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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2024.**

[77]

# JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

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Thursday, August 15, 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.

## *Message from the Governor.*

A message from Her Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative providing for the terms of certain bonds to be issued by the Commonwealth (House, No. 5000), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Monday, August 12.

Bonds,—  
terms.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

## *Silent Tribute.*

At the request of Representative Peisch of Wellesley, the members, guests, and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute in respect to the memory of Margaret (Meg) Miller Greer, a remarkable wife, mother, grandmother, businesswoman and active public servant in her community who passed away July 10th at the age of 72.

Margaret  
(Meg) Miller  
Greer.

Born in 1951, Margaret Greer was a student activist in the 1970s. Her passion for women's rights, including the right to an abortion, and migrant rights continued through her life. Most recently demonstrated by her determined advocacy against the ballot question limiting immigrant access to driver's licenses. She served on the Wellesley School Committee from 1995 to 2000 and was a Wellesley Town Meeting Member from 1995 to 1999.

She graduated from the University of Michigan in 1973 with a BA in Journalism, and from Harvard Business School in 1977. She was one of the first women hired as an account executive by IBM. She later established a career as a Financial Advisor at Smith Barney, and at Wells Fargo from which she retired in 2015.

Ms. Greer is survived by her husband Gordon T. Greer to whom she was married for 45 years, her two children, Burke T. Greer and Marissa G. Kivett, and four grandchildren, Helen, Alden, Tuckerman, and Clementine.

## *Resolutions.*

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representative Meschino of Hull) commending Veterans Suicide Awareness & Remembrance Flag Corp. for its

Veteran Suicide  
Awareness and  
Remembrance  
Day.

recognition of September 22, 2024 as Veteran Suicide Awareness and Remembrance Day, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. O’Day of West Boylston, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

*Petitions.*

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Barrett of North Adams, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5002) of John Barrett, III (by vote of the town) relative to establishing the recall of elected officials in the town of Williamstown. To the committee on Election Laws.

Williamstown,—  
recall elections.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5003) of John Barrett, III (by vote of the town) relative to the town charter of the town of Williamstown; and

Williamstown,—  
town charter.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5004) of John Barrett, III (by vote of the town) relative to the enforcement of the charter of the town of Williamstown.

Id.

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5005) of John Barrett, III (by vote of the town) that the town of Williamstown be authorized to expand age eligibility for the senior property tax exemption;

Williamstown,—  
property taxes.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5006) of John Barrett, III (by vote of the town) for legislation to establish a means tested senior property tax exemption in the town of Williamstown; and

Id.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5007) of John Barrett, III (by vote of the town) that the town of Williamstown be authorized to expand financial eligibility for the senior property tax exemption.

Id.

Severally to the committee on Revenue.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

*Reports of Committees.*

Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches, with reference to the Senate amendments (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2928; and by striking out the title and inserting in place thereof the following title; “An Act relative to increasing access to perinatal health care.”) of the House Bill promoting access to midwifery care and out-of-hospital birth options (House, No. 4785), reported a bill with the same title (House, No. 4999). Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Midwifery  
care.

Mr. Honan of Boston, for said committee, then reported that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Decker, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

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

The Senate Bill amending the charter of the city of Lynn (Senate, No. 2936) [Local Approval Received]; and

Lynn,—  
charter.

House bills

Designating veterans suicide awareness and remembrance day (House, No. 4862); and

Veterans,—  
suicides.

Authorizing the town of Wrentham to grant an additional 7 licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4866) [Local Approval Received];

Wrentham,—  
liquor  
licenses.

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.

By Mr. González of Springfield, for the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security, on House, Nos. 2296, 2298, 2300, 2310, 2320, 2340, 2342, 2343, 2373, 2395, 2398 and 3637, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to fire safety, seatbelts, state DNA databank system, state police and other public safety and homeland security issues (House, No. 4877) [Senator Velis dissenting].

Fire safety,  
seatbelts, state  
DNA etc.,—  
study.

By Mr. González, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 2306, 2309, 2311, 2323, 2328, 2332, 2341, 2345, 2375, 2376, 2391, 2402 and 2403, an Order relative to authorizing the committee Public Safety and Homeland Security to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to firearms and weapons (House, No. 4900) [Senator Velis dissenting].

