

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, JULY 13, 2026.

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Monday, July 13, 2026.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, 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 Prayer.

At the request of Representative Kushmerek of Fitchburg, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute to the memory of Deputy Chief Patrick James "PJ" Roy, who passed away on Wednesday morning, July 8, 2026 in Worcester, at the age of 45.

Patrick James
"PJ" Roy.

PJ was born in Fitchburg on October 30, 1980, he was a lifelong resident of Fitchburg.

PJ served the city of Fitchburg as a member of the Fitchburg Fire Department for the past 20 years, rising to the rank of Deputy Chief. He also faithfully served as a member of the Ashby Fire Department. Throughout his career, he was known for his dedication, leadership, and unwavering commitment to protecting and serving his community.

In 2019, PJ was honored with the Norman Knight Award for Community Service at the Firefighter of the Year Award. He was also recognized among Fitchburg Firefighters in 2016 and 2025 for heroism and meritorious conduct.

He leaves his loving mother, children, brother, nephews, and significant other, as well as extended family members, firefighters, and friends.

Guests of the House.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), declared a brief recess and introduced, seated in the Chamber, the Boston Housing Authority Youth Council. They were guests of Mr. Consalvo of Boston.

Boston Housing
Authority
Youth Council.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Peisch of Wellesley) honoring A Path in the Woods Foundation for its dedication to opening new doors to the youth in the community; and

A Path in
the Woods
Foundation.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Sousa of Framingham, Lewis of Framingham, Gregoire of Marlborough and Donaghue of Westborough) honoring the

Latino Health
Insurance
Program.

Latino Health Insurance Program, Inc. on the occasion of its twentieth anniversary of service to the Commonwealth;

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. Walsh of Peabody, 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 Berthiaume of Spencer and Senator Durant, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5577) of Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr. (by vote of the town) relative to the department of public works in the town of Barre; and

Barre,—
public
works.

By Representatives Kassner of Hamilton and Kerans of Danvers, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5578) of Kristin E. Kassner and Sally P. Kerans (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize print-free digital legal notices in the town of Topsfield.

Topsfield,—
legal notices.

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

By Representative Davis of Great Barrington and Senator Mark, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5579) of Leigh Davis (by vote of the town) that the town of Stockbridge be authorized to modify employment for the fire department of said town. To the committee on Public Service.

Stockbridge,—
fire department.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Papers from the Senate.

The Senate Bill honoring Blue Star Families (Senate, No. 2903, amended), came from the Senate with the endorsement that said branch had concurred with the House in its amendment (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 5439), with a further amendment in lines 11, 12 and 13 striking out the sentence contained in those lines and inserting in place thereof the following sentence: "A law enforcement officer shall be deemed to have been killed in the line of duty for purposes of this paragraph if, while in the performance of their duties and as a result of incident, accident or violence, the law enforcement officer was killed or sustained injuries which were a direct and proximate cause of their death.".

Blue Star
Families.

The further amendment was referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading. Subsequently, the further amendment (reported by said committee to be correctly drawn) was adopted, in concurrence.

Bills

Updating the juvenile justice policy and data board (Senate, No. 116) (on a petition); and

Juvenile
justice.

Further regulating insurance claims (Senate, No. 785) (on a petition);

Insurance.

Severally passed to be engrossed by the Senate, were read; and they were referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

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 Simon Cataldo for legislation to establish a Great Brook State Park trust fund. To the committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Great Brook
State Park.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Thomas W. Moakley for legislation to designate the regional lockup as a part of the Dukes County Jail and House of Correction. To the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security.

Dukes County,—
regional lockup.

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

By Mr. Lawn of Watertown, for the committee on Health Care Financing, asking to be discharged from further consideration of House Bill to enforce laws protecting worksite safety (House, No. 2101),— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

Worksites,—
safety.

Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence in so much as relates to the discharge.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the House Bill authorizing the town of Lynnfield to impose a local sales tax upon restaurant meals originating within the town (House, No. 5417) [Local Approval Received], be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Lynnfield,—
sales tax.

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

By Mr. Madaro of Boston, for the committee on Revenue, on House, Nos. 3086, 3110, 3194 and 3261, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Revenue to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to tax credits, offshore taxes, deeds excise and tax on executive compensation (House, No. 5574).

Taxes and
deeds,—
study.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 5160 and 5260, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Revenue to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to lottery revenues and foreign pension benefits (House, No. 5575).

Lottery
revenues and
foreign pension
benefits,—
study.

Severally referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Subsequently, Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committees, reported, in each instance, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the orders; and recommending that the same severally be referred to the House committee on Rules.

Under Rule 42, the reports severally were considered forthwith; and they were accepted.

By Mr. Madaro of Boston, for the committee on the Revenue, ought NOT to pass, on the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1923) of Michael J. Barrett, James B. Eldridge and Patricia D. Jehlen for legislation to repeal certain tax exemptions for aircraft.

Aircraft,—
tax exemption.

By the same member, for the same committee, ought NOT to pass, on the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1931) of William N. Brownsberger for legislation to increase the valuation limit for the senior circuit breaker.

Senior circuit
breaker,—
limit.

By the same member, for the same committee, ought NOT to pass, on the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1943) of Brendan P. Crighton for legislation relative to rolling stock.

Rolling
stock.

By the same member, for the same committee, ought NOT to pass, on the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1954) of Julian Cyr for legislation to create a National Guard state tax exemption.

National Guard,—
state tax
exemption.

By the same member, for the same committee, ought NOT to pass, on the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1958) of Sal N. DiDomenico for legislation to establish a tax incentive program for micro businesses to hire formerly incarcerated individuals and individuals receiving transitional benefits.

Micro
businesses,—
tax incentives.

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

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Regulating the issuance of licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages in the town of Bolton (see Senate, No. 2628, amended);

Bills
enacted.

Further regulating the amendment of a conservation restriction in the town of Hanson (see Senate, No. 2895, amended); and

Honoring Blue Star Families (see Senate, No. 2903, amended);

(Which severally originated in the Senate);

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 Bill increasing the amount of parking fines in the town of Scituate (Senate, No. 2577) (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; and it was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

Third
reading
bill.

House bills

Authorizing the town of Auburn to offer expanded senior property tax abatements (House, No. 4585); and

Third
reading
bills.

Relative to a conservation restriction in the town of Middleton (House, No. 5463);

Severally reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading 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 Wednesday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

At two minutes before one 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 Wednesday at eleven o'clock A.M.