

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026.

[45]

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, May 14, 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.

Message from the Governor.

A message from Her Excellency the Governor (under the provisions of Section 8 of Article LXXXIX of the Amendments to the Constitution) recommending legislation relative to providing injured on duty compensation to Chelmsford firefighter Nicholas Spinale (House, No. 5429), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Wednesday, May 13.

Chelmsford,—
Nicholas Spinale.

The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Public Service. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

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, Renee Diaz, Miguel Diaz, Roslyn Diaz and Barbara King, who were visiting to acknowledge and recognize Apraxia Awareness Day. They were the guests of Representatives Muradian of Grafton and Frost of Auburn.

Apraxia
Awareness
Day.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Barrett of North Adams) congratulating Judy and Dick Jolin on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary; and

Judy and
Dick Jolin.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Giannino of Revere and other members of the House) commending the National Brain Tumor Society Inc. for its recognition of May 2026 as Brain Tumor Awareness Month;

Brain Tumor
Awareness
Month.

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. Muradian of Grafton, 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 Dedicated Sales Tax Revenues for fiscal year 2027;

MBTA,—
sales tax
revenues.

From the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (see Section 69 of Chapter 23K of the General Laws) submitting its gaming revenue reports and associated sports wagering revenue report through February, 2026;

Gaming and
sports wagering.

From the Department of Public Utilities (see Section 2 of Chapter 25 of the General Laws) submitting its annual report for calendar year 2025;

Public
utilities.

From the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (see Section 92(p) of Chapter 71 of the General Laws) submitting a report on the Implementation and Fiscal Impact of Innovation Schools;

Innovation
schools.

From the Executive Office of the Trial Court (see Section 15(c) of Chapter 239 of the General Laws, as amended by Section 64 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its report on filings, actions, and dispositions of summary process cases relative to permanent rental protections;

Permanent
rental
protections.

From the District Attorney of Worcester County (see Section 99R of Chapter 272 of the General Laws) submitting a report relative to wiretaps for calendar year 2025;

Worcester
County,—
wiretaps.

From the Office of the State Auditor (see item 0710-0200 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its first and second quarter fiscal year 2026 reports of the Bureau of Special Investigations from July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025;

Bureau of
Special
Investigations.

From the Department of Transitional Assistance (see item 4400-0709 of Section 2 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 2025) submitting a report on strategies for reducing Payment Error Rates (PER) and summarizing policy changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP);

Supplemental
Nutrition
Assistance
Program.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see item 5046-0000 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting the Department of Mental Health’s report on the Distribution of Funds for fiscal year 2026;

Mental
health
funds.

From the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (see Section 288 of Chapter 238 of the Acts of 2024) submitting a report on the Feasibility of No-Cost Testing Requirements for Educator Candidates; and

Educator
candidates,—
testing.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see Section 80(g) of Chapter 343 of the Acts of 2024) submitting a Massachusetts Health Policy Commission Primary Care Task Force report;

Primary
care.

Severally were placed on file.

Quarterly Report.

A quarterly report of the Sheriff’s Department of Plymouth County (under Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Plymouth County Correctional Facility for the fourth quarter of calendar year 2025, was placed on file.

Plymouth
County
Correctional
Facility.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

By Representative Donaghue of Westborough, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5425) of Kate Donaghue and James B. Eldridge (by vote of the town) that the town of Southborough be authorized to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises in said town. To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Southborough,—
liquor
license.

By Representative Scanlon of North Attleborough and Senator Feeney, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5426) of Adam J. Scanlon and Paul R. Feeney (with the approval of the town council) relative to amending the charter of the town of North Attleborough. To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

North
Attleborough,—
charter.

By Representative Linsky of Natick, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5427) of David Paul Linsky (by vote of the town) that the town of Natick be authorized to continue the employment of James Hicks, police chief in said town, notwithstanding the maximum age requirement; and

Natick,—
James Hicks.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5428) of David Paul Linsky (by vote of the town) that the town of Natick be authorized to continue the employment of Brian Lauzon, deputy police chief of said town, notwithstanding the maximum age requirement.

