

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2026.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Wednesday, July 1, 2026.

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 Representatives Badger of Plymouth and LaNatra of Kingston, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute to the memory of Roberta “Bobbi” Phyllis Clark of Plymouth, who passed away peacefully on June 17, 2026, at the age of 93.

Roberta
“Bobbi”
Phyllis Clark.

Bobbi was deeply committed to the Plymouth community, serving on the Plymouth Public Library Foundation, the Plymouth Antiquarian Society Board, and the Plymouth Center Steering Committee. A pioneer in broadcast journalism, she began her career at WIND Radio in Chicago and later worked for WMAQ-TV, the NBC affiliate, where she served as a producer and earned five Emmy Awards. After returning to Massachusetts, she became a trusted voice through 25 years of reporting for WATD Radio.

An accomplished actor, playwright, and producer, Bobbi shared her passion for storytelling through the arts and local history. She will be remembered for her creativity, generosity, and dedication to Plymouth. Her legacy lives on through her children, grandchildren, friends, and the countless lives she touched.

During the session (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), at the request of Mr. Kearney of Scituate, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute to the memory of Chris Matthews.

Chris
Matthews.

Chris dedicated his life to public service and to strengthening our democratic process. He served on the Democratic Town Committees in Norwell, Scituate, Hull and Weymouth, was an elected member of the Massachusetts Democratic State Committee, Chair of the South Shore Democratic Caucus and District Outreach and Communications Director for Congressman Bill Keating. He was respected for his leadership, his generosity and his unwavering commitment to his community.

Above all, Chris was a devoted partner to Molly, a loving presence in the life of her son, Eli, and a faithful companion to their beloved dog, June. An avid sailor, he found joy on the water and brought the same sense of purpose and calm to everyone who knew him.

Statement of Representative Day of Stoneham.

A statement of Mr. Day of Stoneham 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 was unable to be present in the House Chamber for the sitting of Wednesday, June 17th due to previously scheduled official business outside the State House. Had I been present, I would have voted in the affirmative on yea and nay numbers 217 to 220, inclusive. My missing of roll calls was due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of Representative Day of Stoneham.

Statement of Representative Farley-Bouvier of Pittsfield.

A statement of Ms. Farley-Bouvier of Pittsfield 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 previously scheduled official business outside the State House. I have obligations in my district as the Governor will be visiting several locations in Pittsfield. My missing of roll calls today is due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of Representative Farley-Bouvier of Pittsfield.

Remote Participation.

Notice had been received from House Counsel that, under the provisions of House Rule 49, Representatives Cruz of Salem and Ferguson of Holden had been approved to participate remotely for today's formal sitting.

Remote participation.

Petition.

Representative Silvia of Fall River and Senator Rodrigues presented a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5556) of Alan Silvia and Carole A. Fiola (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to Fall River polling places; and the same was referred to the committee on Election Laws. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Fall River,—polling places.

Papers from the Senate.

The Senate Bill to build resilience for Massachusetts communities (Senate, No. 3064), came from the Senate with the endorsement that said branch had non-concurred with the House in its amendments (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 5518).

Environmental bond bill.

The bill bore the further endorsement that the Senate had asked for a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches; and that Senators Cyr, Rausch and Durant had been appointed the committee on the part of the Senate.

Committee of conference.

On motion of Ms. Barber of Somerville, the House insisted on its amendment; and concurred with the Senate in the appointment of a committee of conference. Representatives Finn of West Springfield, Barber of Somerville and Swezey of Duxbury were appointed the committee on the part of the House. Sent to the Senate to be noted.

Id.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

The House Bill enhancing child welfare protections (House, No. 4646), 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 3121.

Child welfare
protections.

Under suspension of Rule 35, on motion of Mr. Livingstone of Boston, the amendment was considered forthwith. The House then non-concurred with the Senate in its amendment; and, on motion of the same member, asked for a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches. Representatives Livingstone, Garcia of Chelsea and Sullivan-Almeida of Abington were appointed the committee on the part of the House. Sent to the Senate to be joined.

Committee of
conference.

A report of the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, that the communication from the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (under the provisions of Section 9B of Chapter 128A of the General Laws and Section 222 of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) submitting proposed regulations for Harness Horse Racing 205 CMR 3.00 and Pari-Mutuel Rules for Thoroughbred Racing, Harness Racing, and Grey Hound Racing 205 CMR 6.00 (Senate, No. 3096), recommending that the same be placed on file was accepted, in concurrence.

