

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2025.

[62]

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, July 10, 2025.

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 — Disapprovals and Recommendations of Amendments in General Appropriation Bill.

A message from Her Excellency the Governor returning with her disapproval of certain items and reductions in certain items, and also with recommendation of amendments of certain sections contained in the engrossed Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2026 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. 4240] (for message, see House, No. 4250), filed in the office of the Clerk on Friday, July 4, was read.

General
Appropriation
Bill,—
disapprovals and
amendments.

So much of the message as relates to the disapprovals were referred, under Rule 30, to the committee on Ways and Means.

So much of the message as relates to the sections returned with recommendations of amendments were referred, as follows:

Sections 20, 23 and 110 — Printed as House, No. 4248; and

Section 29 — Printed as House, No. 4249.

Severally, on motion of Mr. Walsh of Peabody, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representative McKenna of Sutton) congratulating Fire Chief Brian C. Hickey on his retirement from the town of Webster Fire Department, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Brian
Hickey.

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 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 Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see item 4000-0700 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting a report on MassHealth Dental Coverage;

MassHealth dental coverage.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see item 1595-1071 of Section 2E of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the Community Behavioral Health Promotion and Prevention Trust Fund fiscal year 2025 transfer schedule;

Community Behavioral Health Trust Fund.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and the Executive Office for Housing and Livable Communities (see Section 22 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the June 26, 2025 biweekly report on the emergency housing assistance program; and

Emergency housing assistance.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see item 1599-0514 of Section 2 of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023 and Section 19 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the monthly Working Training for Emergency Assistance Residents report for June, 2025;

Workforce training fund.

Severally were placed on file.

Annual Reports.

The annual report of the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (under Section 11 of Chapter 7D of the General Laws) on data collection and reporting in the criminal justice system for fiscal year 2025, was placed on file.

Criminal justice data collection.

Petitions.

Representative Montaña of Boston presented a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4262) of Samantha Montaña (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to ranked choice voting in the city of Boston; and the same was referred to the committee on Election Laws. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Boston,—ranked choice voting.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Barber of Somerville, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Christine P. Barber relative to applied behavioral analysis reimbursement rates.

Behavioral analysis.

By Representative Stanley of Waltham, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Thomas M. Stanley and Michael J. Barrett for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Alexandra Schwartz, an employee of the Massachusetts Department of State Police.

Alexandra Schwartz,—sick leave.

Severally, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

A petition (subject to Joint Rule 9) of Adrian C. Madaro relative to modernizing the governance of port authority parks in the East Boston section of the city of Boston (having been returned by the State Secretary with a letter stating that the petitioner had failed to file proof of notice of publication), was placed on file.

Port authority,—governance.

Paper from the Senate.

A report of the committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1403) of Cindy F. Friedman, Joanne M. Comerford, Mike Connolly, Adam Gómez and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to reducing administrative burden, and recommending that the same be referred to the

Administrative burden.

committee on Health Care Financing,—accepted by the Senate, was considered forthwith, under Rule 42; and it was accepted, in concurrence.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the House Bill authorizing the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority to supply water to the Lynnfield Center Water District within the town of Lynnfield (House, No. 972), be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Lynnfield
Center
Water
District.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Owens of Watertown, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Transportation, on House, No. 53, a Bill financing long-term improvements to municipal roads and bridges (House, No. 4257). Referred, under Joint Rule 1F, to the committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets.

Municipal
roads and
bridges.

By Mr. Lewis of Framingham, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill enhancing municipal bonding efficacy (House, No. 2257).

Municipal
bonding.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to establishing a commission to study municipal licenses (House, No. 2311).

Municipal
licenses.

Severally read; and referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committee on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

By Mr. Lewis of Framingham, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Southborough to issue pension obligation bonds or notes (House, No. 2262) [Local Approval Received].

Southborough,—
bonds.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing for pre-service training for members of local boards and commissions (House, No. 2265).

Local boards,—
training.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill regarding land use board training (House, No. 2299).

Board
training.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing the Dukes County Sheriff's regional lockup fund (House, No. 2314).

Dukes
County.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to update the public shade tree law (House, No. 2322).

Public
shade.

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Hunt of Boston, for the committee on Election Laws, on a petition, a Bill relative to the town of Cheshire's special election (House, No. 801) [Local Approval Received].

Cheshire,—
special
election.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a message from Her Excellency the Governor, a Bill validating the results of the special election held in the town of Hardwick on January 18, 2025 (printed in House, No. 4004).

Hardwick,—
special
election.

By Ms. Barber of Somerville, for the committee on Environment and Natural Resources, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority to provide sewer services to a certain parcel of land in the town of Sharon (House, No. 1024) [Representative Gaskey of Carver dissenting].

Sharon,—
land.

By Ms. Barber of Somerville, for the committee on Environment and Natural Resources, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority to provide sewer services to a certain parcel of land in the town of Sharon (House, No. 4009) [Representative Gaskey of Carver dissenting].	Id.
By Mr. Lewis of Framingham, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill relative to legal advertisements and public notices (House, No. 2243).	Legal and public notices.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to making the charter of the city of Chicopee gender neutral (House, No. 2244) [Local Approval Received].	Chicopee,—charter.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to further increasing the fines for cruelty to animals, and establishing a fund dedicated to improvements for local animal shelters (House, No. 2247).	Animal cruelty.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing a special fund for the festival of the hills receipts for the town of Conway (House, No. 2251) [Local Approval Received].	Conway,—fund.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the Cotuit Fire District (House, No. 2258).	Cotuit Fire District.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the Cotuit Fire District to raise and appropriate money for the Historical Society of Santuit and Cotuit (House, No. 2259).	Id.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to firefighter residency (House, No. 2260).	Firefighters,—residency.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill Bridgewater town charter article II, legislative branch section 2-13(a) annual stipend [sic] (House, No. 2268) [Local Approval Received].	Bridgewater,—stipends.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill Bridgewater town charter article IV, town manager "temporary absence" [sic] (House, No. 2269) [Local Approval Received].	Bridgewater,—town manager.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Avon to appoint a town clerk (House, No. 2270) [Local Approval Received].	Avon,—clerk.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Sudbury to establish a fee for checkout bags (House, No. 2273) [Local Approval Received].	Sudbury,—bag fee.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the city of Revere to pay a certain sum of money to Denise Mattera (Condelli), widow of School Committeeman Anthony Mattera (House, No. 2275) [Local Approval Received].	Revere,—Denise Mattera.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to local option for associate members of planning boards (House, No. 2300).	Planning boards.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to special education reserve funds (House, No. 2303).	Special education.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to a regional school assessment reserve fund (House, No. 2304).	Regional schools.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the Regional Commissions on the Status of Women (House, No. 2313).	Status of women.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill relative to the position of treasurer-collector in the town of Berkley (House, No. 2320) [Local Approval Received].	Berkley,—treasurer-collector.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to local journalism (House, No. 2323).

Local
journalism.

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

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.

At eight minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Jones of North Reading (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.