Natick,—
Brian
Lauzon.

Severally to the committee on Public Service.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill authorizing the town of Berkley to increase the membership of the board of selectmen (Senate, No. 2897) (on a petition) [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.

Berkley,—
board of
selectmen.

Petitions were referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, as follows:

Joint petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3090) of William N. Brownsberger and David M. Rogers for legislation relative to consumer connected devices. To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Consumer
devices.

Joint petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3091) of Peter J. Durant, Brian M. Ashe, Jacob R. Oliveira, Joanne M. Comerford and other members of the General Court for legislation to create crumbling concrete relief for homeowners. To the committee on Financial Services.

Crumbling
concrete.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3089) of Dylan A. Fernandes and Julian Cyr for legislation to designate the Hyannis Transportation Center in the town of Hyannis as the Thomas S. Cahir Cape Cod Transportation Center. To the committee on Transportation.

Hyannis,—
transportation
center.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3084) of William J. Driscoll, Jr. (by vote of the town) for legislation to amend the charter of the city known as the town of Randolph regarding filling of vacancies, running for multiple offices, term of office for Stetson Trustees and three-month prohibition on work for the town after service in elected office, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Randolph,—
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 Rules 12 and 9 be suspended on the petition of Michael S. Day for legislation to establish quantum investment and tax incentive programs for certain quantum science research, development, manufacturing or commercialization. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the report was considered forthwith. At the request of Mr. Day of Stoneham, the question was divided. Joint Rules 12 and 9 then were suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred, on motion of Mr. Day, to the committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Quantum science.

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 joint petition of Homar Gómez relative to reports of crimes to law enforcement officials. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on the Judiciary. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Crime reporting.

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

Relative to the Massachusetts Uniform Commercial Code (House, No. 4914);

Removing the Treasurer as Acting Mayor in the Holyoke Charter (House, No. 5171) [Local Approval Received]; and

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];

Uniform code.
Holyoke,—
charter.
Kingston,—
police.

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

By Mr. Madaro of Boston, for the committee on Revenue, on so much as relates to sections 45 to 72, inclusive, 85 and 86 of House, No. 56, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Revenue to make an investigation and study of a certain House document relative to municipal and local taxation (House, No. 5394) [Senators Eldridge, Jehlen, Brady, Keenan and Rausch dissenting]. Referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Municipal and local taxation,—
study.

Subsequently, Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committees, reported asking to be discharged from further consideration of the order; and recommending that the same be referred to the House committee on Rules.

Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted.

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

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on House, Nos. 4698, 4742, 4747, 4977 and 5159, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Public Service to make an investigation and study of a certain House document

Retirement benefits, credible service and continued employment,—

relative to retirement benefits, credible service and continued employment (House, No. 5423).

study.

By Mr. McGonagle of Everett, for the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs, on House, Nos. 3842 and 3888, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs to make an investigation of certain House documents relative to Constitutional Conventions (House, No. 5422).

Constitutional Conventions,— 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.

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Regulating the number of registered voters who may petition for a special town meeting in the town of Andover (see Senate, No. 2544, amended) (which originated in the Senate);

Bills enacted.

Amending the town charter of the town of Plymouth (see House, No. 4501, changed); and

Authorizing the town of Pembroke to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (see House, No. 4817);

(Which severally originated in the House);

Severally having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, were passed to be enacted; and they were signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Orders of the Day.

House bills

Validating the New Salem annual town election (House, No. 4224);

Relative to expanded small property tax abatements in the town of Auburn (House, No. 4754); and

Third reading bills.

Relative to the acquisition and disposition of certain land in the town of Falmouth (House, No. 5108);

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.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

At eleven minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Muradian of Grafton (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.