

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026.

[60]

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Wednesday, June 24, 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 submitting requests for making certain appropriations for fiscal year 2027 before final action on the General Appropriation Bill (House, No. 5534), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Monday, June 22. The message was read; and it was referred, under Rule 30, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Ways and Means.

State funds,—
emergency
expenditures.

Statement of Representative Xiarhos of Barnstable.

There being no objection,— During the session, Mr. Xiarhos of Barnstable took the Chair, made brief remarks to the members, guests and employees; and, on motion of Mr. Pease of Westfield, the remarks were spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

Mr. Speaker and my colleagues,

Today it is my great honor to rise and recognize the Sandwich High School Lady Blue Knights girls varsity lacrosse team, the 2026 MIAA Division 4 State Champions.

This historic victory marks the first state championship in program history, earned through determination, teamwork, and perseverance. The Blue Knights secured the title with a hard-fought 9 to 6 victory over Ipswich at Babson College in Wellesley on June 11, 2026. They finished an outstanding season with a 20 and 3 record.

In a tightly contested championship match, the score remained level through the first three quarters before Sandwich broke through in the final period, scoring three unanswered goals to secure the win. Sophomore Quinn Anderson contributed two key goals, and goalie Ashlynn Krueger delivered a standout defensive performance in the closing minutes to preserve the victory.

I also want to recognize their head coach, Kelsey Beaton, who has served the town of Sandwich for nearly 30 years as both a field hockey and lacrosse coach. Her long-standing dedication to student athletes has helped shape generations, and this championship reflects that commitment.

Behind this team stands a proud school community, supportive families, and a town that celebrates its student athletes with pride.

Today, in the people's house, we formally recognize their outstanding season and present this House citation in honor of their achievement.

Sandwich High
girls varsity
lacrosse team.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

On behalf of the Commonwealth, I congratulate the Sandwich Lady Blue Knights on becoming state champions, and I ask that we all join in celebrating their success.

Thank you, Mister Speaker.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representative Decker of Cambridge) honoring Transition House on fifty years of service to survivors of domestic violence and their families, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Transition House.

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

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Scarsdale of Pepperell, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5532) of Margaret R. Scarsdale (by vote of the town) that the town of Groton be authorized to prohibit the use of second generation anticoagulant rodenticides in said town; and

Groton,—
rodenticides.

By Representative Sena of Acton and Senator Eldridge, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5533) of Danillo A. Sena (by vote of the town) that the town of Boxborough be authorized to prohibit the use or sale of second-generation anti-coagulant rodenticides in said town.

Boxborough,—
rodenticides.

Severally to the committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Representative Scarsdale of Pepperell and Senator Howard presented a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Margaret R. Scarsdale and Vanna Howard for legislation to provide for the filling of a vacancy on the Groton-Dunstable School Committee; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Groton-
Dunstable
School
Committee.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules and the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, then reported recommending that Joint Rule 12 be suspended. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Xiarhos of Barnstable, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Election Laws. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill relative to primary care for you (Senate, No. 3141) (on Senate bill No. 3116), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Primary care.

A Bill removing the term hearing impaired from the General Laws (Senate, No. 3142) (on Senate bill No. 2120), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Hearing impaired.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Petitions were referred, in concurrence, as follows:

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3144) of Dylan A. Fernandes (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Bourne to convey a right-of-way and easement; and

Bourne,—
easement.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3138) of Rebecca L. Rausch (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Medfield to utilize alternative methods for notice of public hearings;

Medfield,—
public
hearings.

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3139) of Rebecca L. Rausch (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Medfield to continue the employment of David O'Toole as deputy fire chief. To the committee on Public Service.

Medfield,—
David
O'Toole.

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 joint petition of Dawne Shand and Barry R. Finegold for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Andrew Bartlett, an employee of the Department of Public Health. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Xiarhos of Barnstable, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Public Service. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Andrew
Bartlett,—
sick leave.

The following report was received, the time within which the said committee was required to report having expired:

By Mr. Cahill of Lynn, for the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security, on House, No. 4697, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security to make an investigation and study of a certain House document relative to the training, certification, and recognition of constables and civil deputy sheriffs (House, No. 5530). Referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Constables and
deputy sheriffs.

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.

Emergency Measures.

The engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Shannon Manning, an employee of the trial court of the commonwealth (see Senate, No. 2908, amended), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was considered, the question being on adopting the emergency preamble.

Shannon
Manning,—
sick leave.

A separate vote was taken, as required by the provisions of Article XLVIII (as amended by Article LXVII) of the Amendments to the Constitution; and the preamble was adopted, by a vote of 5 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Stephanie Rivera, an employee of the Worcester county sheriff's office (see Senate, No. 3031, amended),

Stephanie
Rivera,—
sick leave.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was considered, the question being on adopting the emergency preamble.

A separate vote was taken, as required by the provisions of Article XLVIII (as amended by Article LXVII) of the Amendments to the Constitution; and the preamble was adopted, by a vote of 5 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Providing for the election of candidates in the city of Haverhill (see House, No. 4203);

Bills
enacted.

Providing for the election of candidates in the city of Haverhill (see House, No. 4204); and

Extending the timeframe within which the town of Southbridge may grant additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (see House, No. 5096);

(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 amendment of the House Bill authorizing the town of Wayland to establish a millennium fund of the Wayland Free Public Library (House, No. 4137), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was adopted in concurrence.

Wayland,—
library.

The House Bill relative to James J. O'Neil Park (House, No. 4614, changed) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading), reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Lawrence,—
land.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by substitution of a bill with the same title (House, No. 5531), which was read.

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted bill 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 tomorrow at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

At twelve minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Pease of Westfield (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following day at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.