Thoroughbred
racing,—
regulations.

Reports

Of the committee on Public Service, recommending that the report of the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission PERAC (pursuant to Section 50 of Chapter 7 of the General Laws) submitting proposed amendments to the rules and regulations governing retirement of public employees in Massachusetts (840 CMR 28.00) (see Senate, No. 2923), be placed on file; and

Public
employees,—
retirement.

Of the committee on Revenue, recommending that the report of the Massachusetts Capital Resource Company (under the provisions of Section 20 of Chapter 816 of the Acts of 1977) submitting its forty-eighth annual report (see Senate, No. 28), be placed on file;

Massachusetts
Capital Resource
Company.

Severally having been accepted by the Senate were considered forthwith, under Rule 42; and they were accepted, in concurrence.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3147) of Bruce E. Tarr and Kristin E. Kassner (by vote of the town) for legislation to amend the town charter of Ipswich, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Ipswich,—
charter.

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:

Joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Leigh Davis relative to tenant representation on the Great Barrington Housing Authority board. To the committee on Housing.

Great Barrington
Housing
Authority.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Margaret R. Scarsdale for legislation to amend the sick leave bank for Matthew McRae, an employee of the Department of State Police. To the committee on Public Service.

Matthew
McRae,—
sick leave.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

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

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, that the Resolve for a foster care and child care liability insurance special commission (House, No. 5024) ought to pass. Referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Foster care,—
liability
insurance.

By Mr. Lewis of Framingham, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a joint petition, a Bill amending the charter of the town of North Attleborough (House, No. 5426) [Local Approval Received].

North
Attleborough,—
charter.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill providing for the appointment of associate members of the Planning Board of the town of Tisbury to fill vacancies on the board (House, No. 5434) [Local Approval Received].

Tisbury,—
planning
board.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill modernizing financial departments in the city of Holyoke (House, No. 5448) [Local Approval Received].

Holyoke,—
financial
departments.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to amending the Traffic Commission in the city of Westfield (House, No. 5449) [Local Approval Received].

Westfield,—
traffic
commission.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill amending Chapter 305 of the Acts of 2016 relative to the year-round market rate rental housing trust fund in the town of Provincetown (House, No. 5456) [Local Approval Received].

Provincetown,—
housing
trust.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to a conservation restriction in the town of Middleton (House, No. 5463) [Local Approval Received].

Middleton,—
conservation
restriction.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the transfer of certain parcels of land in the town of Weston from the Weston conservation commission to the select board (House, No. 5467) [Local Approval Received].

Weston,—
land.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill relative to amending the town charter of the town of Provincetown (House, No. 5476) [Local Approval Received].

Provincetown,—
charter.

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Engrossed Bills.

Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair,—

Engrossed bills

Directing the city of Boston police department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Adam Watt (see House, No. 3928);

Bills
enacted.

Directing the city of Boston police department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Rodney Alcindor (see House, No. 4254);

Directing the city of Boston police department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Jonathan Telfort (see House, No. 4255);

Amending the charter of the town of Hudson (see House, No. 4782);

Authorizing the town of Plymouth to establish a special revenue account for land acquisition (see House, No. 4887); and

Authorizing the town of Falmouth to expend funds to offset certain costs associated with the installation of low pressure pumps on private property in future sewer service areas (see House, No. 5109);

(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.

Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair,—

The engrossed Bill amending the charter of the city known as the town of Randolph regarding compensation of town council and school committee members and meetings of multiple-member bodies (see House, No. 4891), 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.

Reports of Committees.

Prior to the noon recess (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair),— By Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Bill providing for fairness and equity for Massachusetts Water Resources Authority employees (House, No. 2896), ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor a bill with the same title (House, No. 5551). Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Massachusetts
Water
Resources
Authority.

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. Michlewitz of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith.

The amendment recommended by the committee on Ways and Means then was adopted; and the substituted bill was ordered to a third reading.

Subsequently, the noon recess having terminated, under suspension of the rules, on motion of the same member, the bill (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. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Prior to the noon recess,— By Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Bill releasing certain land use restrictions held by the commonwealth in the city of Revere (House, No. 5190), ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor a bill with the same title (House, No. 5552). Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Revere,—
land.

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. Michlewitz of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith.

The amendment recommended by the committee on Ways and Means then was adopted; and the substituted bill was ordered to a third reading.

