

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026.

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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.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Mr. Arciero of Westford) congratulating Ronald H. Johnson on the occasion of his ninetieth birthday and for his decades of service to the town of Westford, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Ronald
Johnson.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Garballey of Arlington, 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 Department of Public Health (see Section 24N of Chapter 111 of the General Laws) submitting the Vaccine Purchase Trust Fund fiscal year 2024 annual report;

Vaccine
Purchase
Trust Fund.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see Section 80 of Chapter 118E of the General Laws) submitting its report on the needs of MassHealth enrollees with a diagnosis of sickle cell disease and the adequacy of available covered medications, treatments and health care services; and

Sickle
cell disease.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see item 4000-0020 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting the Massachusetts Nursing and Allied Health Workforce Development Trust Fund expenditure report for fiscal year 2025;

Nursing and
Allied Health
Trust Fund.

Severally were placed on file.

Papers from the Senate.

The House Bill implementing the recommendations of the Walsh-Kennedy Commission Report (House, No. 5491), came from the Senate with the endorsement that it had been 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 3251. The amendment was referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Walsh-Kennedy
Commission.

A Bill relative to a certain property in the city of Lowell (Senate, No. 3253) (on Senate bill No. 3061), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Lowell,—
land.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3250) of Michael J. Rodrigues, Carole A. Fiola and Steven J. Ouellette (by vote of the towns) for legislation to provide for recall elections for the Freetown-Lakeville regional school district, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Election Laws.

Freetown-Lakeville
regional school
district.

A joint petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3261) of Joanne M. Comerford and Susannah M. Whipps (with approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to authorize the city of Greenfield to grant an additional liquor license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Greenfield,—
liquor
license.

A petition (accompanied by bill) of Michael O. Moore and Paul K. Frost for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Timothy Cluett, an employee of the Worcester county sheriff's office, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on the Public Service.

Timothy
Cluett,—
sick leave.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3263) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on the Public Service.

Reports of Committees.

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

Authorizing the town of Natick to continue the employment of Police Chief James Hicks beyond the age of 65 (House, No. 5427) [Local Approval Received];

Natick,—
James Hicks.

Authorizing the town of Natick to continue the employment of Deputy Police Chief Brian Lauzon (House, No. 5428) [Local Approval Received]; and

Natick,—
Brian Lauzon.

Allowing print-free digital legal notices for the town of Topsfield (House, No. 5578) [Local Approval Received];

Topsfield,—
legal notices.

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

By Mr. Haggerty of Woburn, for the committee on Housing, on a petition, a Bill providing for condominium conversion of co-owned two-unit buildings (House, No. 5314). Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Condominiums,—
conversion.

Emergency Measures.

The engrossed Bill authorizing the division of capital asset management and maintenance to release a certain sewer line easement in the West Roxbury section of the city of Boston (see House, No. 5304), 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.

Boston,—
land.

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 6 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The engrossed Bill authorizing the division of capital asset management and maintenance to convey certain parcels of land to the town of Bolton, the town of Lancaster or a municipal utility serving the town of Bolton or the town of Lancaster (see House, No. 5440), 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.

Bolton and
Lancaster,—
land.

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 6 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Engrossed Bills.

The engrossed Bill allowing fair compensation of credit union directors (see House, No. 1338, amended) (which originated in the House), in respect to which the Senate had concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill
enacted.

The engrossed Bill amending the charter of the city known as the town of North Attleborough (see House, No. 5426) (which originated in the House), 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.

Id.

Orders of the Day.

The House Bill amending the town meeting act for the town of Danvers (House, No. 5571), 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.

Third
reading
bill.

The House Bill relative to the Dracut Water Supply District (House, No. 4101), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Dracut
Water Supply
District.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend the bill in lines 2, 3 and 4 by striking out the words “to the town of Pelham, New Hampshire or a water district servicing the town, the town of Hudson, New Hampshire or a water district servicing the town and”.

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 4101, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Order.

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

At fourteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Orrall of Lakeville (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Thursday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.