

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026.

[15]

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, February 12, 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.

Statement of Representative Decker of Cambridge.

A statement of Ms. Decker of Cambridge was spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call to the attention of the House the fact that I am unable to be present in the House Chamber for yesterday's sitting due to a family emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted in the affirmative on Yea and Nay Nos. 122 and 125 and in the negative on Yea and Nay Nos. 123 and 124. My missing of roll calls was due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of
Representative
Decker of
Cambridge.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions (filed with the Clerk) were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules:

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Barrett of North Adams) recognizing the 100th anniversary of Ayrhill Farms in the town of Adams; and

Ayrhill
Farms.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Linsky of Natick) congratulating Fiona White on receiving the Gold Award of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America;

Fiona
White.

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

Communications.

Communications

From the Executive Office of Economic Development (see Section 13T of Chapter 23A of the General Laws) submitting the Office of Travel and Tourism and Massachusetts Marketing Partnership annual report on state expenditures for fiscal year 2025;

Travel and
tourism
expenditures.

From the Executive Office of Economic Development (see Section 13T of Chapter 23A of the General Laws) submitting the Office of Travel and Tourism's Regional Tourism Council annual report on state expenditures for fiscal year 2025;

Regional
tourism
expenditures.

From the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (see Section 21(3)(f) of Chapter 32 of the General Laws) submitting the Cost-of-Living Adjustments for members of the State Employees' and Teachers' Retirement Systems;

PERAC,—
cost-of-living
adjustments.

From the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (see Section 106 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting a report relative to the feasibility and efficacy of a housing construction sales tax exemption program; and

Sales tax,—
housing
construction.

From the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (see Section 107 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting a report relative to the feasibility and efficacy of using licensed third-party inspectors to conduct inspections;

Third-party
inspections.

Severally were placed on file.

Annual Report.

A report of the District Attorney of Norfolk County (under Section 99(R) of Chapter 272 of the General Laws) submitting a report relative to wiretaps for calendar year 2025, was placed on file.

Norfolk
County,—
wiretaps.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Vieira of Falmouth, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5107) of David T. Vieira (by vote of the town) relative to the charter and the town clerk in the town of Falmouth;

Falmouth,—
charter.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5108) of David T. Vieira (by vote of the town) relative to the acquisition and disposition of certain land in the town of Falmouth; and

Falmouth,—
land.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5109) of David T. Vieira (by vote of the town) the town of Falmouth be authorized to expend funds to offset certain costs associated with the installation of low pressure pumps on private property in future sewer service areas in said town.

Falmouth,—
low pressure
pumps.

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

By Representative Saunders of Belchertown and Senator Comerford, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5110) of Aaron L. Saunders (by vote of the town) that the town of Petersham be authorized to continue the employment of police department members Richard D. Cooley, Jr., and David A. Shoemaker, notwithstanding the maximum age requirement. To the committee on Public Service.

Petersham,—
Richard Cooley
and David
Shoemaker.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

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 joint petition of James K. Hawkins (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the establishment of a board to oversee use and occupancy payments for manufactured housing community accommodations in the city of Attleboro. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Consalvo of Boston, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the joint petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Attleboro,—
manufactured
housing.

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:

Protecting the use of bank names, trade names and trademarks in electronic communications (House, No. 1102);

Making changes to certain references in the banking laws of the Commonwealth (House, No. 1232);

Allowing fair compensation of Massachusetts credit union directors (House, No. 1338);

Providing volunteer firefighters and emergency medical technicians with a local option real estate tax exemption (House, No. 3132);

Relative to the electronic filing of certain forms used in property valuation (House, No. 3176);

Relative to the delivery of property tax bills (House, No. 3219);

Relative to proper notification of deceased animals on state highways (House, No. 3678);

Directing the City of Boston Fire Department to waive the maximum age requirement for firefighters for Stylianos Katikakis (House, No. 4582) [Local Approval Received];

Validating the results of the annual election held in the town of Bourne on May 20, 2025 (printed in House, No. 4763);

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

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, asking to be discharged from further consideration:

Of the Bill providing for a study to be conducted on the cost feasibility of implementing a ferry service to Long Island in Boston Harbor (House, No. 3615); and

Of the Bill establishing a special commission to identify, preserve and commemorate historic roadways in Massachusetts (House, No. 3785);

And recommending that the same be referred to the House committee on Rules.

Under Rule 42, the reports severally were considered forthwith; and they were accepted.

