOUS ARTICLES;
Section 328: Food donations; distribution, service and preparation; civil liability

SUMMARY

This bill protects food service entities and retail stores from civil liability when they donate food—including past-date but safe food—directly to individuals, as long as the food is not misbranded, adulterated, or handled in violation of health regulations, and no negligence or misconduct occurred.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1147
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act providing civil legal remedies for victims of economic abuse
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senators Kennedy, Lewis, Jehlen, Keenan, Comerford, and DiDomenico; Representative Howard of Lowell
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	H.1694; Fluker-Reid, Brandy
<u>PRIOR HISTORY</u>	
	None
<u>CURRENT LAW</u>	
	New Chapter: Chapter 258G. REMEDIES FOR VICTIMS OF ECONOMIC ABUSE

SUMMARY

This bill creates legal protections and remedies for victims of economic abuse—a form of abuse where someone, often a family or household member, coerces, manipulates, or fraudulently incurs debt in another person's name.

Key provisions include:

Defines "Debt incurred through Economic Abuse" and outlines what documentation victims can provide to establish their claim (e.g., police reports, court orders, sworn statements).

Requires creditors to halt collection, notify credit bureaus, and return any payments once victims submit proper documentation.

Victims are not liable for debts proven to be incurred through economic abuse and can raise this as a defense in court.

Creditors may challenge claims in court, but the burden of proof is on them.

Perpetrators of economic abuse can be held civilly liable for repayment.

Ensures privacy protections for victims and prohibits waivers of these rights in contracts.

Establishes Model Form A-1 to guide creditors in responding to victims and standardizes communication in English and Spanish.

Goes into effect on January 1, 2026.

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Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1148
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to the fair treatment of employees
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Lewis
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2019 - 2020) S.978; studied

(2019 - 2020) S.978; studied

(2023 - 2024) S.1020; studied

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 94G: REGULATION OF THE USE AND DISTRIBUTION OF MARIJUANA NOT MEDICALLY PRESCRIBED; New Section: 23

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits employers in Massachusetts from discriminating against employees or job applicants for off-duty marijuana use, as long as the employee is not impaired or using marijuana at work. Exceptions are made for:

Federally regulated jobs that require marijuana testing,

Roles requiring licenses or credentials that prohibit marijuana use,

Cases involving marijuana-related criminal charges.

Employees can sue for damages or injunctive relief if their rights are violated. Regulations will be developed by the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

BILL NUMBER Senate, No. 1158

TITLE An Act to enhance state anti-trust powers and enforcement

SPONSORS

SIMILAR None

MATTERS

PRIOR HISTORY

(2017 - 2018) S.893; studied

(2019 - 2020) S.970; studied

(2021 - 2022) S.1077; studied

(2023 - 2024) S.1034; studied

CURRENT LAW

New chapter: An Act to Enhance State Anti-Trust Powers and Enforcement.

SUMMARY

This bill enhances Massachusetts' antitrust enforcement by encouraging stronger use of existing state powers and requiring the Attorney General to publish an annual Economic Enforcement Report. The report will recommend improvements to antitrust laws and focus on:

Promoting fair competition, especially for small and mid-sized businesses,

Monitoring large chain stores for fair pricing and sales practices,

Addressing enforcement gaps left by limited federal antitrust actions.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1167
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act to protect nonhuman primate infants in research institutions and product testing facilities
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senators Lovely, Brady, Moore, Edwards, Barrett, Fernandes, Tarr, O'Connor, and Jehlen; Representative Jones of North Reading
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	H.1948; Reid, Sean

PRIOR HISTORY

None

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 272: CRIMES AGAINST CHASTITY, MORALITY, DECENCY AND GOOD ORDER; Section 80G: Experiments on vertebrates; vivisection, dissection of animals; care

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits research and product testing facilities in Massachusetts from separating infant nonhuman primates (NHPs) from their biological mothers for experimental purposes during the first 12 months of life. Separation is only allowed for medical reasons, and efforts must be made to minimize distress and reunite the NHPs promptly. The Department of Public Health Commissioner is tasked with issuing regulations to enforce the law within 90 days.

