

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2025.

[84]*

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Wednesday, September 17, 2025.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M. 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 Representative Gordon of Bedford, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute in respect to the memory of Bartley J. "Bart" Joyce, who passed away on Tuesday, September 9, at 90 years old.

Bartley J.
"Bart" Joyce.

Born in the small town of Lettermore, in County Galway, Ireland, he came to the United States as an infant and grew up in Charlestown. At 19, he enlisted in the Army during the Korean War and served in the 11th and 82nd Airborne Divisions.

While still in high school, he worked as a page at the Massachusetts House of Representatives, and after serving on the staff of a state representative, in 1967 he began his career in the office of the House Clerk as a clerical assistant. Through hard work, quiet dedication, and an unmatched understanding of legislative procedure, he rose through the ranks and was appointed Second Assistant Clerk in 1977. In 1983, Bart was appointed Assistant Clerk of the House, where he served with distinction until his retirement in 1996.

Bart was predeceased by his wife of 52 years, Charlene, who he met at the Golden Dome. Bart is survived by two siblings, 20 nieces and nephews, and many friends.

Statement of Representative Ciccolo of Lexington.

A statement of Ms. Ciccolo of Lexington 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 am unable to be present in the House Chamber for today's sitting due to official business outside the State House at an out-of-state conference on extended producer responsibility (EPR) policy. My missing of roll calls today is due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of
Representative
Ciccolo of
Lexington.

Statement of Representative Finn of West Springfield.

A statement of Mr. Finn of West Springfield 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 am unable to be present in the House Chamber for today's sitting due to illness. Had

Statement of
Representative
Finn of

I been present, I would have voted in the affirmative on Yea and Nay No. 73. My missing of roll calls today is due entirely to the reason stated.

West Springfield.

Statement of Representative Lombardo of Billerica.

A statement of Mr. Lombardo of Billerica 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 am unable to be present in the House Chamber for today's sitting due to a previously scheduled family commitment. My missing of roll calls today is due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of Representative Lombardo of Billerica.

Remote Participation.

Notice had been received from House Counsel that, under the provisions of House Rule 49, Representatives Boldyga of Southwick, Ferguson of Holden and Sullivan-Almeida of Abington had been approved to participate remotely for today's formal sitting.

Remote participation.

Guest of the House.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), declared a brief recess, for the purpose of making a special recognition. Mr. Donato then introduced and thanked Timothy O'Neill, Committee Director for the committee on Health Care Financing, for his twenty-five years of service to the Legislature.

Timothy O'Neill.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representative Hogan of Stow) congratulating Captain Mark S. Tomyl on his retirement as fire captain of the town of Maynard, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Mark Tomyl.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Hogan of Stow, the resolutions (having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Paper from the Senate.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2605) of Paul R. Feeney and William C. Galvin (by vote of the town) for legislation to further regulate town elections in the town of Canton, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Election Laws.

Canton,—elections.

Reports of Committees.

Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, on House, No. 4429, reported, in part, a Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2025 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other

State primary election date.

activities and projects (House, No. 4531). Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Mr. Honan of Boston, for said committee, then reported recommending that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

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

Under further suspension of the rules, on motion of the same member, the bill (having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Reading to be correctly drawn) was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

By Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Bill relative to certain affordable housing and branch library space in the Dorchester section of the city of Boston (House, No. 3932) [Local Approval Received], ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor a bill with the same title (House, No. 4532) [Local Approval Received]. Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Boston,—
affordable
housing.

Mr. Honan of Boston, for said committee, then reported recommending that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the bill was read a second time forthwith. The amendment recommended by the committee on Ways and Means was then adopted; and the substituted bill was ordered to a third reading.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Sylvia of Fairhaven, the bill (having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Reading to be correctly drawn) was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

By Mr. Livingstone of Boston, for the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, on a petition, a Bill updating terminology and investigative practices related to the protection of persons with disabilities (House, No. 243).

Disabilities,—
updates.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing guardians as providers of medical care to support the rights of incapacitated persons (House, No. 253).

Incapacitated
persons,—
medical care.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to persons with developmental disabilities (House, No. 276).

Developmental
disabilities.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to cueing and supervision in the PCA program (House, No. 277).

Personal care
attendants.

Referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

By Ms. Farley-Bouvier of Pittsfield, for the committee on Advanced Information Technology, the Internet and Cybersecurity, on a petition, a Bill creating a task force to study the use of the internet by sex offenders (House, No. 84).

Sex offenders,—
study.

By Mr. Livingstone of Boston, for the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, on a petition, a Bill to establish an acquired brain injury advisory board (House, No. 231).

Acquired
brain injuries.

Severally read; and referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

By Ms. Farley-Bouvier of Pittsfield, for the committee on Advanced Information Technology, the Internet and Cybersecurity, on a petition, a Bill relative to the oversight of cable contracts (House, No. 72).

Cable contracts.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill related to the resiliency, public safety and quality of broadband in Massachusetts (House, No. 75).

Broadband.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to cyberattack response in Massachusetts (House, No. 82).

Cyberattacks.

By Mr. Livingstone of Boston, for the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, on House, No. 232, a Bill relative to individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities (House, No. 4487).

Disabilities.

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

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Authorizing the town of Lexington to grant 10 additional licenses for the sale of wine and malt beverages to be drunk on the premises (see House, No. 3893); and

Bills enacted.

Authorizing the city of Melrose to establish a means-tested senior citizen property tax exemption (see House, No. 3979);

(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.

Recess.

At twenty-seven minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Pease of Westfield (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed until one o'clock P.M.; and two minutes before two o'clock, the House was called to order with Mr. Donato of Medford in the Chair.

Reports of Committees.

Prior to the noon recess, Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, on House, No. 4003, reported, in part, a Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2025 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (House, No. 4530) [Total appropriation: \$157,000,000.00]. Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Supplemental appropriations.

Mr. Honan of Boston, for said committee, then reported that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

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.

Subsequently, the noon recess having terminated, under suspension of rules, on motion of Mr. Lawn of Watertown, the bill (having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) was read a third time.

After remarks on the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of Mr. Lawn of Watertown; and the roll call 148 members voted in the affirmative and 1 in the negative.

Bill passed to be engrossed,—yea and nay

[See [Yea and Nay No. 73](#) in Supplement.]

No. 73.

Therefore the bill 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 tomorrow at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

Accordingly, without proceeding to consideration of the matters in the Orders of the Day, at twenty-three minutes before two o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Jones of North Reading (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following day at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.