

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026.**

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# JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

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Thursday, May 28, 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.

## *Resolutions.*

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Peisch of Wellesley) honoring Renee Spencer for her dedicated service as a changemaker in her community and across the Commonwealth;

Renee  
Spencer.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Bowen of Beverly) congratulating Sebastian Brouillette on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of Scouting America;

Sebastian  
Brouillette.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Bowen of Beverly) congratulating Graeme Dineen on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of Scouting America;

Graeme  
Dineen.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Michlewitz of Boston and other members of the House) congratulating the Italian Consulate in Boston on its celebration of June 2, 2026 as Italian National Day on the occasion of the eightieth anniversary of the establishment of the Republic of Italy; and

Italian  
Consulate.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Sabadosa of Northampton) congratulating the Florence Community Band on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary;

Florence  
Community Band.

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. Wong of Saugus, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

## *Order.*

The Order (filed by Representatives Lawn of Watertown and Kilcoyne of Clinton) relative to extending until Thursday, December 31, 2026 the time within which the committee on Health Care Financing is authorized to report on current House documents, was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Health Care  
Financing,—  
extension of time  
for reporting.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 5460) ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

## *Communications.*

Communications

From the Department of Higher Education (see Section 168E(q) of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) on campus sexual misconduct incident data annual report for calendar years 2024 and 2025;

Sexual  
misconduct  
incident data.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see Section 219 of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) submitting the Community Behavioral Health Promotion and Prevention Commission annual report for fiscal year 2026;

Community  
behavioral  
health.

From the Office of the Inspector General (see Section 12 of Chapter 12A of the General Laws) submitting an Investigatory Review of Failed 2025 Service Plaza Procurement;

Service plaza,—  
procurement.

From the Office of the Inspector General (see Section 12 of Chapter 12A of the General Laws) submitting a Preliminary Review of Sheriffs’ Budgets and Expenditures;

Sheriffs,—  
budgets and  
expenditures.

From the Office of the Inspector General (see Section 12 of Chapter 12A of the General Laws and Section 231 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting a report entitled: The Steamship Authority’s Website Development Project;

Steamship  
Authority,—  
website.

From the Office of the Inspector General (see Section 12 of Chapter 12A of the General Laws) submitting a report entitled: “Former CEO of Worcester Regional Retirement System Abused Public Funds”;

Worcester  
Regional  
Retirement System.

From the Betsy Lehman Center for Patient Safety (see Section 15 of Chapter 12C of the General Laws) submitting its annual report for calendar year 2025;

Betsy Lehman  
Center.

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 March, 2026;

Gaming and  
sports wagering  
revenue.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see Section 6B(b) of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting a Federal Grants Report for the third quarter of the fiscal year 2026;

Federal  
grants.

From the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (see Section 1P of Chapter 69 of the General Laws) submitting the tenth annual report of the Safe and Supportive Schools Commission [copies of said report were forwarded to the committee on Ways and Means, committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, committee on Education; and the committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, as required by said law];

Safe and  
supportive  
schools.

From the Division of Occupational Licensure (see Section 1 of Chapter 147 of the General Laws) submitting its annual report for fiscal year 2025;

Occupational  
licensure.

From the Division of Occupational Licensure (see Section 1 of Chapter 147 of the General Laws) submitting its annual report for fiscal year 2024;

Id.

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

Permanent  
rental  
protections.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and the Executive Office for Housing and Livable Communities (see Section 10 of Chapter 1 and Section 88 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 2025 and Section 19 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the April 16, 2026 biweekly report on the emergency housing assistance program;

Emergency  
housing  
assistance.

From the Office of the Inspector General (see item 1596-2516 of Section 7 of Chapter 2A of the Acts of 2025) submitting a Special Education Transportation Study;

Special  
education  
transportation.

From the Department of Revenue (see item 1201-0160 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its annual projected expenditure report for the Child

Child  
support  
services.

**UNCORRECTED PROOF.**

Support Services Division (DOR/CSS) trust fund and financial allocation accounts for fiscal year 2026;

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see item 4000-0601 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting the Office of Medicaid (MassHealth) Senior Care legislative report for fiscal year 2025;

MassHealth,—  
senior care.

