

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2026.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, July 23, 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.

Statement of Representative Rogers of Norwood.

A statement of Mr. Rogers of Norwood 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 a portion of the preceding sitting of Wednesday, July 22nd due to official business in another part of the State House. If I had been present for the taking of yea and nay No. 236, I would have voted in the negative. My missing of said roll call was due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of
Mr. Rogers of
Norwood.

Communications.

Communications

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see Section 2EEEEEE(e) of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting a report on the activities of and expenditures from the Commonwealth Federal Match and Debt Reduction Fund as of June, 2026;

Federal
funds.

From the Division of Banks (see Section 13 of Chapter 167 of the General Laws) submitting its annual report for calendar year 2025;

Division
of Banks.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and the Executive Office for Housing and Livable Communities (see Section 10 of Chapter 1 and Section 88 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 2025 and Section 19 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the May 28, 2026 biweekly report on the emergency housing assistance program;

Emergency
housing
assistance.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and the Executive Office for Housing and Livable Communities (see Section 10 of Chapter 1 and Section 88 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 2025 and Section 19 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the June 11, 2026 biweekly report on the emergency housing assistance program;

Id.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and the Executive Office for Housing and Livable Communities (see Section 10 of Chapter 1 and Section 88 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 2025 and Section 19 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the June 25, 2026 biweekly report on the emergency housing assistance program; and

Id.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see item 4000-0300 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting a report from the Special Commission on Access to Behavioral Health Services for Children and Families; Severally were placed on file.

Children and families,—
health services.

Special Report.

A report of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (under Section 109 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting a report from the Massachusetts Telehealth Task Force, was placed on file.

Telehealth.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Saunders of Belchertown, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5602) of Aaron L. Saunders (by vote of the town) that the town of Ludlow be authorized to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be consumed on premises in said town. To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Ludlow,—
liquor
license.

By Representative Hogan of Stow, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5603) of Kate Hogan (by vote of the town) that the town of Stow be authorized to use print-free digital legal notices in said town; and

Stow,—
digital legal
notices.

By Representative Saunders of Belchertown, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5604) of Aaron L. Saunders (by vote of the town) relative to the recreation department and recreation commission in the town of Ludlow.

Ludlow,—
recreation
department.

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Papers from the Senate.

The Senate Bill improving campaign finance reporting for statewide ballot questions (Senate, No. 2916, amended), came from the Senate with the endorsement that said branch had non-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 5558).

Ballot
questions,—
reporting.

The bill bore the further endorsement that the Senate had appointed a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches; and that Senators DiDomenico, Oliveira and Fattman had been appointed to the committee on the part of the Senate.

Committee of
conference.

On motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the House insisted on its amendment; and concurred with the Senate in the appointment of a committee of conference. Representatives Hunt of Boston, Peisch of Wellesley and Frost of Auburn were appointed the committee on the part of the House. Sent to the Senate to be noted.

Id.

The House Bill to improve Massachusetts home care (House, No. 4706, amended), 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 3183.

Home care.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the amendment was considered forthwith. The House then non-concurred with the Senate

Committee of
conference.

in its amendment; and, on motion of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, asked for a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches. Representatives Stanley of Waltham, Moran of Lawrence and DeCoste of Norwell were appointed the committee on the part of the House. Sent to the Senate to be joined.

The House Bill requiring health care employers to develop and implement programs to prevent workplace violence (House, No. 4767, amended), 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 3184.

Workplace violence,—prevention.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the amendment was considered forthwith. The House then non-concurred with the Senate in its amendment; and, on motion of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, asked for a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches. Representatives Day of Stoneham, Fluker-Reid of Boston and Kane of Shrewsbury were appointed the committee on the part of the House. Sent to the Senate to be joined.

Committee of conference.

Subsequently notice was received from the Senate that said branch had insisted on its amendment, concurred with the House in the appointment of a committee of conference; and that Senators Friedman, Lovely and Dooner had been joined as the committee on the part of the Senate.

Id.

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 petition of Danilo A. Sena relative to the retirement classification of Crystal Swinimer, an employee of the Middlesex county sheriff's office. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, 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.

Crystal Swinimer,—retirement.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the following bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

The Senate Bill relative to the dissolution of the Holmes Park Water District (Senate, No. 3160); and

Holmes Park Water District.

The House Bill designating a certain bridge in the city of Gardner as the Representative Robert L. Rice, Jr. bridge (House, No. 5503);

Gardner,—Rice bridge.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Owens of Watertown, the bills severally were read a second time forthwith; and they were ordered to a third reading.

By Mr. Madaro of Boston, for the committee on Revenue, on Senate, Nos. 1944, 1945, 1946, 1949, 1952, 1959, 1960, 1965, 1976, 1977, 1979, 1982, 1984, 1987, 1989, 1990, 1995, 1996, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2020, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2035, 2039, 2040, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2050, 2053, 2055, 2056, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2068, 2075, 2078, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2090, 2091 and 2098, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Revenue to make an investigation and study of certain Senate documents relative to sales tax, estate tax, tax credits, and other revenue matters (House, No. 5596) [Senator Fattman

Sales tax, estate tax, etc.,—study.

dissenting]. 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, 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.

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that the following House bills ought to pass:

Expanding access to perimenopause and menopause care (House, No. 5303); and

Establishing Medicare for All in Massachusetts (House, No. 5590).

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

Menopause care.

Universal health care.

By Mr. Lawn of Watertown, for the committee on Health Care Financing, that the following bills ought to pass:

Removing barriers to care for physician assistants (House, No. 2371) [Cost: Greater than \$100,000.00];

Physician assistants.

Establishing a physical therapy licensure compact (House, No. 2490) [Cost: Greater than \$100,000.00];

Physical therapists.

Relative to physician assistant interstate compact (House, No. 2531) [Cost: Greater than \$100,000.00];

Physician assistants.

Authorizing a pilot for the use of psychedelics in licensed treatment facilities (House, No. 4200) [Cost: Greater than \$100,000.00];

Psychedelics.

Relative to health insurance coverage for hearing aids (House, No. 4959) [Cost: Greater than \$100,000.00];

Hearing aids,—coverage.

Relative to rate equity for community health centers (House, No. 5015) [Cost: Greater than \$100,000.00];

Community health centers.

To expand the doula workforce (House, No. 5021) [Cost: Greater than \$100,000.00];

Doulas.

To improve patient access to non-emergency medical transportation (House, No. 5038) [Cost: Greater than \$100,000.00];

Medical transportation.

To assess the current status of the merged market (House, No. 5039) [Cost: Greater than \$100,000.00];

Health market.

Ensuring transparency in the practice of dental leased networks (House, No. 5045) [Cost: Greater than \$100,000.00]; and

Dentistry.

To protect the lives of student athletes; Freddy's law (House, No. 5046) [Cost: Greater than \$100,000.00].

Student athletes,—screenings.

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

Orders of the Day.

House bills

Relative to fire protection (House, No. 2644);

Allowing “print-free” digital legal notices for the town of Wellesley (House, No. 4138);

Third reading bills.

Authorizing the City of Westfield to convert a seasonal license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk off premises to an annual license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk off premises (House, No. 5346);

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Authorizing the town of Wakefield to establish a means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 5418);

Modernizing financial departments in the city of Holyoke (House, No. 5448);
and

Authorizing the town of Weston to grant an additional license for sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5548);

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 Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

At nineteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Soter of Bellingham (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.