

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025.

[46]*

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Wednesday, May 21, 2025.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M. 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.

Silent Tributes.

During the session (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), at the request of Mr. Murray of Milford, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute for Senator Louis P. Bertonazzi, who was a committed public servant that dedicated many years to town and state government.

Louis P.
Bertonazzi.

Senator Bertonazzi was a former member of the Milford Board of Selectmen, serving for three years as chair, and member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, where he was the first Chairman of the Committee on Health Care. Senator Bertonazzi then served as a member of the Senate, as a member of the Post Audit and Oversight Committee, as Assistant Majority Whip as well as Majority Whip, before becoming the Senate Majority Leader.

Upon retirement, he completed his state service as Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services. As a member of the General Court, he authored major legislation which addressed health care cost containment, drunk driving reform, certification of emergency medical services, establishment of cancer registries, ambulance safety, public access to physician profiles and recodification of the dental practice act.

During the session (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), at the request of Representatives Duffy of Holyoke and Gómez of Easthampton, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute for former Representative Evelyn Chesky of South Hadley, who passed away peacefully on May 19th, 2025, at the age of 91, surrounded by her loving family.

Evelyn
Chesky.

She was born on August 20, 1933, in Chicopee, MA, to Maximilian and Adata Gawron. After graduating from Chicopee High School, she and her husband, Carl, raised four children in Holyoke.

Evelyn was appointed as a Holyoke Commissioner of Public Works, then elected to serve as a member of the Holyoke Board of Aldermen, and then as the first woman to represent the 5th Hampden District in the Massachusetts House of Representatives from 1993 to 2001. During her political career, she was known for her strong leadership, fierce advocacy, and pioneering role as a female politician.

Evelyn cherished life and was deeply devoted to her family. She loved Polish holiday traditions, music, long walks, playing word games and puzzles, and most of all, being “Babci”. Evelyn is survived by her children, cherished grandchildren, and twelve great-grandchildren.

Order.

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

Ordered, That a special committee of the House be appointed to escort Representative-elect Hannah L. Bowen of Beverly to the Governor's Ceremonial Office to be qualified. Representatives Fiola of Fall River, Garballey of Arlington, Peisch of Wellesley, Donato of Medford, Gregoire of Marlborough and Wong of Saugus were appointed the committee.

Representative-elect Hannah L. Bowen,—
qualification.

Special Communication.

The following communication, together with returns of votes and schedules therein referred to, was received from the Secretary of the Commonwealth, to wit:—

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133

May 21, 2025.

To the Honorable House of Representatives:

I have the honor to lay before you the returns of votes cast at the special election held in this Commonwealth on thirteenth day of May, 2025 for Representative in General Court, Sixth Essex District, together with schedules showing the number of ballots which appear to have been cast for each person voted for.

Returns of votes
for Representative
in the Sixth
Essex District.

These returns have been duly canvassed by the Governor and Council, and are now transmitted for examination by the House of Representatives, as required by the Constitution.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

The communication was read; and, there being no objection, it was placed on file.

Member Qualified.

The Chair (Ms. Hogan of Stow) announced that the special committee of the House appointed relative to the qualification of Hannah L. Bowen of Beverly, member-elect from the Sixth Essex District, had reported that Representative Bowen had taken and subscribed the necessary oath of office, and was now duly qualified as a member of the House of Representatives.

Representative
Hannah L.
Bowen,—
qualification.

Representative Bowen was assigned seat No. 131 by the Speaker.

Remote Participation.

Notice had been received from House Counsel that, under the provisions of House Rule 49, Representatives Ferrante of Gloucester and Fluker-Reid of Boston had been approved to participate remotely for today's formal sitting.

Remote participation.

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, students from the Marblehead Community Charter Public School. They were guests of Representative Armini of Marblehead.

Marblehead Community Charter Public School.

At the beginning of the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), declared a brief recess and introduced, seated in the House Chamber, students from the Saint Bridget School in Framingham. They were guests of Representatives Lewis of Framingham, Sousa of Framingham and Gentile of Sudbury.

