

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2025.**

[58]\*

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## JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

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Thursday, June 26, 2025.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M. 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 2026 before final action on the General Appropriation Bill (House, No. 4237), was filed in the office of the Clerk on Monday, June 23. 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.

### *Remarks of Speaker Mariano.*

There being no objection, Speaker Mariano made remarks to the members and employees, and to the citizens of the Commonwealth; and, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the remarks were spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

Gene DiPersio has dedicated the last 55 years of his life to the Massachusetts House of Representatives, first as a House page for 9 years, and then as a Court Officer for 45 years.

Gene  
DiPersio.

Since 2008, Gene has served as the House's Chief Court Officer, ensuring that every House session, every caucus, and every event that took place in this chamber ran smoothly.

So, on behalf of the entire House of Representatives, I want to thank Gene for his decades of service to the House, and to the Commonwealth.

I know that you're looking forward to spending more time with your grandson, and we wish you all the best in your next chapter.

### *Statement of Representative Cabral of New Bedford.*

A statement of Mr. Cabral of New Bedford was spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call to the attention of the House the fact that I am unable to be present in the House Chamber for today's sitting. Had I been present for the taking of Yea and Nay No. 58, on acceptance of the report of the committee of conference on the Joint Rules (see Senate, No. 2545), I would have voted in the affirmative.

Statement of  
Representative  
Cabral of  
New Bedford.

*Statement of Representative Garcia of Chelsea.*

A statement of Ms. Garcia of Chelsea was spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call to the attention of the House the fact that I am unable to be present in the House Chamber for today's sitting due to official business outside the State House traveling with a delegation from the city of Chelsea for the All-American City competition in Denver, Colorado. Had I been present for the taking of Yea and Nay No. 58, on acceptance of the report of the committee of conference on the Joint Rules (see Senate, No. 2545), I would have voted in the affirmative. My missing of said roll call was due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of  
Representative  
Garcia of  
Chelsea.

*Statement of Representative Markey of Dartmouth.*

A statement of Mr. Markey of Dartmouth was spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call to the attention of the House the fact that I am unable to be present in the House Chamber for today's sitting. Had I been present for the taking of Yea and Nay No. 58, on acceptance of the report of the committee of conference on the Joint Rules (see Senate, No. 2545), I would have voted in the affirmative.

Statement of  
Representative  
Markey of  
Dartmouth.

*Statement of Representative Nguyen of Andover.*

A statement of Ms. Nguyen of Andover was spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call to the attention of the House the fact that I am unable to be present in the House Chamber for today's sitting due to a previously scheduled work trip. Had been present, I would have voted in the affirmative on Yea and Nay No. 58, on acceptance of the conference report on the Joint Rules (see Senate, No. 2545). My missing of said roll call is due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of  
Representative  
Nguyen of  
Andover.

*Statement of Representative Rogers of Cambridge.*

A statement of Mr. Rogers of Cambridge was spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call to the attention of the House the fact that I am unable to be present in the House Chamber for today's sitting due to official business outside of the State House at the National Conference of State Legislatures' Higher Education Task Force. Had been present, I would have voted in the affirmative on Yea and Nay No. 58, on acceptance of the conference report on the Joint Rules (see Senate, No. 2545). My missing of roll call is due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of  
Representative  
Rogers of  
Cambridge.

*Remote Participation.*

Notice had been received from House Counsel that, under the provisions of House Rule 49, Representatives Barber of Somerville, Duffy of Holyoke and

Remote  
participation.

Sullivan-Almeida of Abington had been approved to participate remotely for today's formal sitting.

*Resolutions.*

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Lawn of Watertown and other members of the House) congratulating Dolores Hayes on her retirement from the Massachusetts House of Representatives; and

Dolores  
Hayes.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Sylvia of Fairhaven) honoring Joy Nichols upon her retirement after twenty-nine years of distinguished public service;

Joy  
Nichols.

