

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025.**

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Monday, September 15, 2025.

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.

### *Silent Tribute.*

At the request of Representative Jones of North Reading, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute in memory of political activist Charlie Kirk, who was fatally shot during a speaking appearance at Utah Valley University on September 10. We extend our sincere condolences to his wife, Erika, and their two children. We condemn this senseless act and urge a return to civil discourse, where opposing views can be freely exchanged and debated without the threat of violence.

Charlie  
Kirk.

### *Resolutions.*

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

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Badger of Plymouth and LaNatra of Kingston) commending the town of Plymouth on becoming the four hundred and fifty-first International City of Peace; and

Plymouth,—  
City of Peace.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Decker of Cambridge) honoring the Massachusetts Pain Initiative for its recognition of September 2025 as Pain Awareness Month;

Pain  
Awareness  
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. Donato of Medford, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

### *Orders.*

The following orders were referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules:

Order (filed by Representatives Vargas of Haverhill and Hong of Lowell) relative to extending until Sunday, November 23, 2025 the time within which the committee on Community Development and Small Business is authorized to report on current House documents (House, No. 4519).

Extensions  
of time for  
committees  
to make  
reports.

Order (filed by Representatives Gordon of Bedford and Ayers of Quincy) relative to extending until Wednesday, December 17, 2025 the time within which the

committee on Education is authorized to report on current House documents (House, No. 4520).

Order (filed by Representatives Lawn of Watertown and Kilcoyne of Clinton) relative to extending until Wednesday, March 18, 2026 the time within which the committee on Health Care Financing is authorized to report on current House documents (House, No. 4517).

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the orders ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the orders were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

The Order (filed by Representatives Barber of Somerville and Cataldo of Concord) relative to extending until Wednesday, December 31, 2025 the time within which the committee on Environment and Natural Resources is authorized to report on current House documents, was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4516), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

The Order (filed by Representatives Cusack of Braintree and Kushmerek of Fitchburg) relative to extending until Wednesday, December 3, 2025 the time within which the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy is authorized to report on current House documents, was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4518), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Owens of Watertown, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

Environment and  
Natural  
Resources,—  
extension of time  
for reporting.

Telecomm-  
unications, Utilities  
and Energy,—  
extension of time  
for reporting.

### *Petitions.*

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representatives Cataldo of Concord and Gentile of Sudbury, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4522) of Simon Cataldo (by vote of the town) relative to remote participation at town meetings and special town meetings in the town of Concord. To the committee on Election Laws.

By Representative Moakley of Falmouth and Senator Cyr, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4523) of Thomas W. Moakley (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Nantucket to convey a certain parcel of land in said town to the Nantucket Islands Land Bank and to the Sconset Trust, Inc; and

By Representative Sabadosa of Northampton and Senator Mark, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4524) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa and Paul W. Mark (by vote of the town) that the town of Williamsburg be authorized to change the name of the board of selectmen to select board;

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

By Representative Blais of Deerfield and Senator Mark, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4525) of Natalie M. Blais and Paul W. Mark (by vote of the town) that the town of Conway be authorized to continue the employment of police department member Michael W. Habel. To the committee on Public Service.

By Representative Scanlon of North Attleborough and Senator Feeney, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4526) of Adam J. Scanlon and Paul R. Feeney (with the approval of the town council) that the town of North Attleborough

Concord,—  
town meetings.

Nantucket,—  
land.

Williamsburg,—  
select board.

Conway,—  
Michael Habel.

North  
Attleborough,—  
senior tax  
exemption.

be authorized to establish a means-tested senior citizen property tax exemption in said town. To the committee on Revenue.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Ms. Badger of Plymouth presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Michelle L. Badger for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Marie Letendre, an employee of the Department of Transitional Assistance; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Marie  
Letendre,—  
sick leave.

*Papers from the Senate.*

A report of the committee on Environment and Natural Resources, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 602) of Dylan A. Fernandes, Michael D. Brady and Julian Cyr for legislation relative to a cranberry water use transfer program,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Agriculture and Fisheries,— accepted by the Senate, was considered forthwith, under Rule 42; and it was accepted, in concurrence.

Cranberry  
water use.

A petition (accompanied by bill) of Edward J. Kennedy for legislation to modernize permitting for the transportation of certain loads, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Transportation.

Superload  
permits.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2606) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Transportation.

*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 Marcus S. Vaughn and David T. Vieira for legislation to further regulate pipefitting exemptions. To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Pipefitting  
exemptions.

Joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Michael P. Kushmerek relative to Hispanic-serving institutions in higher education. To the committee on Higher Education.

Hispanic-serving  
institutions.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Richard M. Haggerty for legislation to include bone marrow and organ donation in the paid family and medical leave program. To the committee on Labor and Workforce Development.

