

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2025.

[36]

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, April 17, 2025.

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.

Recognition of Cambodian Genocide Remembrance Day.

During the session, Ms. Howard of Lowell took the Chair, declared a brief recess and, on behalf of Representatives Howard of Lowell, Nguyen of Andover, Chan of Quincy, Wong of Saugus, Uytterhoeven of Somerville, Sangiolo of Newton and Hong of Lowell, for the purpose of recognizing that April 17th marks the 50th anniversary of the Cambodian genocide, when the Khmer Rouge took control of Cambodia and murdered close to 2 million Cambodians over the next four years.

Cambodian
genocide.

On May 4, 2023, the Massachusetts Legislature, for the first time in the history of Massachusetts, passed a House Resolution proclaiming April 17th as Cambodian Genocide Remembrance Day. The Remembrance memorializes and honors all those lost in the genocide and honors all survivors living in Massachusetts today.

Guests of the House.

At the beginning of the session, the Chair (Mr. Garballey of Arlington), declared a brief recess and introduced, seated in the Chamber, members of the Weston High School boys indoor track and field team. The team recently won the MIAA Division 5 State Championship this winter and were joined by Head Coach Jason Montrose. They were guests of Representative Peisch of Wellesley.

Weston High
School boys
track and field
team.

At the beginning of the session, the Chair (Mr. Garballey of Arlington), declared a brief recess and introduced, seated in the House Chamber, the Weston boys fencing team. The team recently won the Massachusetts High School Fencing State Championship, and were led by Head Coach Harrison Hue. They were guests of Representative Peisch of Wellesley.

Weston High
School boys
fencing
team.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Muradian of Grafton, Lipper-Garabedian of Melrose, Lawn of Watertown, Owens of Watertown and Rogers of Cambridge) commending the Armenian American community of the Commonwealth, the Armenian Heritage Foundation, Friends of the Armenian Heritage Park, and former

Armenian
Genocide.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

State Representatives Rachel Kaprielian and Peter Koutoujian on the occasion of the commemoration of the Armenian Genocide; and

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Nguyen and other members for the House) commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of Black April;

Black
April.

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.

Communications.

Communications

From the Office of the Inspector General (see Section 12 of Chapter 12A of the General Laws, as amended by Section 293 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its annual report entitled: MassHealth and Health Safety Net: 2024 Annual Report;

MassHealth
and Health
Safety Net.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see item 1595-1069 of Section 2E of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the Health Information Technology Trust Fund transfer schedule for fiscal year 2025;

Health
information
technology.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see item 1595-6368 of Section 2E of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the Massachusetts Transportation Trust Fund transfer schedule for fiscal year 2025; and

Transportation
trust fund.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see item 1595-7066 of Section 2E of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the Massachusetts Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Pipeline Fund transfer schedule for fiscal year 2025;

STEM
transfer
schedule.

Severally were placed on file.

Annual Report.

The annual report of the Community Behavioral Health Promotion and Prevention Commission for 2024 and 2025 (under Section 219 of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) relative to preventing substance use and promoting behavioral health in the Commonwealth, was placed on file.

Community
behavioral
health.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representatives Uyterhoeven of Somerville and Connolly of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4033) of Erika Uyterhoeven (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to providing for legal voting rights in municipal elections for non-citizen residents of the city of Somerville; and

Somerville,—
voting
rights.

By Representative Vitolo of Brookline, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4034) of Tommy Vitolo (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize ranked choice voting in the town of Brookline.

Brookline,—
ranked choice
voting.

Severally to the committee on Election Laws.

By Representative Barber of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4035) of Christine P. Barber, Erika Uyterhoeven and Mike Connolly (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Somerville be authorized to

Somerville,—
net zero
emissions.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

establish a net zero emissions standard for zoning of new constructed buildings and major renovation projects; and

By Representative Vitolo of Brookline, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4036) of Tommy Vitolo (by vote of the town) that the town of Brookline be authorized to adopt green zoning by-laws and regulations in said town.

Brookline,—
green
zoning.

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Representative Vitolo of Brookline presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Tommy Vitolo for legislation to authorize cities and towns to impose a methane emissions surcharge and non-pipeline alternatives; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Methane
emissions
surcharge.

Paper from the Senate.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2509) of Mark C. Montigny and Antonio F. D. Cabral (with approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation relating to vacancies in the office of mayor in the city of New Bedford, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Election Laws.

New
Bedford,—
vacancies.

Reports of Committees.

Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, on House, No. 1, reported, in part, a Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2026 for the maintenance of the departments, boards, commissions, institutions, and certain activities of the commonwealth, for interest, sinking fund, and serial bond requirements, and for certain permanent improvements (House, No. 4000) [Total Appropriation: \$61,395,196,208.00]. Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

General
Appropriation
Bill.

Mr. Honan of Boston, for said committee, then reported that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith. Pending the question on ordering the bill to a third reading, further consideration thereof was postponed, on further motion of the same member, until Monday, April 28.

Order.

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

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

Next
sitting.

At seven minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Orrall of Lakeville (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.