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. Lawn of Watertown, 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 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 May, 2025;

Sports  
wagering  
revenue.

From the State Retiree Benefits Trust ("HST") Board (see Section 24(f) of Chapter 32A of the General Laws) submitting the approved budget for said board for fiscal year 2026 [a copy of the communication was forwarded to the committee on Public Service, for their information];

State Retiree  
Benefits  
Trust.

From the Division of Banks (see Section 13 of Chapter 167 of the General Laws) submitting its annual report fiscal year 2024; and

Division  
of Banks.

From the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (see Section 25 of Chapter 173 of the Acts of 2022) submitting a study on the participation by minority business enterprises, women business enterprises and veteran business enterprises in the sports wagering industry of the Commonwealth;

Sports  
wagering  
industry.

Severally were placed on file.

*Monthly Reports.*

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 May, 2025; and

Net state  
tax revenue.

Of the Department of Unemployment Assistance (under Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) relative to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund for May, 2025;

Unemployment  
Insurance Trust  
Fund.

Severally were placed on file.

*Reports of Committees.*

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for James Caruso, an employee of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (House, No. 4230). Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

James  
Caruso,—  
sick leave.

Mr. Honan of Boston, for said committee, reported that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

*Recess.*

At six minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House recessed until one o'clock P.M.; and at seven minutes after two o'clock P.M., the House was called to order with Ms. Hogan of Stow in the Chair.

Recess.

*Papers from the Senate.*

A report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches, with reference to the House amendment (striking out the text in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 2026) of the Senate Order relative to the adoption of permanent Joint Rules for the 194th General Court governing the 2025-2026 legislative sessions (Senate, No. 18, amended), recommending passage of an Order relative to Joint Rules governing the 2025-2026 legislative session (Senate, No. 2545), came from the Senate with the endorsement that it had been accepted by said branch. The report of the committee of conference was referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Joint Rules  
2025-2026  
session.

Mr. Honan of Boston, for said committee, then reported that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Jones of North Reading, the report was considered forthwith.

After debate on the question on acceptance of the report, in concurrence, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays at the request of Mr. Michael Moran of Boston; and on the roll call 147 members voted in the affirmative and 2 in the negative.

Conference  
committee  
report  
accepted,—  
yea and nay  
No. 58.

**[See [Yea and Nay No. 58](#) in Supplement.]**

Therefore the report of the committee of conference was accepted, in concurrence.

There being no objection,— The following order came from the Senate with the endorsement that it had been adopted by said branch, as follows:

*Ordered*, That all matters that are currently before the joint committee on Agriculture established under the order establishing the temporary rules of the two branches for the 2025-2026 legislative session are hereby transferred to the joint committee on Agriculture and Fisheries; and

Agriculture  
and Fisheries  
and Aging and  
Independence  
committees.

Be it further ordered, that all matters currently before the joint committee on Elder Affairs established under the order establishing the temporary rules of the two branches for the 2025-2026 legislative session are hereby transferred to the joint committee on Aging and Independence; and

Be it further ordered, that the current members of the joint committee on Agriculture so established shall hereby be the members of the joint committee on Agriculture and Fisheries and the current members of the joint committee on Elder Affairs so established shall hereby be the members of the joint committee on Aging and Independence.

The order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted, in concurrence.

A report from the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (pursuant to Section 9B of Chapter 128A and Section 222 of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) submitting proposed regulations for 205 CMR 3.00 relative to harness horse racing (Senate, No. 2539), was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Harness  
horse  
racing.

*Recess.*

At eleven minutes after three o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at sixteen minutes after five o'clock, the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Recess.

*Orders of the Day.*

The House Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Eric J. Iwaniec, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth (House, No. 1590) (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.

Third  
reading  
bill.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:

*"Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to establish forthwith a sick leave bank for a certain employee of the trial court of the commonwealth, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience."*

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 1590, 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 eighteen minutes after five o'clock P.M., on motion of Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.