

**UNCORRECTED PROOF.**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026.**

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## JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

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Tuesday, January 20, 2026.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M., 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.

### *Resolutions.*

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representative Gordon of Bedford and other members of the House) recognizing the eighty-first anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration and extermination camp and International Holocaust Remembrance Day, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

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

### *Orders.*

The Order (filed by Representatives Hunt of Boston and Mendes of Brockton) relative to extending until Wednesday, March 18, 2026 the time within which the committee on Election Laws is authorized to report on a current House document, was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Election Laws,— extension of time for reporting.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4967) ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Howard of Lowell, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

The Order (filed by Representatives Barber of Somerville and Cataldo of Concord) relative to extending until Wednesday, March 18, 2026 the time within which the committee on Environment and Natural Resources is authorized to report on current House documents, was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Environment and Natural Resources,— extension of time for reporting.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4966) ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

The Order (filed by Representatives Madaro of Boston and Philips of Sharon) relative to extending until Friday, February 27, 2026 the time within which the committee on Revenue is authorized to report on current House documents, was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Revenue,— extension of time for reporting.

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Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4968) ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Hong of Lowell, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

### *Petitions.*

Representatives Cataldo of Concord and Elliott of Lowell presented a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4972) of Simon Cataldo and Rodney M. Elliott (by vote of the town) that the town of Chelmsford be authorized to ban second generation anticoagulant rodenticides within said town; and the same was referred to the committee on Environment and Natural Resources. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Chelmsford,—  
rodenticides.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Cruz of Salem and Senator Lovely, a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Manny Cruz for legislation to establish a local option sales tax.

Local option  
sales tax.

By Representative Jones of North Reading and Senator Tarr, a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., Bruce E. Tarr and others relative to energy costs, transparency, and sustainability.

Energy.

Severally, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

State of  
the State  
Address.

### *Papers from the Senate.*

The following order was adopted, in concurrence, as follows:

*Ordered*, That, a convention of the two branches be held at six o'clock P.M., on Thursday, January 22, 2026, for the purpose of receiving such communication as the Governor, Maura T. Healey, may be pleased to make to them relating to the concerns of the Commonwealth.

Property taxes,—  
veterans.

#### **Bills**

Amending the veteran property tax work-off amounts (Senate, No. 1948) (on a petition); and

New Bedford,—  
McHugh bridge.

Designating a certain bridge in the city of New Bedford as the Corporal Francis J. McHugh Memorial Bridge (Senate, No. 2425) (on a petition);

Severally passed to be engrossed by the Senate, were read; and they were referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Petitions were referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, in concurrence, as follows:

Travel  
insurance.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2921) of Pavel M. Payano for legislation relative to travel insurance. To the committee on Financial Services.

DCAMM,—  
easements.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2922) of Sal N. DiDomenico for legislation to authorize the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to grant easements to NSTAR electric company d/b/a Eversource Energy in return for NSTAR releasing or modifying easements for the benefit of the Commonwealth. To the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

Boxford,—  
liquor  
licenses.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2913) of Bruce E. Tarr and Tram T. Nguyen (by vote of the town) for legislation to extend the time for the town of Boxford to grant 2 additional licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk

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on the premises, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

### *Reports of Committees.*

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules and the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the following petitions:

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Michelle L. Badger relative to early intervention services for children with prenatal exposure to opioids. To the committee on Public Health.

Early intervention services.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Michelle L. Badger relative to a transfer of retirement benefits for Valeria D'Orazio an associate professor at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. To the committee on Public Service.

Valeria D'Orazio,— retirement.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Adam J. Scanlon for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the distribution of lottery revenues to municipalities. To the committee on Revenue.

Special commission,— lottery revenues.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Homar Gómez and others for legislation to designate asparagus as the official vegetable of the Commonwealth. To the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

State vegetable.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Michelle L. Badger for legislation to establish the temporary emergency veterans' assistance program. To the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs.

Veterans' assistance program.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth, the reports were considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 then was suspended, in each instance. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

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:

Electronic scanning.

Relative to electronic scanning of identification (House, No. 3716);

Boston,— Jose Ortiz.

Directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Jose Ortiz (House, No. 4256) [Local Approval Received];

Boston,— Angela Depina.

Directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Angela C. Depina (House, No. 4388) [Local Approval Received];

Haverhill,— Nick Santos.

Authorizing Nick Santos to take the civil service examination for the position of police officer in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 4390) [Local Approval Received]; and

Digital replicas.

Relative to the contracting of digital replicas (House, No. 4832);

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

By Mr. Madaro of Boston, for the committee on Revenue, on House, Nos. 3004, 3099, 3102, 3105, 3234 and 3236, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Revenue to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to seniors and disability (House, No. 4965). Referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Seniors and disability,— study.