Saint Bridget School.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the Senate Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Andrew Setera, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 2508), be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Andrew Setera,—
sick leave.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Garballey of Arlington, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

At six minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Muradian of Grafton (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed until one o'clock P.M.; and at thirteen minutes after one o'clock the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Recesses.

The House thereupon took a further recess, subject to the call of the Chair, on motion of Mr. Jones of North Reading; and at twenty-seven minutes after three o'clock the House was called to order with Ms. Hogan of Stow in the Chair.

Prior to the noon recess, Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, on House, No. 4003, reported, in part, a Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2025 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (House, No. 4150) [Total appropriation: \$529,832,564.00]. Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Supplemental appropriations.

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. Garballey of Arlington, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

Subsequently, the noon recess having terminated (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, the bill (having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn), was read a third time.

On the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Ms. Peisch of Wellesley and other members of the House moved to amend it by inserting after section 11 the following 6 sections:

“SECTION 11A. Section 1B of chapter 69 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the thirteenth paragraph the following paragraph:

The board shall ensure meaningful communication between school personnel and parents and legal guardians of all students receiving educational services pursuant to this chapter, chapter 71, 71A, 71B or 74. The board shall ensure that interpreters and translators used in public school settings are bilingual, have knowledge in both languages of any specialized terms or concepts to be used in the communication at issue and that interpreters are trained on the role of an interpreter and translator, the ethics of interpreting and translating and the need to maintain confidentiality.

SECTION 11B. Section 4 of chapter 71A of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘component.’, in line 13, the following words: Each district shall, within a reasonable amount of time, ensure that any academic deficits for a student that are a result of focusing on English language acquisition are addressed.

SECTION 11C. Section 5 of said chapter 71A, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:

(c) School districts shall not recommend that parents or legal guardians decline all or some services within an English learner program for any reason, including, but not limited to, facilitating scheduling of special education services or other scheduling reasons.

SECTION 11D. Section 3 of chapter 71B of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘development.’, in line 145, the following 4 sentences: When conducting an evaluation for a child who is an English learner, as defined in section 2 of chapter 71A, school committees shall consider the English language proficiency of the student. Assessments and other evaluation materials used to evaluate the child shall be provided and administered in the child’s primary language and in the form most likely to yield accurate information on what the child knows and can do academically, developmentally and functionally. The Individualized Education Program team convened for an English learner shall include 1 or more participants with the following: (i) a requisite knowledge of the student’s language needs; (ii) training and expertise in second language acquisition; and (iii) an understanding of how to differentiate between the student’s limited English proficiency and the student’s disability. Whenever an evaluation indicates that a child who is an English learner is also a school aged child with a disability, the Individualized Education Program team shall ensure that the Individualized Education Program includes services to meet both the English language and special education needs of the child.

SECTION 11E. The ninth paragraph of said section 3 of said chapter 71B, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following sentence: The department shall promulgate regulations to continue in effect and enforce the provisions of 20 USC sec.1415(k) in effect on January 1, 2025.

SECTION 11F. Section 5 of chapter 76 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘origin’, in line 11, the following words: , immigration or citizenship status, disability.”; and

By adding the following section:

“SECTION 46 [sic]. The department of elementary and secondary education and the board of education shall update regulations, as necessary, consistent with sections 11A to 11F, inclusive.”.

After debate on the question on adoption of the amendments, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, at the request of the same member; and on the roll call 150 members voted in the affirmative and 1 in the negative.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 49](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the amendments were adopted.

Mr. Rogers of Cambridge and other members of the House then moved to amend the bill by inserting after section 22 the following 3 sections:

“SECTION 22A. Section 131M of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as amended by section 71 of chapter 135 of the acts of 2024, is hereby further amended by striking out subsection (e) and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:

(e) This section shall not apply to transfer or possession by: (i) a qualified law enforcement officer or a qualified retired law enforcement officer, as defined in the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004, 18 U.S.C. sections 926B and 926C, respectively, as amended; (ii) a law enforcement officer as defined in section 1 of chapter 6E; (iii) a federal, state or local law enforcement agency; or (iv) a federally licensed manufacturer solely for sale or transfer in another state or for export.