By Ms. Farley-Bouvier of Pittsfield, for the committee on Advanced Information Technology, the Internet and Cybersecurity, on House, No. 4229, an Order authorizing the committee on Advanced Information Technology, the Internet and Cybersecurity to make an investigation and study of a certain House document relative to social media feeds (House, No. 5071) [Representative Gaskey of Carver dissenting].

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 79, 87, 88, 89, 95, 102, 105 and 107, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Advanced Information Technology, the Internet and Cybersecurity to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to broadband, blockchain technology and other related matters (House, No. 5072).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 81 and 90, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Advanced Information Technology, the Internet and Cybersecurity to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to artificial intelligence (House, No. 5073) [Representative Gaskey of Carver dissenting].

Electronic communications.

Banking laws,—
certain references

Credit union compensation.

Exemptions,—
first responders.

Property valuations.

Property taxes.

Highways,—
animals.

Boston,—
Katikakis.

Bourne,—
election.

Long Island ferry service.

Historic roadways.

Social media feeds,—
study.

Broadband, blockchain technology and other related matters,—
study.

Artificial intelligence,—
study.

By Mr. Vargas of Haverhill, for the committee on Community Development and Small Businesses, on House, Nos. 297 and 306, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Community Development and Small Businesses to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to neighborhood stabilization (House, No. 5064).

Neighborhood stabilization,—study.

By Mr. Lewis of Framingham, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on House, Nos. 1512, 1514, 1535, 2266, 2267, 2285, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2305, 2308, 2327, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2355, 3997, 4020, 4021 and 4074, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to the MBTA Communities Act and other municipal matters (House, No. 5065).

MBTA Communities Act and other municipal matters,—study.

By Mr. Madaro of Boston, for the committee on Revenue, on House, Nos. 3047, 3161, 3220, 3223, 3240, 3969 and 4105, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Revenue to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to agriculture, land use and environment (House, No. 5068).

Agriculture, land use and environment,—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 be referred to the House committee on Rules.

Under Rule 42, the reports were considered forthwith; and they were accepted.

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Education, on a petition, a Bill to establish a community schools special legislative commission (House, No. 726).

Community schools.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill strengthening transitional planning and increasing accountability for persons with disabilities and their families (House, No. 752).

Special Education.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to ensure fair due process in special education disputes (House, No. 4217).

Id.

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

By Mr. Livingstone of Boston, for the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, on a petition, a Bill to promote equity in school attendance requirements (House, No. 210).

School attendance.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 202 and 280, a Bill to close the achievement gap by addressing disparities in children's vision (House, No. 5089).

Children's vision.

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Education, on a petition, a Bill to improve augmentative and alternative communication opportunities for children with disabilities (House, No. 514).

Disabilities,—communication.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the training, assessment, and assignment of qualified school interpreters in educational settings (House, No. 520).

Schools,—interpreters.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to ensure equitable access to education, including special education services, for all students in Massachusetts (House, No. 546).

Education,—access.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to special education finance (House, No. 670).

Special education.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing the school supplies for teachers program (House, No. 675).

School
supplies.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to establish de-escalation training in student transportation (House, No. 736).

School
transportation.

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

By Mr. Chan of Quincy, for the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, on House, No. 336, a Bill relative to consumer rights of renters (House, No. 5095).

Tenants'
rights.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 4588, a Bill relative to extending the timeframe within which the town of Southbridge may grant additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5096) [Local Approval Received].

Southbridge,—
liquor
licenses.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 4661, a Bill authorizing the city of Salem to convert seasonal licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises to annual licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5097) [Local Approval Received].

Salem,—
liquor
licenses.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 4662, a Bill authorizing the city of Salem to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises upon the return of the license authorized in chapter 67 of the acts of 2008 (House, No. 5098) [Local Approval Received].

Salem,—
liquor
license.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 4877, a Bill authorizing the town of Raynham to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5099) [Local Approval Received].

Raynham,—
liquor
license.

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Education, on a petition, a Bill relative to the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (House, No. 729).

Education,—
state board.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to fresh fruits and vegetables in schools (House, No. 4059).

Schools,—
produce.

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

Orders of the Day.

House bills

Relative to the nomination process for candidates for town meeting in Milford (House, No. 4185);

Third
reading
bills.

Designating a certain overpass in the town of Sandwich as the U.S. Marine Staff Sergeant Raymond G. Tourville Veterans Memorial Overpass (House, No. 4374);

Directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Alex J. Rodriguez (House, No. 4391); and

Relative to the charter of the town of Westwood (House, No. 4753);

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,—

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

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

Next
sitting.

At ten minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Tuesday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.