

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, April 30, 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.

Silent Tribute.

During the session, Representative Moakley of Falmouth took the Chair and, at the request of Representatives Moakley and Vieira of Falmouth, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute in honor of Stephen L. Finnell, who passed away last week on Cape Cod at the age of 84. Steve was a longtime resident of Falmouth, a proud veteran of the United States Marine Corps, and a devoted Red Sox fan. Steve was a lifetime member of the Falmouth Elks Lodge, the Midway Trap & Skeet Club, and the Falmouth Rod & Gun Club, of which he was a past president. Steve will be remembered as a man of honor, always true to his word, and a loving son, brother, uncle, husband, father, and grandfather.

Stephen
Finnell.

Appointments of the Speaker.

The Speaker announced that (under the provisions of Section 305 of Chapter 238 of the Acts of 2024) he had appointed Representative Worrell of Boston to the special working group on youth sports to conduct an investigation and study of the current state of youth sports.

Youth
sports.

Communication was received from the Speaker announcing that he had appointed David Ashwell of West Boylston to serve on the Commission on PILOT for State Owned Land charged (under Executive Order 645) with advising the Governor on potential reforms to the PILOT program.

PILOT for
state owned
land.

Paper from the Senate.

A petition (accompanied by bill) of Joanne M. Comerford and Mindy Domb for legislation to designate asparagus as the official vegetable of the Commonwealth, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

Asparagus,—
official
vegetable.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3073) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

Reports of a Committee.

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

Authorizing the town of Topsfield to convert 4 licenses for sale of wine and malt beverages not to be drunk on the premises to 4 licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises and to prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages in the containers less than 200 milliliters (Senate, No. 2526) [Local Approval Received];

Topsfield,—
liquor
licenses.

Regulating the number of registered voters who may petition for a special town meeting in the town of Andover (Senate, No. 2544) [Local Approval Received]; and

Andover,—
town meeting.

House bills

Authorizing the town of Colrain to continue the employment of fire department chief Nicholas Anzuoni (House, No. 4846) [Local Approval Received];

Colrain,—
Nicholas Anzuoni.

Authorizing the town of Colrain to continue the employment of fire department deputy chief Kevin Worden Sr (House, No. 4848) [Local Approval Received];

Colrain,—
Kevin Worden.

Relative to the reserve time of public safety personnel in the city of Salem (House, No. 4909) [Local Approval Received];

Salem,—
public safety.

Amending the town charter in the town of Oxford (House, No. 5261) [Local Approval Received];

Oxford,—
charter.

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.

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

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill amending the charter of the town of Middleton (see House, No. 4399, amended) (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 providing for recall elections in the town of Rutland (Senate, No. 2789) 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.

House bills

Authorizing the town of Wrentham to exempt from taxation certain real estate owned and occupied by the surviving spouse of Wrentham Deputy Chief George C. Labonte (House, No. 4269);

Third
reading
bills.

Authorizing the town of Millis to establish a means-tested senior citizen property tax exemption for school building construction projects (House, No. 4605); and

Authorizing the town of Falmouth to expend funds to offset certain costs associated with the installation of low pressure pumps on private property in future sewer service areas (House, No. 5109);

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

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. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The House Bill regarding the disability pension for Misael Rodriguez administered by the Springfield retirement board (House, No. 2939), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Springfield,—
Misael
Rodriguez.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by substitution of a bill with the same title (House, No. 5391).

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted bill was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence

The House Bill authorizing the city of North Adams to appoint retired North Adams police officers as special police officers within said city for paid detail assignments (House, No. 4141), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

North Adams,—
special police.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it in section 2, in line 19, by striking out the words “or to section” and inserting in place thereof the word “chapter”.

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 4141, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The House Bill authorizing the town of North Attleborough to establish a means-tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 4526), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

North
Attleborough,—
tax exemption.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by substitution of a bill with the same title (House, No. 5392).

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted bill was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence

The House Bill relative to excise upon the transfer of parking spaces in the city of Salem (House, No. 4547), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Salem,—
parking
spaces.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it in section 1, in lines 7 and 9, by striking out the word “place”, each time it appears, and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the word “space”; and in line 20, by striking out the word “places” and inserting in place thereof the word “spaces”.

The amendments were adopted; and the bill (House, No. 4547, 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.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

At a quarter after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (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.