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Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1172
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act to protect unpaid interns, volunteers, and independent contractors from sexual harassment and other forms of discrimination
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Lovely
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2021 - 2022) S.1089; studied

(2023 - 2024) S.1035; studied

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 151B: UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGIOUS CREED, NATIONAL ORIGIN, ANCESTRY OR SEX; Section 1: Definitions

SUMMARY

This bill expands Massachusetts anti-discrimination protections under Chapter 151B to cover unpaid workers—including interns, volunteers, apprentices, and trainees—as well as independent contractors and non-employees (e.g., vendors or consultants) in the workplace.

Key provisions:

Redefines “employer” and “employee” to include unpaid roles.

Makes it unlawful to discriminate or harass individuals in unpaid positions or contractual roles based on protected characteristics.

Allows these individuals to file discrimination complaints.

Holds employers liable if they fail to act on known harassment, even against non-employees.

Clarifies that this protection does not create entitlement to wage laws, workers' comp, or unemployment benefits.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1194
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act to prevent unscrupulous medical debt recovery practices
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Montigny
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2009 - 2010) S.843

(2011 - 2012) S.1124

(2013 - 2014) S.1047

(2015 - 2016) S.1190

(2017 - 2018) S.1235

(2019 - 2020) S.167

(2021 - 2022) S.224

(2023 - 2024) S.1065

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 235: JUDGMENT AND EXECUTION; New section: 34B

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits hospitals and community health centers in Massachusetts from pursuing legal action to seize a patient's or guarantor's primary vehicle or principal residence to collect medical debt, regardless of homestead declaration status. The Department of Public Health must issue regulations to enforce this within 180 days.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1195
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to public charity executive and board of directors compensation
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Montigny
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2015 - 2016) S.875

(2017 - 2018) S.911

(2019 - 2020) S.986

(2021 - 2022) S.1102

(2023 - 2024) S.1067

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 180: CORPORATIONS FOR CHARITABLE AND CERTAIN OTHER PURPOSES;
New section 30

SUMMARY

This bill limits executive compensation at Massachusetts public charities with annual revenues over \$1 million. Key provisions include:

Caps annual compensation for executives and senior managers at \$500,000, including all forms of payment and benefits.

Board members cannot be compensated beyond expense reimbursements.

Charities may request a waiver through a public hearing before a commission if they show good cause, supported by an independent audit.

Violations without an approved waiver may result in loss of public charity status in Massachusetts.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1199
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act to add law enforcement councils to the Massachusetts TORT Claims Act
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senators Moore and O'Connor; Representatives Berthiaume of Spencer, Marsi of Dudley, Kane of Shrewsbury, Scarsdale of Pepperell, and Xiarhos of Barnstable
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2017 - 2018) H.2356; studied

(2023 - 2024) S.1068; studied

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 258: CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY PROCEDURE FOR THE COMMONWEALTH, ITS MUNICIPALITIES, COUNTIES AND DISTRICTS AND THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES THEREOF; Section 1: Definitions

SUMMARY

This bill amends Chapter 258 to include Law Enforcement Councils—established under Chapter 40, Section 4J—as public entities covered by the Massachusetts Tort Claims Act. This means they can be held liable for certain civil claims in the same way as other public agencies like municipalities and the MBTA.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1207
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to the ownership of pets by convicted animal abusers
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senators Moore, Brady, Tarr, Keenan, O'Connor, Fattman, Kennedy, and Velis; Representatives Hawkins of Attleboro, Cruz of Salem, and Scanlon of North Attleborough
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 01:00 PM - 05:00 PM, A-2
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	H.1914; Nguyen, Tram T.

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-2024) S1076; studied.

(2021-2022) S1111; accompanied S2672. Reported favorably.

