

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026.

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Monday, May 11, 2026.

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, eighth grade students from Saint Michael School in Fall River. The class was on their eighth grade graduation trip. At the invitation of the Chair, the students participated in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. They were the guests of Representative Ouellette of Westport and Senator Rodrigues.

Saint
Michael
School.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Fiola of Fall River) commending the IGA Foundation for recognizing May 14, 2026 as IGA Nephropathy Awareness Day;

IGA
Nephropathy Day.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Kerans of Danvers and Walsh of Peabody) commemorating the town of Danvers on the anniversary of its town meeting of June 18, 1776;

Danvers
town
meeting.

Resolutions (filed by Representative McMurtry of Dedham) congratulating Andrew Loughran on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of Scouting America;

Andrew
Loughran.

Resolutions (filed by Representative McMurtry of Dedham) congratulating James Lynch on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of Scouting America; and

James
Lynch.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Thurber of Somerset and Howitt of Seekonk) congratulating the Swansea Fire Department on the occasion of its one hundredth anniversary;

Swansea Fire
Department.

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.

Petitions.

Representative LeBoeuf of Worcester presented a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5420) of David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf, Peter J. Durant and Paul K.

Leicester,—
Kenneth
Antanavica.

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Frost (by vote of the town) that the town of Leicester be authorized to continue the employment of Kenneth M. Antanavica as police chief of said town; and the same was referred to the committee on Public Service. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Donato of Medford, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Paul J. Donato and Sean Garballey that the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance be authorized to lease the LoConte Memorial Rink to the city of Medford.

Medford,—
LoConte
Memorial
Rink.

By Representative Fiola of Fall River, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Carole A. Fiola for legislation to authorize municipalities to opt-in to a temporary pilot to extend the hours of liquor licenses and to allow for public consumption in designated districts from June 1 to August 31, 2026.

Alcohol,—
public
consumption.

By Representative Tarsky of Needham, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Joshua Tarsky for legislation to authorize the establishment of a veterans' suicide mortality review and prevention council within the Executive Office of Veterans' Services.

Veterans'
suicide
prevention
council.

Severally, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Paper from the Senate.

The House Bill amending the charter of the town of Millis (House, No. 3911), came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 3013. The amendment was referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Millis,—
charter.

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 petition of Carole A. Fiola relative to firefighter staffing. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Badger of Plymouth, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Firefighters,—
staffing.

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 authorizing print-free digital legal notices in the city of Newton (Senate, No. 3004) [Local Approval Received]; and

Newton,—
legal notices.

The House Bill designating a segment of Route 20 as the Brodeur Curve (House, No. 5162).

State Route 20,—
Brodeur Curve.

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

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on House, No. 3936, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Public Service to make an

Sick leave,—
study.

investigation and study of a certain House document relative to a sick leave bank (House, No. 5393).

By Mr. McGonagle of Everett, for the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs, on House, No. 3836, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs to make an investigation and study of a certain House document relative to disabled veteran homestead exemption (House, No. 5395).

Disabled veteran homestead exemption,— 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, in each instance, 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 severally were considered forthwith; and they were accepted.

The following reports were received, the time within which the said committees were required to report having expired:

By Mr. Donahue of Worcester, for the committee on Cannabis Policy, on House, Nos. 144, 147, 151, 152, 153, 157, 164, 166, 167, 172, 175, 177, 178, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 191, 193 and 3982, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Cannabis Policy to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to cannabis, THC, cannabis products and other cannabis related issues (House, No. 5396).

Cannabis, THC, cannabis products and other cannabis related issues,— study.

By Mr. Hunt of Boston, for the committee on Election Laws, on House Nos. 4262 and 4916, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Election Laws to make an investigation of certain House documents relative to ranked choice voting (House, No. 5413).

Ranked choice voting,— study.

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, on House, No. 1188, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Financial Services to make an investigation and study of a certain House document relative to healthcare coverage for certain gender affirming care (House, No. 5397).

Gender affirming coverage,— study.

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on House, No. 4443, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Public Service to make an investigation and study of a certain House document relative to the maximum age requirement for original appointment to the position of firefighter or police officer in the city of Haverhill (House, No. 5398).

Haverhill,— 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, in each instance, 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 severally were considered forthwith; and they were accepted.

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill ensuring access to medical records (House, No. 2553). Referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

Medical records.

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Petersham to continue the employment of police department members Richard D. Cooley Jr. [sic] and David A. Shoemaker (House, No. 5110) [Local Approval Received].

Petersham,— police.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing Bradford G. Merkel to take the state police examination notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 5189).

Bradford
Merkel.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the city of Beverly to continue the employment of John G. LeLacheur as police chief (House, No. 5248) [Local Approval Received].

Beverly,—
John
LeLacheur.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 3900, a Bill authorizing the raising the [sic] maximum retirement age of special police officers in the town of Kingston to 70 years old (House, No. 5419) [Local Approval Received].

Kingston,—
police.

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

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill to clarify the organization of the Lexington Housing Assistance Board (see House, No. 4842) (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 House Bill designating a portion of state highway Route 7A in the town of Lenox as the Ross B. Dindio memorial highway (House, No. 3645), 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. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Third
reading
bill.

The House Bill directing the city of Boston police department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Luisa Fernandes (House, No. 4604), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Boston,—
Luisa
Fernandes.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend the bill by striking out section 2 and inserting in place thereof the following section:

“SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.”

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 4604, 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 Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

At eight 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 Thursday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.