SECTION 22B. Section 10 of chapter 269 of the General Laws, as amended by section 122 of said chapter 135 is hereby further amended by striking out the words ‘or a qualified retired law enforcement officer, as defined in the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004, 18 U.S.C. sections 926B and 926C, respectively, as amended’ and inserting in place thereof the following words:- , a qualified retired law enforcement officer, as defined in the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004, 18 U.S.C. sections 926B and 926C, respectively, as amended or a law enforcement officer as defined in section 1 of chapter 6E.

SECTION 22C. Subsection (k) of said section 10 of said chapter 269, as inserted by section 124 of said chapter 135, is hereby amended by striking out paragraph (5) and inserting in its place thereof the following paragraph:

(5) This subsection shall not apply to a law enforcement officer as defined in section 1 of chapter 6E a qualified law enforcement officer or a qualified retired law enforcement officer, as defined in the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004, 18 U.S.C. sections 926B and 926C, respectively, as amended or to a security guard employed at the prohibited area while at the location of their employment and during the course of their employment. Nothing in this paragraph shall limit the authority of any municipality, county or department, division, commission, board, agency or court of the commonwealth to adopt policies further restricting the possession of firearms in areas under their control.”.

After remarks on the question on adoption of the amendment, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, at the request of the same member; and on the roll call 151 members voted in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 50](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Michlewitz of Boston and other members of the House then moved to amend the bill in section 2 by inserting after item 4400-1004 the following 2 items:

“4405-2000 State Supplement to the Social Security Income
program.....\$3,000,000
4408-1000 Emergency Aid to Elderly, Disabled and Children ... \$1,000,000”;

In section 2A by inserting after item 1599-1777 the following 2 items:
“1599-1778 For a reserve to support the creation of the Brooke House in

Amendments
adopted,—
yea and nay
No. 49.

Amendment
adopted,—
yea and nay
No. 50.

Consolidated
amendments.

Mattapan by 2Life Development Inc.; provided, that the Brooke House shall create and maintain not less than 127 units of senior housing; provided further, that the housing shall be reserved for seniors with incomes of not more than 60 per cent of the area median income; provided further, that the Brooke House shall include space for the Shattuck Child Care Center; and provided further, that the Brooke House shall include space for a community health care center that shall provide services to the broader community\$2,000,000

1599-1779 For a transfer to the Fair Housing Fund established in section 2JJJJJ chapter 29 of the General Laws.....\$1,000,000”;

By inserting after section 4 the following section:

“SECTION 4A. Chapter 10 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 35M the following section:

Section 35M1/2. (a) There shall be established upon the books of the commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the Medical Peer Support Trust Fund to be used, without prior appropriation, by the physician health program authorized by the board of registration in medicine pursuant to section 5 of chapter 112 and 243 CMR 2.07(23)(b) as a diversionary program.

(b) The Medical Peer Support Trust Fund shall be financed by a surcharge of not more than \$50 on each full license renewal or issuance of a new full license to be collected by the board of registration in medicine for every physician licensed under section 2 of said chapter 112 in addition to other license fees. All money deposited into the fund shall be expended exclusively by the physician health program pursuant to said section 5 of said chapter 112 and said 243 CMR 2.07(23)(b) for its operations and administration and shall not be subject to appropriation by the general court.”;

By inserting after section 17 the following section:

“SECTION 17A. Subsection (c) of section 34E of chapter 92 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 35 to 45, inclusive, the words “1 member to be appointed by a majority vote of the senator for the Second Suffolk and Middlesex district, the senator for the Middlesex and Suffolk district, the representative for the Seventeenth Suffolk district and the representative for the Eighteenth Suffolk district, who shall serve as chair; 2 members to be appointed by the senator for the Second Suffolk and Middlesex district; 2 members to be appointed by the senator for the Middlesex and Suffolk district; 2 members to be appointed by the representative for the Seventeenth Suffolk district; and 2 members to be appointed by the representative for the Eighteenth Suffolk district.” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- 3 members to be appointed by the senator for the Suffolk and Middlesex district; 3 members to be appointed by the representative for the Seventeenth Suffolk district; and 3 members to be appointed by the representative for the Eighteenth Suffolk district.”;

By inserting after section 22C (inserted by amendment) the following section:

“SECTION 22D. Subsection (d) of section 149 of chapter 135 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by striking out the words ‘March 1, 2025’ and inserting in place thereof the following words:- December 31, 2025.”;

By inserting after section 23 the following 2 sections:

“SECTION 23A. Item 4405-2000 of section 2 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by striking out the words ‘provided further, that rates for residential care facilities and rest homes effective July 1, 2024, established under section 13D of chapter 118E of the General Laws, shall cumulatively total not less than rates effective January 1, 2024’ and inserting in place thereof the following

words:- provided further, that rates for residential care facilities and rest homes effective July 1, 2024, established under section 13D of chapter 118E of the General Laws, shall cumulatively total not less than \$3,000,000 more than rates effective January 1, 2024.

SECTION 23B. Item 4408-1000 of said section 2 of said chapter 140 is hereby amended by striking out the words ‘provided further, that rates for residential care facilities and rest homes effective July 1, 2024, established under section 13D of chapter 118E of the General Laws, shall cumulatively total not less than rates effective January 1, 2024’ and inserting in place thereof the following words:- provided further, that rates for residential care facilities and rest homes effective July 1, 2024, established under section 13D of chapter 118E of the General Laws, shall cumulatively total not less than \$1,000,000 more than rates effective January 1, 2024.”;

By inserting after section 32 the following 2 sections:—

SECTION 32A. Subsection (d) of section 303 of chapter 238 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by striking out the figure “2025” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 2026.

SECTION 32B. Subsection (b) of section 98 of chapter 239 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by striking out the words “The schedule shall ensure that the distribution companies enter into cost-effective long-term contracts for energy storage systems equal to approximately 5,000 megawatts not later than July 31, 2030, of which: (i) approximately 1,500 megawatts of mid-duration storage shall be procured by July 31, 2025, and shall be for environmental attributes only; (ii) approximately 1,000 megawatts of mid-duration storage shall be procured by July 31, 2026; (iii) approximately 1,000 megawatts of mid-duration storage shall be procured by July 31, 2027; and (iv) all remaining energy storage systems capacity shall be procured by July 31, 2030. Each procurement shall consider inclusion of environmental attributes, energy services or a combination of both; provided, however, that the procurement of 1,500 megawatts of mid-duration storage by July 31, 2025 shall be for environmental attributes only.”;

By inserting after section 33 the following section:

“SECTION 33A. Subsection (d) of section 36 of chapter 285 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by striking out the words ‘June 30, 2025’ and inserting in place thereof the following words:- March 30, 2026.”; and

In section 46 by striking out the figures: “46” (inserted by amendment) and inserting in place thereof the figures: “40”.

On the question on adoption of the consolidated amendments, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, as required under the provisions of House Rule 33F; and on the roll call 149 members voted in the affirmative and 1 in the negative.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 51](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the consolidated amendments were adopted.

On the question on passing the bill, as amended, to be engrossed, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nay, at the request of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston; and on the roll call 149 members voted in the affirmative and 1 in the negative.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 52](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the bill (House, No. 4151, published as amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Consolidated
amendments
adopted,—
yea and nay
No. 51.

Order.

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

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

Next
sitting.

Representatives Duffy of Holyoke and Gómez of Easthampton then moved that when the House adjourns today, it do so in respect to the memory of Evelyn B. Chesky, a member of the House from Holyoke from 1993 to 2000, inclusive; and the motion prevailed.

Accordingly, at ten minutes after six o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Jones of North Reading (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following day at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.