

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2026.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, April 9, 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.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Arciero of Westford and Muradian of Grafton) commemorating the one hundred and eleventh anniversary of the Armenian Genocide; and

Armenian
Genocide.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Sullivan-Almeida of Abington and Gallagher of Bridgewater) honoring the Veterans Brotherhood VMC Massachusetts chapter for over twenty years of dedicated service to veterans throughout the Commonwealth;

Veterans
Brotherhood.

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. Giannino of Revere, 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 2027;

MBTA,—
base sales
tax revenues.

From the Division of Occupational Licensure (see Section 35V of Chapter 10 of the General Laws) submitting its annual trust report for fiscal year 2025;

Occupational
licensure.

From the Pension Reserves Investment Management Board (see Section 23(2A)(e)(xi) of Chapter 32 of the General Laws) submitting its fiscal year 2025 fourth quarterly report; and

Pension Reserves
Investment
Management Board.

From the Department of Revenue (see item 1201-0160 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its annual projected expenditure report for the Child Support Services Division (DOR/CSS) and financial allocation accounts for fiscal year 2025;

Child
support
services.

Severally were placed on file.

Annual Reports.

Annual Reports

Of the Tax Expenditure Review Commission (under Section 14 of Chapter 14 of the General Laws) submitting a review of tax expenditures for fiscal year 2026; and

Of the Multi-Agency Illegal Tobacco Task Force (under Section 40(d) of Chapter 64C of the General Laws) submitting its fiscal year 2026 annual report relative to the coordination of efforts to combat contraband tobacco distribution, including efforts to foster compliance with the law and conduct targeted investigations and enforcement actions;

Severally were placed on file.

Tax expenditures.

Tobacco task force.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Duffy of Holyoke, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5364) of Patricia A. Duffy (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Holyoke be authorized to further regulate residency requirements in said city; and

By Representative Vieira of Falmouth, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5365) of David T. Vieira, Dylan A. Fernandes and Thomas W. Moakley (by vote of the town) that the town of Falmouth be authorized to amend its charter to establish the Falmouth licensing commission.

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Holyoke,—
residency requirements.

Falmouth,—
charter.

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill authorizing the town of Berkley to recall elected officials (Senate, No. 3018) (on Senate bill No. 2552) [Local Approval Received], passed to be engrossed by the Senate was read; and it was referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3051) of Ryan C. Fattman and Michael J. Soter (by vote of the town) for legislation relative to a certain retirement benefit to be paid to the surviving spouse of fallen officer, Stephen LaPorta, of the police department of the town of Uxbridge, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Public Service.

Berkley,—
elected officials.

Uxbridge,—
Stephen LaPorta.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the following bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

The Senate Bill providing for recall elections in the town of Rutland (Senate, No. 2789) [Local Approval Received]; and

House bills

Rutland,—
elections.

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To amend the operations of the city of Boston Finance Commission to establish the Boston Inspector General Oversight Commission (House, No. 4924) [Local Approval Received];

Boston,—
finance
commission.

Providing for the establishment of a board to oversee use and occupancy payments for manufactured housing community accommodations in the city of Attleboro, Massachusetts (House, No. 5128) [Local Approval Received];

Attleboro,—
manufactured
housing.

Validating certain proceedings of the town of Stow (printed in House, No. 5129);

Stow.

Granting Uxbridge the ability to post public meeting notices (House, No. 5228) [Local Approval Received];

Uxbridge,—
meeting notices.

Authorizing the City of Westfield to establish an age limit for original appointment to the position of firefighter (House, No. 5288) [Local Approval Received]; and

Westfield,—
firefighters.

Authorizing the appointment of retired police officers as special police officers in the town of Norwood (House, No. 5289) [Local Approval Received];

Norwood,—
police.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, in each instance, on motion of Ms. Giannino of Revere, 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 establishing a special commission on special education funding (House, No. 717);

Special
education.

Of the Bill to create a commission to determine the feasibility of voluntary acquisition of flood risk properties and structures (House, No. 1051);

Flood risks.

Of the Bill supporting family caregivers (House, No. 3159);

Caregiving.

Of the Bill establishing a special commission to investigate double utility poles (House, No. 3487);

Double
poles.

Of the Bill relative to lithium-ion batteries (House, No. 3511); and

Batteries.

Of the Bill relative to neurodiversity education (House, No. 5285);

Neurodiversity
education.

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. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Transportation, on House, No. 3756, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Transportation to make an investigation and study of a certain House document relative to parking (House, No. 5327).

Parking,—
study.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 3636, 3669 and 4166, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Transportation to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to AVs and municipal matters (House, No. 5328).

Autonomous
vehicles and
municipal
matters,—
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 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 were considered forthwith; and they were accepted.

By Mr. Chan of Quincy, for the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, on House, No. 559, a Resolve providing for an investigation

Electronic
textbooks.

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and study by a special commission relative to the consumer impacts of electronic textbooks (House, No. 5340). Read; and referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

By Mr. Chan of Quincy, for the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, on House, No. 4719, a Bill establishing HVAC construction supervisor licensing (House, No. 5341). Read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

HVAC
licensing.

By Mr. Chan of Quincy, for the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, on House, No. 425, a Bill authorizing the town of Ashland to grant 10 additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5339) [Local Approval Received].

Ashland,—
liquor
licenses.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 4748, a Bill authorizing the town of Bridgewater to issue an additional license for the sale of all alcohol beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5342) [Local Approval Received].

Bridgewater,—
liquor
license.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 4964, a Bill authorizing the town of South Hadley to grant additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages (House, No. 5343) [Local Approval Received].

South Hadley,—
liquor
licenses.

By the same member, for the same committee, House, No. 5051, a Bill removing the seating capacity requirements of licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises in the town of Belmont (House, No. 5344) [Local Approval Received].

Belmont,—
liquor
licenses.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 5075, a Bill authorizing the town of Westford to grant one additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk off the premises (House, No. 5345) [Local Approval Received].

Westford,—
liquor
license.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 5083, a Bill authorizing the City of Westfield to convert a seasonal license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk off premises to an annual license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk off premises (House, No. 5346) [Local Approval Received].

Westfield,—
liquor
license.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 5084, a Bill authorizing the town of Bourne to grant an additional license for the sale of alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5347) [Local Approval Received].

Bourne,—
liquor
license.

By Mr. Lewis of Framingham, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the grant of easements in or takings of certain parcels of land to the city of Boston (House, No. 5317) [Local Approval Received].

Boston,—
land.

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

Recess.

At ten minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at nine minutes before twelve o'clock noon the House was called to order with Mr. Garballey in the Chair.

Recess.

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed Bill modernizing the commonwealth’s cannabis laws (see House, No. 5350), 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.

Cannabis industry.

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 3 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

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.

Bill enacted.

Orders of the Day.

House bills

Relative to wastewater treatment and disposal in the town of Sandwich (House, No. 1073);

Third reading bills.

Relative to preliminary elections in the town of Longmeadow (House, No. 4309);

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); and

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);

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,—

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

Next sitting.

At one minute before twelve o’clock noon, on motion of Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o’clock A.M., in an Informal Session.