

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2025.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, April 3, 2025.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, 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.

Messages from the Governor.

A message from Her Excellency the Governor submitting requests for making appropriations for the fiscal year 2025 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (House, No. 4003), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, April 2.

Supplemental
appropriations.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Ways and Means.

A message from Her Excellency the Governor (under the provisions of Section 8 of Article LXXXIX of the Amendments to the Constitution) recommending legislation validating the results of the special election held in the town of Hardwick on January 18, 2025 (House, No. 4004), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Tuesday, April 1.

Hardwick,—
special
election.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Election Laws. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Appointment of the Minority Leader.

The Minority Leader announced that (under the provisions of Chapter 1 of the Resolves of 2024) he had appointed Representative Vieira of Falmouth to the special commission to investigate and study the feasibility of establishing a statewide Massachusetts Cabo Verdean cultural center in the city of Boston.

Cabo Verdean
cultural center
commission.

Appointment of the House Chair of the committee on Revenue.

Representative Madaro of Boston, the House chair of the committee on Revenue, announced that (under the provisions of Section 14 of Chapter 14 of the General Laws) he had appointed Bridgette Maynard, Research Director for said committee, as his designee to the Tax Expenditure Review Commission.

Tax Expenditure
Review
Commission.

Guests of the House.

At the beginning of the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), declared a brief recess and introduced, seated in the Chamber, a group of students from Lycée Saint-Marc School in Lyon, France. The group is visiting as part of a school exchange program with Boston College High School. They were the guests of Representative Decker of Cambridge.

Lycée
Saint-Marc
School.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Hogan of Stow) recognizing Richard T. Harrity on his fifty years of service to the town of Hudson;

Richard
Harrity.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Kane of Shrewsbury and other members of the House) commending the IBS Patient Support Group on its recognition of April 19, 2025 as World IBS Day; and

World
IBS Day.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Roy of Franklin) commending Anticoagulation Forum, Inc. for its recognition of May 2025 as Hypertension Awareness Month;

Hypertension
Awareness
Month.

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. Decker of Cambridge, 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 Office of the Comptroller (see Section 35T of Chapter 10 of the General Laws) submitting the certification of MBTA Base Sales Tax Revenues for fiscal year 2026;

MBTA sales
tax revenues.

From the Pension Reserves Investment Management Board (see Section 23 of Chapter 32(2A)(e)(xi) of the General Laws) submitting a quarterly financial report as of December 31, 2024;

PRIM
Board.

From the Massachusetts Technology Transfer Center (Mass Ventures) (see Section 45B of Chapter 75 of the General Laws) submitting the Acorn Innovation Fund Report for fiscal year 2025; and

Acorn
Innovation.

From the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (see Section 93 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 2018) submitting the inaugural Restrictive Housing Oversight Committee report;

Restrictive
Housing
Oversight.

Severally were placed on file.

Annual Report.

The annual report of the Office of the Attorney General (under item 0810-0045 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting on behalf of the specialized unit of the wage enforcement program established in said item a report on enforcement actions and violation trends in the construction industry, was placed on file.

Construction
industry wage
enforcement.

Petitions.

The following additional petitions (having been deposited in the office of the Clerk of the House, previously to five o'clock in the afternoon on Friday, January 17, 2025) were referred, under Rule 24 and Joint Rule 13, as follows:

By Representative Diggs of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3981) of Kip A. Diggs for legislation to establish a pilot program to support high impact fisheries. To the committee on Agriculture.

High impact fisheries.

By Representative LeBoeuf of Worcester, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3982) of David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf relative to recycling cannabis infused beverages. To the committee on Cannabis Policy.

Cannabis infused beverages.

By Representative Diggs of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3983) of Kip A. Diggs for legislation to establish a workforce training trust fund for emerging technologies. To the committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

Workforce training trust fund.

By Representative Diggs of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3984) of Kip A. Diggs relative to watershed restoration; and

Watershed restoration.

By Representatives Vargas of Haverhill and Domb of Amherst, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3985) of Andres X. Vargas and Mindy Domb relative to mattress recycling.

Mattress recycling.

Severally to the committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

By Representative Diggs of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3986) of Kip A. Diggs relative to patient discharges. To the committee on Financial Services.

Patient discharges.

By Representative Diggs of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3987) of Kip A. Diggs relative to dental care for MassHealth recipients. To the committee on Health Care Financing.

MassHealth,—dental care.