Subsequently, the noon recess having terminated, under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Giannino of Revere, the bill (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. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Prior to the noon recess,— By Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Bill authorizing the division of capital asset management and maintenance to take by eminent domain certain land in the town of Norwood (House, No. 5192), ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor a bill with the same title (House, No. 5553). Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Norwood,—
land.

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. Michlewitz of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith.

The amendment recommended by the committee on Ways and Means then was adopted; and the substituted bill was ordered to a third reading.

Subsequently, the noon recess having terminated, under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Rogers of Norwood, the bill (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. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Recess.

At twenty-three minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed until one o'clock P.M.; and at nine minutes after two o'clock, the House was called to order with Ms. Hogan of Stow in the Chair.

Recess.

Reports of Committees.

Prior to the noon recess (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair),— By Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Senate Bill relative to toxic-free medical devices (Senate, No. 3106), ought to pass with an amendment by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 5550. Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Medical
devices.

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. Michlewitz of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith.

The amendment recommended by the committee on Ways and Means then was adopted; and the bill (Senate, No. 3106, amended) 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. Jones of North Reading, the bill (having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) was read a third time.

After remarks on the question on passing the bill, as amended, to be engrossed, in concurrence, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, at the request of Mr. O'Day of West Boylston; and on the roll call 149 members voted in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

Bill passed to
be engrossed,—
yea and nay
No. 221.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 221](#) in Supplement.]

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Therefore the bill (Senate, No. 3106, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence in the amendment adopted by the House.

Prior to the noon recess (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair),— By Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Senate Bill improving campaign finance reporting for statewide ballot questions (Senate, No. 2916), ought to pass with an amendment by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 5549 [Representative Pease of Westfield dissenting]. Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Ballot questions,— reporting.

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. Michlewitz of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith.

The amendment recommended by the committee on Ways and Means then was adopted; and the bill (Senate, No. 2916, amended) 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. Jones of North Reading, the bill (having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) was read a third time.

After debate on the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Jones of North Reading and other members of the House moved to amend it in section 14, in line 108, by striking out the figure: “9” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “13”, in line 109, by inserting after the word “co-chairs” the words “; the chairs of the joint committee on the judiciary.”; and in line 119, by inserting after the word “years” the following: “; 1 member of the house of representatives designated by the minority leader of the house of representatives; 1 member of the senate designated by the minority leader of the senate.”.

The amendments were adopted.

Representatives Scanlon of North Attleborough and Sangiolo of Newton then moved to amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following section:

“SECTION 2A. Section 53 of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “finances”, in line 20, the following words:-, a notice directing voters to the website maintained by the office of campaign and political finance containing the campaign finance reports of the ballot question committees organized to support or oppose each measure.”.

The amendment was adopted.

After remarks on the question on passing the bill, as amended, to be engrossed, in concurrence, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, at the request of Mr. Hunt of Boston; and on the roll call 149 members voted in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

Bill passed to be engrossed,— yea and nay No. 222.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 222](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the bill (Senate, No. 2916, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence in the amendment adopted by the House.

At three minutes before four o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Jones of North Reading (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), the House recessed until twenty minutes after five o'clock P.M.; and at twenty-six minutes after five o'clock, the House was called to order with Mr. Donato of Medford in the Chair.

Recess.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

By Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches, with reference to the Senate amendment (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 3100) of 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), reported, in part, a bill with the same title (House, No. 5555) [Total Appropriation: \$63,416,035,455.00]. Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

General
Appropriation
Bill.

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. Michlewitz of Boston, the report was considered forthwith.

After debate on the question on acceptance of the report, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, at the request of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston; and on the roll call 142 members voted in the affirmative and 6 in the negative.

Conference
committee
report
accepted,—
yea and nay
No. 223.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 223](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the report of the committee of conference was accepted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed 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 (see House, No. 5555), 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.

General
Appropriation
Bill

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 45 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Subsequently, the Senate having concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, the bill (which originated in the House) was put upon its final passage.

On the question on passing the bill to be enacted, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays (this being a bill providing for the taking of land or other easements used for conservation purposes, etc., as defined by Article XCVII of the Amendments to the Constitution); and on the roll call 142 members voted in the affirmative and 6 in the negative.

Bill enacted
(land taking),—
yea and nay
No. 224.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 224](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the bill was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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.

Mr. Jones of North Reading then moved that the House adjourn; and the motion prevailed. Accordingly, without proceeding to consideration of the matters in the Orders of the Day, at two minutes after seven o'clock P.M. (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.