

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026.

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Wednesday, February 25, 2026.

Met at one o'clock P.M., in an Informal Session (the previously scheduled time for meeting having been postponed due to a snow emergency), with Mr. Donato of Medford 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. Donato), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of
allegiance.

Communication from the Speaker.

The following communication from the Speaker of the House was spread upon the records of the House, to wit: —

The Honorable Timothy Carroll, Clerk
Massachusetts House of Representatives
State House Room 145
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Dear Mr. Clerk:

Please note in the Journal of the House that, notwithstanding the Order adopted on Thursday, February 19, 2026, requiring the House to meet at 11:00 AM on Monday, February 23, 2026, I cancelled said session under the authority granted me by House Rule 44. I did so by reason of the State House being closed on February 23, 2026, due to accumulated snow.

House Rule 44,—
snow emergency.

As such, I informed all Members of the House that the Informal Session scheduled for Monday, February 23, 2026, would be convened instead on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 1:00 PM.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,
RONALD MARIANO
Speaker of the House.

Resolutions.

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

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Peisch of Wellesley and other members of the House) honoring the longstanding partnership between the Province of Québec and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and

Québec.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Fluker-Reid of Boston and other members of the House) congratulating The Links, Incorporated on its seventy-fifth anniversary;

The Links,
Incorporated.

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 Ms. Peisch of Wellesley, 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 following orders were referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules:

Order (filed by Representatives Day of Stoneham and Fluker-Reid of Boston) relative to extending until Friday, July 31, 2026 the time within which the committee on the Judiciary is authorized to report on current House documents (House, No. 5152).

Extensions
of time for
committees
to make
reports.

Order (filed by Representatives Madaro of Boston and Philips of Sharon) relative to extending until Wednesday, March 18, 2026 the time within which the committee on Revenue is authorized to report on current House documents (House, No. 5150).

Order (filed by Representatives Madaro of Boston and Philips of Sharon) relative to extending until Friday, June 26, 2026 the time within which the committee on Revenue is authorized to report on current House documents (House, No. 5153).

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the orders ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the orders were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Paper from the Senate.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2963) of William J. Driscoll, Jr. (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Milton to use certain land acquired for conservation purposes for school purposes, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee Municipalities and Regional Government.

Milton,—
land.

Reports of Committees.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported (under the provisions of House Rules 7B and 7C) an Order relative to special procedures for consideration of the House Bill relative to energy affordability, clean power and economic competitiveness (House, No. 5151) ought to be adopted (for order, see House, No. 5155). The order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

Energy
affordability,—
special
procedures.

By Ms. Barber of Somerville, for the committee on Environment and Natural Resources, on House, Nos. 999 and 1054, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Environment and Natural Resources to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to deer population control and park fee exemptions for veterans (House, No. 5145) [Representative Gaskey of Carver dissenting].

Deer control
and park fees,—
study.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

By Mr. Day of Stoneham, for the committee on the Judiciary, on House, No. 516, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on the Judiciary to make an investigation and study of a certain House document relative to school employee screenings (House, No. 5146).

School employee screenings,— study.

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on House, No. 4236, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Public Service to make an investigation and study of a certain House document relative to the employment of Floyd Dunnell, III (House, No. 5147).

Floyd Dunnell, III,— study.

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Transportation, on House, Nos. 3623, 3631, 3632, 3637, 3638, 3667, 3723, 3726, 3813 and 4054, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Transportation to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to rail and transit (House, No. 5132).

Rail and transit,— study.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 3633, 3651, 3668 and 3717, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Transportation to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to transportation financing mechanisms (House, No. 5142).

Transportation financing mechanisms,— study.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 3610, 3612, 3613, 3616, 3619, 3620, 3621, 3622, 3670, 3740, 3768, 3769, 4086, 4129, 4130 and 4131, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Transportation to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to miscellaneous transportation matters (House, No. 5143).

Transportation matters,— study.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 3644 and 3709, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Transportation to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to Keolis contract and tolls (House, No. 5144) [Representative DeCoste of Norwell dissenting].

Keolis contract and tolls,— 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. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, asking to be discharged from further consideration:

Of the Bill relative to the use of chlorpyrifos in the Commonwealth (House, No. 962); and

Chlorpyrifos.

Of the Bill to protect pollinator habitat (House, No. 981);

Pollinator habitats.

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. Cusack of Braintree, for the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, that the communication from the Department of Energy Resources of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (under the provisions of Section 12 of Chapter 25A of the General Laws) submitting proposed amendments to regulations 225 CMR 29.00 – governing Small Clean Energy Infrastructure Facility Siting and Permitting (House, No. 4827), be placed on file. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Division of Energy Resources,— regulations.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

By Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Bill relative to energy affordability, clean power and economic competitiveness (House, No. 4744), ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor a bill with the same title (House, No. 5151). Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, with the amendment pending.

Energy
affordability.

Reports of the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, under the last sentence of Rule 7A, that the following bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

Senate bills

Providing for the filling of vacancies in the office of mayor in the city of New Bedford (Senate, No. 2509) [Local Approval Received]; and

New Bedford,—
Mayor.

Validating and confirming certain acts and proceedings taken or conducted by certain elected and appointed officials in the town of Plymouth (Senate, No. 2925); and

Plymouth,—
elected officials.

House bills

Relative to notifying broker prior to termination of coverage (House, No. 1094);

Insurance coverage.

Relative to access to Paid Family and Medical Leave and unemployment insurance for graduate student workers (House, No. 1336);

Unemployment
insurance.

Authorizing the city of Somerville to enact right to purchase legislation (House, No. 3910) [Local Approval Received];

Somerville,—
right to purchase.

Relative to the recall of any holder of elective office in the city of Chicopee (House, No. 4202) [Local Approval Received]; and

Chicopee,—
recall.

Relative to the disability pension for Patricia M. Lampron administered by the Boston retirement board (House, No. 4508) [Local Approval Received];

Boston,—
Patricia Lampron.

Severally placed in the Orders of the Day for the next sitting for a second reading.

A report of the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, under the last sentence of Rule 7A, that the House Resolutions memorializing the Congress of the United States to declare the city of Quincy as the most patriotic city in America (House, No. 3828), be scheduled for consideration by the House; and, under said rule, the resolutions were placed in the Orders of the Day for the next sitting, the question being on adoption.

Quincy,—
patriotic city.

Engrossed Bills.

The engrossed Bill authorizing the town of Hudson to grant an additional license for the sale of wine and malt beverages not to be drunk on the premises (see House, No. 4272) (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.

Orders of the Day.

The Senate Bill authorizing the appointment of retired police officers as special police officers in the town of Plainville (Senate, No. 1898), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

Third
reading
bill.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

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 seven minutes after one o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Berthiaume of Spencer (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following day at eleven o'clock A.M.