
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, August 8, 2024.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M., in Room A-1 of the State House Extension, in an Informal Session, with Mr. Garballey of Arlington in the Chair (having been appointed by the Speaker, under authority conferred by Rule 5, to perform the duties of the Chair).

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Garballey), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of
allegiance.

Guests of the House.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Garballey of Arlington), declared a brief recess and introduced the National Assessment Governing Board, which is chaired by former Governor Perdue of North Carolina, and includes members from across the country, including three members from the Commonwealth: Former Lieutenant-Governor, Acting Governor Jane Swift, Mary West, and Representative Alice Hanlon Peisch of Wellesley.

National
Assessment
Governing
Board.

The National Assessment Governing Board was established by Congress to set policy for the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP), also known as "The National Report Card". They were the guests of Ms. Peisch.

Communications.

Communications

From the Department of Correction (see Section 6A of Chapter 124 of the General Laws) submitting the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association Operational Capacity report for January 1, 2024-June 30, 2024;

Sheriffs,—
operational
capacity.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see item 1599-0514 of Section 2 of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023) submitting the July 1, 2024 biweekly report on the Emergency Housing Assistance Program;

Emergency
housing
assistance.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see item 4003-0123 of Section 2 of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023) submitting the monthly Resettlement Agency Report for June 2024;

Resettlement
Agency.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see item 4000-0300 contained in Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its quarterly MassHealth Pharmacy Pipeline Report for January 1, 2024-December 31, 2024; and

MassHealth
Pharmacy
Pipeline.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see item 4000-0300 contained in Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its quarterly MassHealth Pharmacy Pipeline Report for April 1, 2024-March 31, 2025;

Id.

Severally were placed on file.

Paper from the Senate.

A Bill to promote nature-based approaches for resiliency and climate change adaptation throughout the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 2922) (on Senate bill No. 458), passed to be engrossed by the Senate was read; and it was referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Climate change,—
nature-based solutions.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the following House bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

Promoting safety in the use of off-highway vehicles (House, No. 3834);

Relating to improvements to residential properties (House, No. 4710);

Authorizing the town of Plymouth to grant 2 additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages (House, No. 4850) [Local Approval Received]; and

Establishing a sick leave bank for Kimberly Martinelli (House, No. 4980);

Under suspension of Rule 7A, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the bills severally were read a second time forthwith; and they were ordered to a third reading.

Vehicles.
Properties.
Plymouth,—
liquor licenses.
Kimberly
Martinelli.

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Housing, on a petition, a Bill establishing the Massachusetts social housing program (House, No. 3873).

By Mr. Cusack of Braintree, for the committee on Revenue, on a petition, a Bill relative to senior property tax deferrals (House, No. 2818).

Severally referred, under Joint Rule 1F, to the committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets.

Social housing program.
Senior property tax deferrals.

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Housing, on a petition, a Bill promoting housing stability for families by strengthening the HomeBASE program (House, No. 1297) [Representative Connolly of Cambridge dissenting].

By Mr. Arciero, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing a statewide affirmatively furthering fair housing framework (House, No. 1375).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to ensure senior home safety and security (House, No. 1378).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing a first-time home buyers bill of rights (House, No. 1380).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to home remodeling programs for seniors and people with disabilities (House, No. 3855).

By Mr. Day of Stoneham, for the committee on the Judiciary, on Senate, Nos. 962, 1011, 1098, 1101, 1129 and 1140, and House, Nos. 1492, 1752, 1820, 3786 and 3957, a Bill relative to safety and justice (House, No. 4989).

By Mr. Cusack of Braintree, for the committee on Revenue, on a petition, a Bill supporting workforce and affordable housing (printed as Senate, No. 1888).

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 1761 and House, No. 2878, a Bill protecting the interests of housing cooperative shareholders (House, No. 2878).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to establish a local community newspaper subscription tax credit (House, No. 2958).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a recommitted petition, a Bill establishing a Massport Climate Resiliency trust fund (House, No. 4457).

HomeBASE program.

Fair housing assessments.

Senior home safety.

First-time home buyers.

Home remodeling programs.

Wrongful convictions.

Contractors,—
tax credit.

Housing cooperative shareholders.

Newspapers,—
tax credit.

Massport,—
climate fund.

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Housing, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the city of Somerville to enact Right to Purchase Legislation (House, No. 4074) [Local Approval Received].

Somerville,—
right to
purchase.

By Mr. Cusack of Braintree, for the committee on Revenue, on a petition, a Bill establishing the Martha's Vineyard housing bank (printed as Senate, No. 1782).

Martha's
Vineyard.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relating to guardians of surviving children of emergency first responders (House, No. 2710).

Survivors,—
property taxes.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to expanding the senior property tax exemption (House, No. 2758).

Seniors,—
property taxes.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill repealing the property tax exemption for Massport lessees (House, No. 2816).

Massport,—
lessees.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing volunteer firefighters and emergency medical technicians with a local option real estate tax exemption (House, No. 2832).

Responders,—
tax exemptions.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 2798, 2809, 2872 and 2906, a Bill authorizing the establishment of a mean tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 2872).

Seniors,—
property taxes.

By the same member, for the same committee, on Senate, No. 1842 and House, No. 2944, a Bill creating a local option property tax cap for low-income seniors (House, No. 2944).

Low-income
seniors,—
tax cap.

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed Bill authorizing the town of Tewksbury to use a certain parcel of land for general recreational purposes (see Senate, No. 2916, amended), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was considered, the question being on adopting the emergency preamble.

Tewksbury,—
land.

A separate vote was taken, as required by the provisions of Article XLVIII (as amended by Article LXVII) of the Amendments to the Constitution; and the preamble was adopted, by a vote of 4 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Subsequently, the Senate having concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, the bill (which originated in the Senate) was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill
enacted.

Orders of the Day.

House bills

Establishing recall methods for elected officials in the town of Lakeville (House, No. 4125);

Third
reading
bills.

Establishing an appointed treasurer for the city of Holyoke (House, No. 4748, changed); and

Authorizing the town of Holliston to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages (House, No. 4867);

Severally reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Order.

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

At eight minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in Room A-1, in an Informal Session.