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 10: DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE TREASURER; Section 35WW: Homeless Animal Prevention and Care Fund; Chapter 129: LIVESTOCK DISEASE CONTROL; Section 37: Enforcement actions; jurisdiction of commissioner of agriculture, district and superior courts; Chapter 272: CRIMES AGAINST CHASTITY, MORALITY, DECENCY AND GOOD ORDER; Section 77C: Sexual contact with animal; New Section 77 1/2: Temporary possession ban of animals by animal abusers

SUMMARY

This bill strengthens animal protection laws in Massachusetts by:

Requiring that fines from animal-related offenses be deposited into the Homeless Animal Prevention and Care Fund.

Mandating automatic bans on animal ownership or access for those convicted of animal cruelty—5 years for a first offense, 15 years for repeat offenses, with courts able to impose longer bans for public safety.

Detailing strict restrictions for banned individuals, including prohibitions on owning, fostering, or working with animals.

Allowing annual petitions for ban reductions, with required proof of rehabilitation and no danger to animals.

Imposing additional fines and permanent animal custody forfeiture for violations of access bans.

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Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1218
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to protecting innocent sellers
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator O'Connor
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 01:00 PM - 05:00 PM, A-2
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-2024) S.1092; sent to study

(2021-2022) S.232; sent to study

(2019-2020) S.171; sent to study

(2017-2018) S.145; sent to study

CURRENT LAW

New CHAPTER 93M. NONMANUFACTURING SELLER LIABILITY

SUMMARY

This bill establishes a section on nonmanufacturing sellers' liability. A manufacturer shall indemnify and hold harmless a seller against loss arising out of a product's liability action, except for any loss caused by the seller's intentional misconduct or other act or omission, such as negligently modifying or altering the product.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

BILL NUMBER Senate, No. 1234

TITLE An Act prohibiting the harassment of animals

SPONSORS

HEARING DATE Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 01:00 PM - 05:00 PM, A-2

SIMILAR None

MATTERS

PRIOR HISTORY

None

CURRENT LAW

Not applicable

SUMMARY

This bill is aimed at preventing cruelty, neglect, and exploitation of animals, while promoting humane treatment and the protection of animal welfare.

The bill defines animal advocate/activist as a protected class, defines the duties of guardians (pet owners), restricts animal testing, prohibits killing or physically harming animals, prohibits habitat destruction, and creates many other protections for animals.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1243
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act specifying an electronic system to ensure that sales of certain products containing pseudoephedrine (PSE) do not exceed limits established under federal law
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Payano
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 01:00 PM - 05:00 PM, A-2
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	H1581; Arriaga, Shirley

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-2024) S.1106; studied.

(2021-2022) S.1018; studied.

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 94C: CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT; New Section 50

SUMMARY

This bill regulates the sale of pseudoephedrine and ephedrine to prevent misuse and illegal drug production. It limits sales to 3.6 grams per day and 9 grams per 30 days per person, including all forms of the substances. Retailers must store products behind the counter or in locked cases and require valid government-issued photo ID from buyers while recording their information. Starting January 1, 2026, retailers must electronically submit sales data to the Department of Public Health or relevant state agency or maintain written logs until compliance is possible. The system will flag excessive purchases with a stop sale alert, but an override function exists in cases of imminent bodily harm. Violations are misdemeanors, with fines up to \$1,000 for first offenses and \$5,000 for subsequent ones. The bill preempts local laws and integrates with NPLeX, a national real-time tracking system for pseudoephedrine sales.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1250
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act strengthening the commonwealth's Anti-SLAPP law
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Rausch
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 01:00 PM - 05:00 PM, A-2
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	H.1627; Cusack, Mark J.

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-2024) S.1113; studied.

(2015-2016) S.760; studied.

(2013-2014) S.670; studied.

(2011-2012) S.734; studied.

(2009-2010) S.1618; reported favorably.

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 231: PLEADING AND PRACTICE; Section 59H: Strategic litigation against public participation; special motion to dismiss

SUMMARY

This bill is intended to ensure full participation by citizens and organizations in discussions of issues regarding the right to the freedom of petition, the freedom of speech, the freedom of expression or any matter of public concern.