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Subsequently, Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committees, reported asking to be discharged from further consideration of the order; and recommending that the same be referred to the House committee on Rules.

Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted.

Subsequently, Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee on Rules, reported, in part, on the foregoing order a Bill authorizing the establishment of a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 3099).

The same member, for said committee on Rules, reported, in part, on the foregoing order, a Bill relative to the establishment of a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 3105).

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

The same member, for said committee on Rules, reported, in part, on the foregoing order, a Bill authorizing cities and towns to provide a residential exemption to senior citizens (House, No. 3004).

The same member, for said committee on Rules, reported, in part, on the foregoing order, a Bill expanding the senior property tax exemption (House, No. 3102).

The same member, for said committee on Rules, reported, in part, on the foregoing order, a Bill creating a local option property tax cap for low-income seniors (House, No. 3234).

The same member, for said committee on Rules, reported, on the residue, on the foregoing order, a Bill expanding the senior property tax exemption (House, No. 3236).

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

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, on a petition, a Bill relative to external reviews and patient protection (House, No. 1132). Referred, under Joint Rule 1E to the committee on Health Care Financing.

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, on a petition, a Bill relative to preventing fraud and establishing regulations on certain virtual currencies (House, No. 1247). Read; and referred under Joint Rule 29 to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, on a petition, a Bill establishing uniform enforcement and confidentiality provisions relative to certain licensees under the jurisdiction of the Division of Banks (House, No. 1273).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to capping the price of epinephrine (House, No. 1359).

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on House, Nos. 2085, 2121, 2126 and 3375, a Bill preparing apprentices through training, hiring, and skills in Massachusetts (House, No. 4974).

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill relative to the timely and consistent payment of law enforcement personnel (House, No. 2764).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority Employees' Retirement System (House, No. 2893).

Tax exemption,—seniors.

Id.

Tax exemption,—seniors.

Id.

Low-income seniors,—tax cap.

Tax exemption,—seniors.

Patient protection.

Virtual currencies.

Division of Banks,—licensees.

Epinephrine,—price capping.

Apprentices,—preparation.

Law enforcement,—payment.

Retirement system classifications.

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By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Transportation, on a joint petition, a Bill relative to the operation of golf carts in rural communities (House, No. 4566).

Golf cart operation.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing an Orange Star license plate for veterans exposed to Agent Orange (House, No. 4691).

Orange Star license plates.

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

By Mr. Lewis of Framingham, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill providing for a town administrator in the town of Hopedale (House, No. 4784) [Local Approval Received].

Hopedale,— town administrator.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill amending the charter for the town of Groton (House, No. 4795) [Local Approval Received].

Groton,— charter.

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill relative to impairment of health caused by infectious disease (House, No. 2826).

Infectious disease.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill further defining a quorum of the Worcester Regional Retirement System Board Advisory Council (House, No. 2926).

Worcester Regional Retirement System.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the disability pension for Patricia M. Lampron administered by the Boston retirement board (House, No. 4508) [Local Approval Received].

Patricia Lampron,— disability pension.

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Transportation, on a petition, a Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Chelmsford as the Ferreira Brothers Bridge (House, No. 4723).

Chelmsford,— Ferreira Brothers bridge.

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

*Emergency Measure.*

The engrossed Bill authorizing the commissioner of capital asset management and maintenance to convey a certain parcel of land in the town of Wellesley (see House, No. 4363, 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.

Wellesley,— 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 9 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Bill enacted.

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

*Engrossed Bills.*

**Engrossed bills**

Bills enacted.

Establishing the fourth Thursday in March as Tuskegee Airmen Commemoration Day (see House, No. 3306);

Regulating the appointment of the police chief in the city of Fall River (see House, No. 4214);

Amending the charter of the town of Seekonk (see House, No. 4459); and

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Authorizing the town of Billerica to establish an age limit for original appointment to the position of police officer (see House, No. 4632, amended);

(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

Relative to Department of Conservation and Recreation Title IX compliance (House, No. 1068);

Directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Jean E. Roseney (House, No. 3927); and

Directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Adam Watt (House, No. 3928);

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.

Third reading bills.

*Order.*

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

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

Next sitting.

Representatives Mariano of Quincy, Ayers of Quincy and Chan of Quincy move that when the House adjourns today, it do so in respect to the memory of Arthur H. Tobin, a member of the House from Quincy from 1967 to 1971, a member of the Senate from 1971 to 1978, mayor of the city of Quincy from 1978 to 1982, and clerk-magistrate of the Quincy District Court from 1982 to 2026; and the motion prevailed.

Accordingly, at half past eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Orrall of Lakeville (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Thursday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.