

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026.

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Thursday, June 11, 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.

Silent Tribute.

At the request of Representatives Haggerty of Woburn, Day of Stoneham and Ciccolo of Lexington, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute for a true pillar of the Woburn community, Michael P. Higgins.

Michael
Higgins.

Mike spent his entire life lifting others up. Whether he was guiding generations of athletes on the soccer field, serving for over thirty years at the Woburn District Court, working in local politics, or pioneering lifesaving advocacy through the Heroin Education Awareness Task Force.

Michael was the loving father of Woburn City Clerk Lindsay Higgins and her husband Shaun Garvey, Vanessa Higgins, and Patrice Larson and her husband Robert, and proud grandfather of Cooper Garvey. He is also survived by siblings: Patricia Meagher, James Higgins, Ann Marie Hardy, Thomas Higgins, Jr., Elizabeth Higgins, Mark Higgins. He was predeceased by his sister, Mary Durant.

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 House Chamber, 5th grade students from the Amvet Boulevard Elementary School in North Attleborough. At the invitation of the Chair, the students participated in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. They were the guests of Representative Scanlon of North Attleborough.

Amvet
Boulevard
Elementary
School.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Garballey of Arlington) declared a brief recess; and introduced, seated in the House Chamber, members of the Faggella-Luby family, who were visiting from Arlington, Texas. They were the guests of Ms. Barber of Somerville.

Faggella-Luby
family.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representative Fiola of Fall River) designating August 8th and 9th, 2026 as the sales tax holiday (House, No. 5495), were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Sales tax
holiday.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the

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

Petitions.

Representatives Badger of Plymouth and LaNatra of Kingston presented a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5497) of Michelle L. Badger (by vote of the town) relative to the date of the town meeting in the town of Plymouth; and the same was referred to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Plymouth,—
town
meeting.

Representative Duffy of Holyoke presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Patricia A. Duffy relative to the retirement benefits for Julia Flannery, the surviving spouse of the Honorable Francis Flannery; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Julia
Flannery,—
retirement.

Papers from the Senate.

A joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Michael D. Brady and Michelle M. DuBois for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Edward Suber, an employee of the department of youth services, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Public Service.

Edward
Suber,—
sick leave.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3120) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Public Service.

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:

Petition (accompanied by bill) of John J. Lawn, Jr. for legislation to establish contract and coverage standards for health care worker platforms. To the committee on Labor and Workforce Development.

Health care
worker
platforms.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of John Barrett, III relative to authorizing the firefighters of the Adams Fire District to continue service past the age of 65. To the committee on Public Service.

Gardner,—
Rice bridge.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Scanlon of North Attleborough, the reports were considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 then was suspended, in each instance. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

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

Senate bills

Establishing a sick leave bank for Shannon Manning, an employee of the trial court of the commonwealth (Senate, No. 2908, amended); and

Shannon
Manning

Establishing a sick leave bank for Stephanie Rivera, an employee of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office (Senate, No. 3031, amended); and

Stephanie
Rivera

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The House Bill relative to the maximum age requirement for original appointment to the position of firefighter or police officer (House, No. 4443) [Local Approval Received];

Haverhill,—
civil service.

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

Engrossed Bill.

Mr. Scanlon of North Attleborough in the Chair,—

The engrossed Bill authorizing the city known as the town of North Attleborough to establish a means-tested senior citizen property tax exemption (see House, No. 5392) (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.

Mr. Garballey of Arlington in the Chair,—

The Senate Bill providing accidental death benefits for the surviving spouse of a former firefighter of the city of Boston (Senate, No. 2574), having been 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.

The Senate Bill providing for the ownership and maintenance of the Town Line Brook and Linden Brook culverts and dams (Senate, No. 2967, amended), 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. Sent to the Senate for concurrence in the amendment previously adopted by the House.

Id.

House bills

Amending the charter of the city of Pittsfield (House, No. 4716); and
Authorizing the city of Newton to place municipal charges liens on property in the city of Newton for nonpayment of any local charge, fee or fine (House, No. 5358) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading);

Third
reading
bills.

Severally reported by said committee 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.

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At a quarter 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.