By Representative Diggs of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3988) of Kip A. Diggs for legislation to establish the Barnstable home center for housing resources; and

Barnstable,—housing resources.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3989) of Kip A. Diggs relative to seasonal community housing; and

Seasonal housing.

By Representative LeBoeuf of Worcester, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3990) of David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf and Russell E. Holmes relative to tenants and small property owners.

Tenants and small property owners.

Severally to the committee on Housing.

By Representative Diggs of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3991) of Kip A. Diggs for legislation to further regulate homesteads; and

Homesteads.

By Representative Mendes of Brockton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3992) of Rita A. Mendes relative to trials for personal injuries involving a motor vehicle accident.

Personal injury trials.

Severally referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

By Representative Diggs of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3993) of Kip A. Diggs relative to hiring practices.

Hiring practices.

By Representative Mendes of Brockton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3994) of Rita A. Mendes relative to worker related insurance settlements; and

Worker insurance settlements.

By Representative O'Day of West Boylston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3995) of James J. O'Day and Tara T. Hong relative to heat or cold stress.

Temperature stress.

Severally to the committee on Labor and Workforce Development.

By Representative Badger of Plymouth, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3996) of Michelle L. Badger relative to zoning restrictions for solar systems; and

Solar
zoning.

By Representative Gallagher of Bridgewater, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3997) of Dennis C. Gallagher for legislation to establish the suburban infrastructure fund to help municipalities pay for improvements and upgrades to town-owned roads, bridges and sidewalks.

Suburban
infrastructure
fund.

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

By Representatives Diggs of Barnstable and Arena-DeRosa of Holliston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3998) of Kip A. Diggs and James C. Arena-DeRosa that the Division of Highways be authorized to establish a program to promote the cultivation and maintenance of native flowering plants, grasses and shrubs on land bordering along state highways and other public lands; and

Native plant
cultivation
program.

By Representative Diggs of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3999) of Kip A. Diggs that the Massachusetts Department of Transportation be authorized to establish a program to mitigate roadway stormwater runoff and contribute to watershed restoration efforts.

Stormwater
program.

Severally to the committee on Transportation.

By Representative Diggs of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4002) of Kip A. Diggs relative to benefits for disabled veterans and their families. To the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs.

Disabled veteran
benefits.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Paper from the Senate.

A report of the committee on Elder Affairs, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 482) of Mark C. Montigny, Patricia D. Jehlen, Christopher Richard Flanagan, Jacob R. Oliveira and other members of the General Court for legislation to increase the personal care allowance for long term care residents,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Health Care Financing,— accepted by the Senate, was considered forthwith, under Rule 42; and it was accepted, in concurrence.

Long term
care,—
allowance.

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 Adam J. Scanlon and Manny Cruz for legislation to further regulate the retail sale of dogs, cats, rabbits, and guinea pigs in pet shops. To the committee on Agriculture.

Pet
shops.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Adam J. Scanlon for legislation to authorize spouses to serve as caregivers in the MassHealth program for home-based care and services. To the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

Home-based
care.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Adam J. Scanlon and Steven S. Howitt relative to utility services. To the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

Utility
services.

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

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1278) of James J. O'Day and others relative to wheelchair warranty protections,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Wheelchair warranties.

By Mr. Lawn of Watertown, for the committee on Health Care Financing, asking to be discharged from further consideration:

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1358) of Marjorie C. Decker relative to health care research and decision-making centered on patients and persons with disabilities;

Health care research.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1362) of Carole A. Fiola relative to defining certain invasive surgical procedures;

Surgical procedures.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1374) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others for legislation to establish a state-wide drug repository program;

Drug repository program.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1389) of Joseph D. McKenna for legislation to prohibit the use of state funds for Planned Parenthood Federation of America; and

Planned Parenthood.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1400) of Edward R. Philips for legislation relative to maintenance of certification;

Certification.

And recommending that the same severally be referred to the committee on Public Health.

By Mr. Cahill of Lynn, for the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security, asking to be discharged from further consideration:

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2600) of Carol A. Doherty, David T. Vieira and James K. Hawkins for legislation to establish the PFAS research and development public safety fund,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

PFAS fund.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2645) of Daniel J. Hunt for legislation to require sex offenders to submit a current color photograph to the sex offender registry,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Sex offender registry.

Under Rule 42, the reports severally were considered forthwith; and they were accepted. Severally 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 a half past eleven o'clock A.M.

Next sitting.

At seven minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Muradian of Grafton (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at a half past eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.