

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, March 5, 2026.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Donato of Medford (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.

Orders.

An Order (filed by Representatives Vargas of Haverhill and Hong of Lowell) relative to extending until Wednesday, March 18, 2026 the time within which the committee on Community Development and Small Businesses is authorized to report on a current House document, was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Community
Development
and Small
Businesses,—
extension of time
for reporting.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 5172) 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.

Communications.

Communications

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 6A of Chapter 124 of the General Laws) submitting its operational capacity report for July 1 to December 31, 2025;

Sheriffs,—
capacity.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see item 8910-7110 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Grants Awarded report for fiscal year 2025;

Sheriffs,—
grants.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see item 8910-7110 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Services and Goods, Fees, Commissary and Trust Fund Balances, Revenues and Expenditures report for fiscal year 2025;

Sheriffs,—
services and
goods, etc.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see item 1595-4506 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting the Department of Public Health's transfer schedule for the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Trust Fund for fiscal year 2026;

Childhood Lead
Poisoning
Prevention
trust fund.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see Section 30 of Chapter 285 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its "Report on the Plan to End Operations at the Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center (MASAC)"; and

Alcohol and
substance
abuse center.

From the Insurance Fraud Bureau (see Section 1(k) of Chapter 338 of the Acts of 1990, as most recently amended by Section 5 of Chapter 279 of the Acts of 2002) submitting its IFB September 2025 semi-annual e-focus Fraud report [copies of said report were forwarded to the committees on Financial Services and Labor and Workforce Development];

Insurance
Fraud
Bureau.

Severally were placed on file.

Petition.

Representative Marsi of Charlton and Senator Fattman presented a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of John J. Marsi for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Courtney Cochran, an employee of the Department of Children and Families; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Courtney
Cochran,—
sick leave.

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 Thomas M. Stanley, John J. Marsi and James C. Arena-DeRosa relative to medication administration in rest homes. To the committee on Aging and Independence.

Medications,—
rest homes.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa and Jay D. Livingstone relative to the concealment of the death of child born out of wedlock. To the committee on Judiciary.

Children,—
death
concealment.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, 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 bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

Senate bills

Designating the last week in April as Building Trades Recovery Week (Senate, No. 2110); and

Building
trades.

Providing accidental death benefits for the surviving spouse of a former firefighter of the city of Boston (Senate, No. 2574) [Local Approval Received]; and
House bills

Boston,—
Mathew Troy.

Relative to recess for elementary and middle school students (House, No. 543);

School recess.

Requiring the reporting of satisfaction of judgments awarding money damages (House, No. 1767);

Money
damages.

Directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Jose Reyes (House, No. 4799) [Local Approval Received];

Boston,—
Jose
Reyes.

Authorizing Jonathan Gagne to take the civil service examination for the position of police officer in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 4879) [Local Approval Received];

Haverhill,—
Jonathan
Gagne.

Relative to advertising for justices of the peace (House, No. 5061);

Advertising.

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

By Ms. Fiola of Fall River, for the committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies, on House, Nos. 479, 482, 484, 486, 487, 493, 494, 495, 500, 501, 502 and 503, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies to make an investigation and study of

Companies,
businesses,
trade
commissions

certain House documents relative to limited liability companies, businesses, small businesses, municipal and regional development, trade commissions and artificial intelligence (House, No. 5178).

and artificial intelligence,— study.

By Mr. Rogers of Cambridge, for the committee on Higher Education, on House, Nos. 1422, 1442, 1443, 1450, 1459, 1463 and 1465, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Higher Education to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to higher education tuition and fee waivers (House, No. 5179).

Tuition and fee waivers,— study.

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on House, Nos. 2076, 2084, 2102, 2103, 2122, 2129, 2130, 2139, 2142, 2147, 2160, 2167, 2169, 3994 and 3995, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Labor and Workforce Development to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to collective bargaining rights, worker compensation, wages and other labor and workforce related issues (House, No. 5180).

Collective bargaining rights, worker compensation, wages,— study.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 2152, 2181, 4068 and 4117, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Labor and Workforce Development to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to parental leave, establishing a 4 day work week, health insurance coverage by implementing a fair share employer contribution and arbitration for teachers (House, No. 5181).

Parental leave, work week, 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. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, asking to be discharged from further consideration:

Of the Bill establishing a special commission to study women and homelessness (House, No. 289);

Women and homelessness.

Of the Bill establishing a special commission on two-generation approaches to childhood education (House, No. 291);

Childhood education.

Of the Bill to establish a community schools special legislative commission (House, No. 726);

Community schools.

Of the Bill strengthening transitional planning and increasing accountability for persons with disabilities and their families (House, No. 752); and

Special education.

Of the Bill to ensure fair due process in special education disputes (House, No. 4217);

Id.

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 committee on Rules, that the Bill to amend the structure of the Commission of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (House, No. 225), ought to pass. Referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Grandparents raising grandchildren.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on a petition, a Bill relative to PFML for bone marrow and organ donation (House, No. 4545). Referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

Paid family medical leave.

By Mr. Vargas of Haverhill, for the committee on Community Development and Small Businesses, on a petition, a Bill to expand designation of priority development sites (House, No. 2302).

Priority development sites.

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Education, on a petition, a Bill to promote comprehensive and inclusive curriculum in schools (House, No. 655).

Schools,— curriculum.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to promote collaboration in Horace Mann and Innovation Schools (House, No. 657).

Schools.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the training of school committee members (House, No. 668).

School committees.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 631, a Bill to increase student access to career technical education schools and programs which are aligned with regional labor market needs (House, No. 5174).

Technical education.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 651, a Bill to improve access, opportunity, and capacity in Massachusetts vocational-technical education (House, No. 5176).

Id.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 4207, a Bill relative to school library standards (House, No. 5177).

Schools,— libraries.

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on a petition, a Bill to impose fines on transportation network drivers who discriminate against riders with disabilities who use service animals (House, No. 2066).

Transportation network drivers,— fees.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill regarding trash and recycling collectors, moving contractors, and motor bus pupil transporters (House, No. 2069).

Wages.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to contractor accountability (House, No. 2082).

Commission,— contractors.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill codifying organizational standing (House, No. 2098).

Public interest organizations.

By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on House, No. 3420, a Bill releasing certain land use restrictions held by the Commonwealth in the city of Revere (House, No. 5190).

Revere,— land.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 4797, a Bill validating a conveyance of land and authorizing the recording of a confirmatory deed in the city of Marlborough (House, No. 5191).

Marlborough,— land.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 5047, a Bill authorizing the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to take by eminent domain certain land in the town of Norwood (House, No. 5192).

Norwood,— land.

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

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill amending the town manager act of the town of Arlington (see House, No. 4502) (which originated in the House), having been certified by the Clerk

Bill enacted.

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.

Orders of the Day.

House bills

Directing the city of Boston police department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Ryan Cazeau (House, No. 4740); and

Third reading bills.

Authorizing the town of Pembroke to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4817) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading);

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

The House Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Sonia Felix, an employee of the Department of Transitional Assistance (House, No. 5014) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading), reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Sonia Felix,— sick leave.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it in line 7 by striking out the words “department’s paid” and inserting in place thereof the words “extended illness”; and by inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:

“Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to establish forthwith a sick leave bank for a certain employee of the department of transitional assistance, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.”

The amendments were adopted; and the bill (House, No. 5014, amended) was passed to be engrossed. 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 on Monday next at eleven o’clock A.M.

Next sitting.

At ten minutes after eleven o’clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Smola of Warren (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o’clock A.M., in an Informal Session.