

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025.**

# JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

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Thursday, September 4, 2025.

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.*

During the session (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), at the request of Mr. Biele of Boston, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute to the memory of Edward F. Kenney who passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family, on August 18<sup>th</sup>, just days before his 104<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Edward  
Kenney.

Born and raised in South Boston, Ed lived a long and remarkable life rooted in love, service, and community. A proud member of the “greatest generation,” Ed served his country in the U.S. Navy during World War II in both the Pacific and European theaters, including on D-Day.

After the war, he married the love of his life, Mary T. (McDonough) Kenney, with whom he shared 56 wonderful years of marriage. Together they raised five children. In addition to raising a family, he proudly served the city of Boston as a firefighter, working on the fireboat and Engine Company 1.

Devoted son of the late Hannah Kenney, a loving brother to his six siblings, and a cherished uncle to many nieces and nephews, Ed is survived by his five grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

## *Resolutions.*

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Jones of North Reading) congratulating the Flint Memorial Library on its one hundred and fiftieth anniversary;

North Reading,—  
Flint library.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Arciero of Westford) honoring and commending Newell Tillman for his twenty years of dedicated volunteer service to the town of Westford;

Newell  
Tillman.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Cabral of New Bedford) celebrating the Ernestina-Morrissey historic voyage to Newfoundland; and

Ernestina-  
Morrissey.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Owens of Watertown and other members of the House) recognizing the month of September 2025 as Cerebral and Cortical Vision Impairment Awareness Month;

Cerebral and  
cortical vision  
month.

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. Owens of Watertown, 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 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, 2025;

Gaming  
revenue.

From the Pension Reserves Investment Management Board (see Section 23(2A)(e)(xi) of Chapter 32 of the General Laws) submitting its fiscal year 2025 fourth quarterly report; and

PRIM  
Board.

From the Committee for Public Counsel Services (see item 0321-1599 of Section 2 of Chapter 14 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its staffing expansion plan for fiscal years 2026 and 2027;

Public  
Counsel  
Services.

Severally were placed on file.

*Petitions.*

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Garballey of Arlington and Senator Friedman, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4473) of Sean Garballey and Cindy F. Friedman (by vote of the town) that the town of Arlington be authorized to place upon a town ballot a question to increase the number of licenses for all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises in said town. To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Arlington,—  
liquor  
licenses.

By Representative O'Day of West Boylston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4474) of James J. O'Day and Michael O. Moore (with the approval of the city council) relative to provisional employees of the city of Worcester and exempting certain positions from the civil service law;

Worcester,—  
civil service.

By Representative Rogers of Norwood, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4475) of John H. Rogers (by vote of the town) that the town of Norwood be authorized to appoint retired police officers as special police officers in said town;

Norwood,—  
special  
police.

By Representative Vargas of Haverhill, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4477) of Andres X. Vargas (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that William (Rob) Cargill be authorized to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement.

Haverhill,—  
William  
Cargill.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4476) of Andres X. Vargas (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that Kenneth Navarro be authorized to take the civil service examination for the position of fire fighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement; and

Haverhill,—  
Kenneth  
Navarro.

Severally to the committee on Public Service.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Representative Marsi of Charlton and Senator Fattman presented a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of John J. Marsi, Ryan C. Fattman and Paul K. Frost for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Candy J. Pike, an employee of the Department of Developmental Services; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Candy  
Pike,—  
sick leave.

*Paper from the Senate.*

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2596) of Bruce E. Tarr and Ann-Margaret Ferrante (with approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation relative to the appropriation and expenditure of funds for the maintenance, repair and improvement of private roads under certain conditions, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Gloucester,—  
private roads.

*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:

Joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Natalie M. Blais and Paul W. Mark for legislation to establish a regional fire district and department for the towns of Charlemont and Rowe. To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Charlemont  
and Rowe,—  
fire district.

Joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Natalie M. Blais and Joanne M. Comerford (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the release or exclusion of certain land from conservation restrictions in the town of Deerfield. To the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

Deerfield,—  
land.

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

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 establishing a sick leave bank for Gregory Baker, an employee of the Suffolk county sheriff's office (Senate, No. 2560); and

Gregory Baker,—  
sick leave.

House bills

Relative to supporting student participation in 4-H programs (House, No. 713);

4-H programs.

Updating the linkage exaction program in the city of Medford (House, No. 4252) [Local Approval Received];

Medford,—  
linkage program.

Relative to elected terms and municipal years (House, No. 4253) [Local Approval Received]; and

Boston,—  
terms.

Authorizing the town of Milford to convert a license for the sale of wine and malt beverages into a license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be consumed on the premises (House, No. 4359) [Local Approval Received];

Milford,—  
liquor  
license.

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 Ms. Blais of Deerfield, for the committee on Agriculture and Fisheries, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4319) of Adam J. Scanlon and Manny Cruz for legislation to further regulate the retail sale of dogs, cats, rabbits, and guinea pigs in pet shops,—and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Environment and Natural Resources. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Pet  
shops.

By Mr. Stanley of Waltham, for the committee on Aging and Independence, on a petition, a Bill to strengthen supportive housing and reduce healthcare costs for low-income seniors (House, No. 1369).

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on a petition, a Bill relative to apprenticeship programs (House, No. 2099).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to snow removal service liability limitation (House, No. 2100).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to defense against abusive waivers (House, No. 2114).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to protecting wages of deceased employees (House, No. 2117).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to employee definition harmonization (House, No. 2141).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to employee leave of absence to appear in the Probate and Family Court (House, No. 2158).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to apprenticeship programs (House, No. 2165).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to consolidating multiple definitions of employee (House, No. 2180).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 2075, a Bill requiring OSHA training (House, No. 4448).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 2096, a Bill relative to workplace safety and disclosure of violations (House, No. 4449).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 2153, a Bill expanding access to commuter transit benefits offered by employers (House, No. 4451).

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

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on a petition, a Bill relative to employment protections for victims of abusive behavior (House, No. 2143).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 2119, a Bill regulating the use of credit reports by employers (House, No. 4450).

By Ms. Domb of Amherst, for the committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, on a petition, a Bill relative to student mental health (House, No. 2221).

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

### *Engrossed Bill.*

The engrossed Bill authorizing the commissioner of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to grant certain easements to the town of Bourne (see House, No. 4364) (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.

Low-income seniors.

Apprenticeship programs.

Snow removal liability.

Abusive waivers.

Deceased employee wages.

Unemployment insurance.

Employees,—leaves of absence.

Apprenticeship programs.

Employee,—definitions.

OSHA training.

Workplace safety.

Employers,—commuter transit benefits.

Victim protection,—abusive behavior.

Employers,—credit reports.

Students,—mental health.

Bill enacted.

*Orders of the Day.*

House bills

Authorizing the Cotuit Fire District to raise and appropriate money for the Historical Society of Santuit and Cotuit (House, No. 2259);

Relative to the Lanesborough Select Board (House, No. 4056); and

To increase the membership of the Haverhill board of health from 3 members to 5 members (House, No. 4057) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading);

Severally reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Third  
reading  
bills.

*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.

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At fourteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (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.