From the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (see item 1595-0116 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting the Genocide Education Trust Fund and Programming report for fiscal year 2024;

Genocide  
Education  
Trust Fund.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see item 1595-6368 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting an updated Massachusetts Transportation Trust Fund (MTTF) transfer schedule for fiscal year 2026;

Transportation  
trust fund.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see item 4000-0601 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the Office of Medicaid (MassHealth) Senior Care legislative report for fiscal year 2024; and

MassHealth,—  
senior care.

From the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (see Section 84 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its School Meal Waste and Consumption report;

School meal  
waste and  
consumption.

Severally were placed on file.

*Quarterly and Monthly Reports.*

A quarterly report of the Office of the Inspector General (under Section 54 of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023 and Section 12 of Chapter 12A of the General Laws) submitting its Pandemic Funding Oversight Quality Report for the first quarter of calendar year 2026; and

Pandemic,—  
funding  
oversight.

Monthly reports

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, 2026; and

Net state  
tax revenue.

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 March, 2026;

Id.

Severally were placed on file.

*Petitions.*

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Peisch of Wellesley and Senator Barrett, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5461) of Alice Hanlon Peisch (by vote of the town) that the town of Weston be authorized to grant an additional license for sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises in said town. To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Weston,—  
liquor  
license.

By Representative Jones of North Reading, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5462) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., Sally P. Kerans and Bruce E. Tarr (by vote of the town) relative to recall petitions in the charter of the town of Middleton. To the committee on Election Laws.

Middleton,—  
recall  
petitions.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5463) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., Sally P. Kerans and Bruce E. Tarr (by vote of the town) relative to a conservation restriction in the town of Middleton. To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Middleton,—  
conservation  
restriction.

By Representative Fluker-Reid of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5464) of Brandy Fluker-Reid (with the approval of the mayor and city

Boston,—  
transfer fees  
and tax relief.

council) relative to real estate transfer fees and senior property tax relief in the city of Boston. To the committee on Revenue.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

*Papers from the Senate.*

The House Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2027 for the maintenance of the departments, boards, commissions, institutions, and certain activities of the commonwealth, for interest, sinking fund, and serial bond requirements, and for certain permanent improvements (House, No. 5501), 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 3100.

General  
Appropriation  
Bill.

Under suspension of Rule 35, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the amendment was considered forthwith. The House then non-concurred with the Senate in its amendment; and, on motion of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, asked for a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches. Representatives Michlewitz of Boston, Diggs of Barnstable and Smola of Warren were appointed the committee on the part of the House. Sent to the Senate to be joined.

Committee of  
conference.

Subsequently notice was received from the Senate that said branch had insisted on its amendment, concurred with the House in the appointment of a committee of conference; and that Senators Rodrigues, Comerford and O'Connor had been joined as the committee on the part of the Senate.

Id.

The House Bill amending the town charter of the town of Plainville (House, No. 4805, amended), came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment in section 29 (as printed), in line 100, by inserting after the word "committee" the words ", the select board". The amendment was referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Plainville,—  
charter.

*Reports of Committees.*

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:

Authorizing Bradford G. Merkel to take the state police examination notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 5189);

Bradford  
Merkel.

Authorizing the city of Beverly to continue the employment of John G. LeLacheur as police chief (House, No. 5248) [Local Approval Received]; and

Beverly,—  
John LeLacheur.

Allowing "print-free" digital legal notices for the town of Westford (House, No. 5387) [Local Approval Received];

Westford,—  
digital notices.

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

*Engrossed Bills.*

Engrossed bills

Authorizing the town of Stoneham to waive the maximum age requirement for original appointment of police officers in the town (see House, No. 2800); and

Bills  
enacted.

**UNCORRECTED PROOF.**

Relative to the maximum age requirement for police officers in the city of Newton (see House, No. 4718);

(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.*

The Senate Bill amending the charter of the town of Tewksbury to modify the residency requirement for the town manager (Senate, No. 1446), 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 Monterey to continue the employment of police officer Jennifer O. Brown (House, No. 4862);

Authorizing the appointment of retired police officers as special police officers in the town of Norwood (House, No. 5289); and

Authorizing the town of Bridgewater to issue an additional license for the sale of all alcohol beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5342);

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.

Third reading bills.

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The House Bill authorizing the City of Westfield to establish an age limit for original appointment to the position of firefighter (House, No. 5288), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Westfield,—  
firefighters.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by adding the following section:

“SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.”.

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 5288, 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.

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At eleven minutes 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.