This is achieved by:

a. removing the exception for Anti-SLAPP cases relating to reproductive and gender-affirming health care, abusive litigation, and civil actions.

b. replacing the reference to the "right to petition" with "right to the freedom of petition, the freedom of speech, the freedom of expression or in connection with any matter of public concern, either acting solely or in concert with other citizens", therefore increasing the protected forms of expression that can be used to bring a special motion to dismiss.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1258
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to safe driving and open containers
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Tarr
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 01:00 PM - 05:00 PM, A-2
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-2024) S.1119; studied.

(2021-2022) S.1140; studied.

(2019-2020) S.1018; studied.

(2017-2018) S.962, redrafted in S.2501; reported favorably.

(2015-2016) S.2116; studied.

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 90: MOTOR VEHICLES AND AIRCRAFT; New Section 24I½

SUMMARY

This bill creates a fine of \$100 to \$500 for narcotic or marijuana possession in the passenger area of a motor vehicle, unless it is stored in a closed container.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1261
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to strategic litigation against public participation
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senators Tarr and Durant
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 01:00 PM - 05:00 PM, A-2
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-2024) S.1132; studied.

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 231: PLEADING AND PRACTICE; Section 59H: Strategic litigation against public participation; special motion to dismiss.

SUMMARY

This bill aims to protect individuals and organizations from Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP) by establishing qualified immunity from lawsuits that target their First Amendment rights. It also creates a course of action for those who have been SLAPPED, allowing them to recover damages and legal fees.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1263
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act promoting pet safety aka Crawford's Law
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Tarr
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 01:00 PM - 05:00 PM, A-2
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-2024) S.1126; studied.

(2021-2022) S.1131; studied.

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 272: CRIMES AGAINST CHASTITY, MORALITY, DECENCY AND GOOD ORDER; New Section 77D

SUMMARY

This bill, known as Crawford's Law, allows pet owners in Massachusetts to sue for damages if their cat or dog is killed or injured due to a negligent or reckless act. The bill would allow for compensation for the animal's value, loss of companionship, and other expenses.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1264
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to treble damages
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Tarr
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 01:00 PM - 05:00 PM, A-2
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-2024) S.1125; studied.

(2021-2022) S.1143; studied.

(2019-2020) S.1028; studied.

(2017-2018) S.995; studied.

(2015-2016) S.963; studied.

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 149: LABOR AND INDUSTRIES; Section 27: List of jobs; classification; schedule of wages; penalty; civil action; Section 27F: Wages of operators of rented equipment; agreements; penalty; civil action; Section 27G: Wages of employees of moving contractors; contracts; injunctive relief; damages; Section 27H: Wages of employees of maintenance or cleaning contractors; contracts; civil action; Section 150: Complaint for violation of certain sections; defenses; payment after complaint; assignments; loan of wages to employer; civil action

SUMMARY

This bill amends the Massachusetts General Laws to allow employees to sue for triple damages in cases of willful violations of wage and hour laws. If the violation is found not to be willful, the court will determine the amount of damages to be paid.

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1277
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to the humane protection of animals
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senators Velis, Comerford, Moore, Brady, Oliveira, Eldridge, Tarr, Mark, O'Connor, Rausch, Cronin, Feeney, and Payano; Representatives Hawkins of Attleboro, Howard of Lowell, Scanlon of North Attleborough, and Cruz of Salem
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 01:00 PM - 05:00 PM, A-2
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-2024) S.1142; redrafted as S.2757, reported favorably.

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 140: LICENSES; New Section 151D

Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1279
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to legal advertisements in online-only newspapers
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senators Velis, Fernandes, Eldridge, and Montigny; Representative LaNatra of Kingston
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 01:00 PM - 05:00 PM, A-2
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	H.1632; Davis, Leigh

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-2024) S.1137; studied.

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 4: STATUTES; Section 13: Legal notices required to be published in newspapers; electronic publication; Chapter 40A: ZONING; Section 11: Notice requirements for public hearings; parties in interest defined; review of special permit petitions; recording copies of special permit and variance decisions.

SUMMARY

This bill adds clarification to the current law by explicitly allowing legal notices to be published in online-only newspapers and preventing website errors from being considered publication errors.