Bone marrow  
and organ  
donation.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, 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 House bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

Relative to gender neutral language in elections law (House, No. 804);

Election law.

Authorizing Stephen Justice to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 2985) [Local Approval Received];

Haverhill,—  
Stephen  
Justice.

Authorizing Javier Vargas to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 2986) [Local Approval Received];

Authorizing Brittany Sproule to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 2987) [Local Approval Received];

Authorizing Freddy Castaneda to take the civil service examination for the position of police officer in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 2988) [Local Approval Received];

Relative to improved headlight safety (House, No. 3778);

Exempting the position of assistant fire chief in the town of Natick from the civil service law (House, No. 3901) [Local Approval Received]; and

Establishing a sick leave bank for Aayden Daniels (House, No. 4478).

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

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Education, on a petition, a Bill to require school attendance up to age 18 or until graduation (House, No. 524).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to reduce exclusionary discipline for violations of rules related to student grooming and dress (House, No. 576).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 621, 622 and 663, a Bill relative to an expert panel on the education of advanced and gifted students (House, No. 622).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to corporal punishment (House, No. 625).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill reduce out-of-school suspensions (House, No. 718).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill addressing school exclusion policies to remedy disparities in educational achievement (House, No. 730).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill requiring accountability for inequities in suspension and expulsion or RAISE Act (House, No. 731).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 705 and 748, a Bill to promote healthy culture and climate within schools (House, No. 748).

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Transportation, on a petition, a Bill further regulating junior operator licenses (House, No. 3611).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to junior operators (House, No. 3643).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill allowing for partial payment of fines relating to driver's license suspension or revocation (House, No. 3739).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to license reinstatement fees for drivers without conviction (House, No. 3792).

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

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Education, on a petition, a Bill providing for alternatives to fines for failure to send (House, No. 571).

Haverhill,—  
Javier  
Vargas.

Haverhill,—  
Brittany  
Sproule.

Haverhill,—  
Freddy  
Castaneda.

Headlights.

Natick,—  
civil service.

Aayden Daniels.

School  
attendance.

Students,—  
exclusionary  
discipline.

Advanced and  
gifted students.

Corporal  
punishment.

Out-of-school  
suspensions.

Schools,—  
exclusion  
policies.

Suspension  
inequities.

Schools,—  
healthy culture.

Junior operator  
licenses.

Junior  
operators.

Driver's  
license,—  
fines.

License  
reinstatement fees.

Fines,—  
alternatives.

By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on House, Nos. 3292 and 3419, a Bill establishing Indigenous Peoples Day (House, No. 3292).

Indigenous  
Peoples Day.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill making October 25th Dwarfism awareness day in the Commonwealth (House, No. 3343).

Dwarfism  
awareness day.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill designating the official jazz song of the Commonwealth (House, No. 3407).

Official  
jazz song.

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Transportation, on a petition, a Bill to clarify penalties for violations occurring while driving with a hardship license (House, No. 3728).

Hardship license,—  
penalties.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to expired licenses (House, No. 3736) [Representative Orrall of Lakeville dissenting].

Expired  
licenses.

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

Reports of the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, under the last sentence of Rule 7A, that the following bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

Senate bills

Amending certain laws relative to individuals with disabilities (Senate, No. 2563); and

Individuals with  
disabilities.

Amending certain archaic laws (Senate, No. 2564); and

Archaic laws.

House bills

Relative to additional inspectors; inspector engaging in plumbing or gas fitting work (House, No. 2337); and

Plumbing or  
gas fitting work.

Designating June 7 as Tourette Syndrome awareness day (House, No. 3305);

Tourette Syndrome.

Severally placed in the Orders of the Day for the next sitting for a second reading.

A report of the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, under the last sentence of Rule 7A, that the report of the committee on the Judiciary, ought NOT to pass, on the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1722) of John R. Gaskey relative to repealing the legal parentage equality act, be scheduled for consideration by the House. Under said rule, it was placed in the Orders of the Day for the next sitting, the question being on acceptance.

Legal  
parentage.

#### *Orders of the Day.*

House bills

To amend the town of Natick home rule charter (House, No. 3898);

Relative to the organization and governance structure of the town of Rochester (House, No. 4030); and

Third  
reading  
bills.

Relative to stabilization funds in the town of Leicester (House, No. 4136);

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.

The House Bill designating September as PCOS awareness month (House, No. 3392), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

PCOS  
awareness  
month.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:

*“Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to designate forthwith the month of September as Polycystic Ovary Syndrome Awareness Month, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.”.*

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 3392, amended) was passed to be engrossed. 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.

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At eighteen minutes after eleven o’clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Pease of Westfield (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Wednesday at eleven o’clock A.M.