

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2026.

[85]

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, August 27, 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 Tribute.

At the request of Mr. LeBoeuf of Worcester, the members, guests and employees stood for a moment of silent tribute to the memory of Kurt S. Solomon, who passed away on Tuesday, August 18.

Kurt
Solomon.

Born in Worcester, Kurt attended Gates Lane, South High, and Quinsigamond Community College. He served in the Army, dedicated his life to his community as a Worcester police officer, and was a member of the union and Our Lady of the Angels Church.

Outside his career, Kurt was happiest outdoors. He loved golfing, running, biking, fishing, and gardening.

He leaves two sons, Niklas T. and Brandon W. Solomon, and his mother, Shirley A., all of Worcester; as well as two brothers, Eric J. Salomonsson and his partner, Thomas M. Fox of Boynton Beach, Florida, and Karl F. of Worcester. He also leaves his dog Merle.

He will be truly missed. Our thoughts and deepest sympathies are with his family and friends as we mourn his passing.

Appointments of the Speaker.

The Speaker announced that (under the provisions of Section 214 of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) he had appointed Representatives Plouffe of Brockton and Worrell of Boston to the award selection committee for the Madeline Amy Sweeney Award for Civilian Bravery.

Madeline Amy
Sweeney award
committee.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Linsky of Natick) congratulating Aidan Sullivan on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of Scouting America; and

Aidan
Sullivan.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Sullivan-Almeida of Abington) congratulating Mary Beth Carter on the occasion of her retirement as Town Administrator of the town of Whitman;

Mary Beth
Carter.

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. Wong of Saugus, 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 Transitional Assistance (see Section 2(B)(g) of Chapter 18 of the General Laws) submitting its fiscal year 2026 report on Standard Budgets of Assistance for Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children;

Transitional assistance.

From the Department of Children and Families (see Sections 7(e), 23, 24 and 25 of Chapter 18B of the General Laws; Sections 23(f), 23(h), 39½ and 51D of Chapter 119 of the General Laws and item 4800-0015 contained in Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting an annual report for fiscal year 2025;

Children and families.

From the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (see Section 69 of Chapter 23K of the General Laws) submitting its gaming revenue reports and associated sports wagering revenue report through July, 2026;

Gaming and sports wagering revenue.

From the Department of Public Utilities (see Section 21(5) of Chapter 25 of the General Laws) submitting the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Statement for calendar years 2022-2024;

Greenhouse gas emissions.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see Section 5G of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting the Capital Gains Tax Revenue Transfers to the Stabilization Fund, the State Retiree Trust Fund, and the Pension Liability Fund for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2026;

Capital gains transfers.

From the Pension Reserves Investment Management Board (see Section 23(2A)(e)(xi) of Chapter 32 of the General Laws) submitting its fiscal year 2026 second quarterly report;

PRIM Board.

From the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (see Section 37 of Chapter 69 of the General Laws, as amended by Section 35 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting a report on the progress of the Green School Works Program;

Green school works.

From Commissioner of the Division of Occupational Licensure (see Section 1 of Chapter 82A of the General Laws) submitting the Office of Public Safety and Inspections (OPSI) annual report on fines imposed, collected and expended regarding evacuation and trench safety for fiscal year 2026;

Evacuation and trench safety.

From the Cape and Islands District Attorney's Office (see Section 47(d) of Chapter 94C of the General Laws) submitting a report on its fiscal year 2026 expenditures for drug rehabilitation, drug education and other anti-drug or neighborhood crime watch programs;

Cape and Islands,—drug data.

From the Cape and Islands District Attorney's Office (see Section 47 of Chapter 94C of the General Laws) submitting a report on its fiscal year 2026 expenditures for motor vehicle forfeiture funds;

Cape and Islands,—forfeiture fund.

From the Department of Public Health (see Section 25A of Chapter 112 of the General Laws) submitting a report entitled: "Investigatory & Disciplinary Actions Conducted by the Board of Registration in Pharmacy" for calendar year 2023;

Pharmacy board,—investigations.

From the Office of Medicaid (see Section 6 of Chapter 118E of the General Laws) on the activities of the Medical Care Advisory Committee for calendar year 2025;

Medical Care Advisory Committee.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see Section 15 of Chapter 118I of the General Laws) submitting the annual report of the Health Information Technology Council for the calendar year 2024;

Health
information
technology.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 6A of Chapter 124 of the General Laws) submitting its operational capacity report for January 1 to June 30, 2026;

Sheriffs,—
capacity.

From the Department of Environmental Protection (see item 2200-0107 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting a report on composting support for small and agricultural businesses; and

Businesses,—
composting.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see item 1595-6153 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting a report on funds appropriated through the Communications Access Trust Fund transfer;

Communications
access
trust fund.

Severally were placed on file.

Papers from the Senate.

The House Bill amending the town of Arlington's means tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 4575), came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment in section 1, in line 6, by inserting after the word "levy" the following: ";; provided, however, that the town shall have declared an overlay surplus pursuant to section 25 of chapter 59 of the General Laws prior to implementing clause (ii).".

Arlington,—
property taxes.

The amendment was referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

A Bill establishing a sewer and water advisory board in the town of Walpole (Senate, No. 3087) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received], passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Walpole,—
sewer and
water board.

A joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Paul R. Feeney and Michael S. Chaisson for legislation to authorize the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority to provide sewer services to a certain parcel of land in the town of Foxborough, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on the Environment and Natural Resources

Foxborough,—
sewer services.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3267) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on the Environment and Natural Resources.

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 Paul J. Donato, Steven Ultrino and Kate Lipper-Garabedian for legislation to authorize the release or amendment of certain use restrictions on former state property in the city of Malden. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Ultrino of Malden, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Malden,—
land.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the Senate Bill authorizing the town of Walpole to grant up to 2 additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (Senate, No. 2532) [Local Approval Received], be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Walpole,—
liquor
licenses.

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

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on a message from Her Excellency the Governor, a Bill exempting George Patrinos from the maximum age requirement age for the position of firefighter in the town of Dudley (printed in House, No. 5520).

Dudley,—
George
Patrinos.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Patrick Nelligan (House, No. 5657).

Patrick
Nelligan,—
sick leave.

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

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Amending the membership of the Quabbin watershed advisory committee (see Senate, No. 3133) (which originated in the Senate);

Bills
enacted.

Removing the seating capacity requirements for licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises in the town of Belmont (see House, No. 5344, amended); and

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

(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.

Orders of the Day.

House bills

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); and

Third
reading
bills.

Relative to amending the town charter of the town of Provincetown (House, No. 5476);

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 thirteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Berthiaume of Spencer (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.