Firearms and  
weapons,—  
study.

By Mr. González, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 2356 and 2386, an Order relative to authorizing the committee Public Safety and Homeland Security to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to fire protection systems for buildings and structure (House, No. 4901).

Fire protection  
systems,—  
study.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 2378, 2394, 2408, 2409 and 3863, an Order relative to authorizing the committee Public Safety and Homeland Security to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission, incarcerated persons and other public safety and homeland security issues (House, No. 4902).

Training  
commission,  
etc.,—  
study.

Severally referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Subsequently, Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committees, reported, in each instance, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the orders; and recommending that the same severally be referred to the House committee on Rules. Under Rule 42, the reports severally were considered forthwith; and they were accepted.

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Housing, on a petition, a Resolve establishing a special commission to study and make recommendations relative to Chapter 40B (House, No. 1310). Read; and referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Housing,—  
permitting  
laws.

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Housing, on a petition, a Bill for a right of first refusal for foreclosed property (Foreclosure TOPA) (House, No. 1162).

Property  
foreclosures.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill promoting fair housing by preventing discrimination against affordable housing (House, No. 1295).	Affordable housing.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to create affordable homes for persons with disabilities (House, No. 1305).	Id.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to promote affordable housing (House, No. 1309).	Id.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing upstream homelessness prevention assistance to families, youth, and adults (House, No. 1312).	Homelessness,— prevention.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to transform the Commonwealth’s emergency response system and create housing strategies to end the homelessness of unaccompanied adults (House, No. 1328).	Homeless unaccompanied adults.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to guarantee a tenant’s first right of refusal (House, No. 1350).	Right of refusal.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to promote Yes in My Back Yard (House, No. 1379).	Housing developments.
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 relative to accessory dwelling units (House, No. 1296).	Accessory dwelling units.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill expanding the definition of affordable housing to include manufactured homes (House, No. 1313).	Manufactured homes.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill ensuring continued rights for public housing residents (House, No. 1340).	Public housing.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to ensure protections for residents in condominium conversions (House, No. 1364).	Condominium conversions.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to reducing damage caused by the current foreclosure crisis in the historic districts of Massachusetts (House, No. 1382).	Foreclosures,— historic districts.
By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Public Service, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Lee to continue the employment of assistant chief Glenn M. Wilcox (House, No. 4858) [Local Approval Received].	Lee,— Glenn Wilcox.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing Christina Rodriguez to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 4859) [Local Approval Received].	Haverhill,— Christina Rodriguez.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing Gustavo Romero to take the civil service examination for the position of police officer in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 4860) [Local Approval Received].	Haverhill,— Gustavo Romero.
Severally read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.	

*Engrossed Bills.*

Engrossed bills

Eliminating the age requirement for original certification of police officers in the city of Malden (see House, No. 4526); and

Bills  
enacted.

Authorizing the town of Deerfield to continue the employment of police department members Michael W. Habel, Robert A. Thrasher and Mark Jacques (see House, No. 4557);

(Which severally originated in the House);

Severally having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, were passed to be enacted, and they were signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

#### *Orders of the Day.*

House bills

Regarding the appointment of officials and employees of the town of Andover (House, No. 4639, changed); and

Third  
reading  
bills.

Authorizing the town of Northfield to continue the employment of Floyd Dunnell, III (House, No. 4687);

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.

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The Senate Bill amending the charter of the town of Marshfield to make references to the board of selectmen gender neutral (Senate, No. 2715), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Marshfield,—  
charter.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, in concurrence, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 5001.

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (Senate, No. 2715, amended) was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence. Sent to the Senate for concurrence in the amendment adopted by the House.

#### *Recess.*

At seventeen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House recessed until a quarter before twelve o'clock noon; and at one minute after twelve o'clock noon, the House was called to order with Mr. Garballey in the Chair.

Recess.

#### *Engrossed Bill.*

The engrossed Bill promoting access to midwifery care and out-of-hospital birth options (see House, No. 4999) (which originated in the House), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill  
enacted.

*Order.*

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

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

Next  
sitting.

At three minutes after twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following day at eleven o'clock A.M., in Room A-1, in an Informal Session.