

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025.

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, May 8, 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.

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, members of the Chelsea High School Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program. They were guests of Representative Garcia of Chelsea.

Chelsea
High School
AVID.

At the beginning of the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), declared a brief recess and introduced, seated in the Chamber, seventh and eighth grade students from the Espirito Santo School in Fall River, and their chaperones Andrew Raposo and Katelyn Raposo. They were guests of Representative Ouellette of Westport.

Espirito
Santo
School.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Jones of North Reading and Haggerty of Woburn) congratulating Fire Chief Gregory Burns of the town of Reading on his retirement;

Gregory
Burns.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Ouellette of Westport) congratulating Thomas Brow on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of Scouting America; and

Thomas
Brow.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Ouellette of Westport) congratulating Michael Mosher on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of Scouting America;

Michael
Mosher.

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 Mr. Ouellette of Westport, 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 Executive Office of the Trial Court (see item 0330-0601 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting a report of specialty court funding;

Specialty
courts.

From the Office of the State Auditor (see item 0710-0200 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its second quarter fiscal year 2025 report of the Bureau of Special Investigations from October 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024; and

Bureau of
Special
Investigations.

From the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (see item 7001-0101 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the Shared Services report for fiscal year 2025;

Shared
services.

Severally were placed on file.

Annual, Monthly and Special Reports.

Annual Reports

Of the State Lottery Charitable Gaming Division (under Section 38 of Chapter 10 of the General Laws) for calendar year 2024;

Charitable
gaming.

Of the Cannabis Control Commission (under Section 18 of Chapter 94G of the General Laws) relative to the number, summary and costs of performed audits for fiscal year 2025 [copy of said report was forwarded to the committee on Ways and Means, as required by said law]; and

Cannabis
audits.

Of the Office of the Child Advocate (under Section 89 of Chapter 119 of the General Laws) submitting the Juvenile Justice Policy Data Board (JJPAD) annual report for fiscal year 2024; and

Juvenile
justice
policy.

A monthly report of the Department of Revenue (under Section 5(e) of Chapter 62F of the General Laws) on year-to-date net state tax revenue for February, 2025; and

Net state
tax revenue.

Reports

Of the Department of Transitional Assistance (under Sections 2(B) and 5 of Chapter 18 and Section 3C(d) of Chapter 118 of the General Laws) submitting a report entitled: “Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children Consolidated Report” for calendar year 2024 [copies of said report were forwarded to the committee on Ways and Means, and the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, as required by said law];

Transitional
aid.

Of the Office of the Comptroller (under item 1595-6232 of Section 2E of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the transfer schedule for the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) for fiscal year 2025; and

Clean
Energy
Center.

Of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (under Section 2 of Chapter 214 of the Acts of 2024) providing a report on an expenditure in funds from the Commonwealth Federal Matching and Debt Reduction Fund;

Federal
matching and
debt reduction.

Severally were placed on file.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Blais of Deerfield and Senator Mark, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4095) of Natalie M. Blais and Paul W. Mark (by vote of the town) that the town of Conway be authorized to provide legal voting rights in municipal elections for residents of said town aged 16 and 17 years old;

Conway,—
voting
rights.

By Representative Sabadosa of Northampton and Senator Comerford, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4096) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa and Joanne M. Comerford (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to amending the charter of the city of Northampton to authorize residents sixteen years or age or older to vote in preliminary and city elections;

Northampton,—
voting
rights.

By the same members, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4097) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa and Joanne M. Comerford (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to amending the charter of the city of Northampton to authorize resident non-citizens to vote in preliminary and city elections; and

Id.

By the same members, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4098) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa and Joanne M. Comerford (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to ranked choice voting in the city of Northampton.

Northampton,—
ranked choice
voting.

Severally to the committee on Election Laws.

By Representative Sabadosa of Northampton and Senator Comerford, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4099) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa and Joanne M. Comerford (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Northampton be authorized to prohibit landlords and brokers from requiring broker's commissions to be paid by tenants or prospective tenants. To the committee on Housing.

Northampton,—
broker's fees.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Papers from the Senate.

The following order was adopted, in concurrence:

Ordered, That, conformably to the provisions of Article XLVIII (as amended by Article LXXXI) of the Amendments to the Constitution, a joint session of the two Houses be held on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, at twelve o'clock noon, for the purpose of considering proposals for amendments to the Constitution.

Constitutional
convention.

Insofar as applicable, the special rules of procedure, in effect in the preceding General Court shall govern said joint session, and any further joint sessions called for the purpose of considering amendments to the Constitution.

A petition (accompanied by bill) of Michael F. Rush, Paul McMurtry and John H. Rogers for legislation to extend MBTA service of The Ride to the town of Foxborough, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Transportation.

Foxborough,—
MBTA
service.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2513) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Transportation.

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:

Joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Colleen M. Garry for legislation to authorize the Dracut Water Supply District to sell water to certain communities. To the committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Dracut Water
Supply District.

Joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Natalie M. Higgins and John J. Cronin for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Steven Forget, an employee of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office. To the committee on Public Service.

Steven
Forget,—
sick leave.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Barbara Kellogg relative to the distribution of certain gaming revenue. To the committee on Revenue.

Revenue,—
gaming.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Garcia of Chelsea, the reports were considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 then was suspended, in each instance. 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 ten minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (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.