

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2026.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, September 17, 2026.

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.

Appointment of the House Minority Leader.

The House Minority Leader announced that (under the provisions of Section 4 of Chapter 70 of the General Laws as amended by Section 64 of Chapter 137 of the Acts of 2026) he had appointed Melissa J. King of Billerica to serve as his designee to the Foundation Budget Review Commission.

Foundation
budget review
commission.

Guests of the House.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Garballey of Arlington) declared a brief recess and introduced, seated in the House Chamber, Jerry Gonyor, Billy Yeo and David Muradian, Sr., who were visiting and taking a tour of the building. They were the guests of Representative Muradian of Grafton.

Jerry Gonyor,
Billy Yeo and
David Muradian,
Sr.

Communications.

Communications

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Barnstable County Correctional Facility for the first quarter of calendar year 2026;

Barnstable,—
correctional
facility data.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Berkshire County Correctional Facility for the first quarter of calendar year 2026;

Berkshire,—
correctional
facility data.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Bristol County Correctional Facility for the first quarter of calendar year 2026;

Bristol,—
correctional
facility data.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Dukes County Correctional Facility for the first quarter of calendar year 2026;

Dukes,—
correctional
facility data.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Essex County Correctional Facility for the first quarter of calendar year 2026;

Essex,—
correctional
facility data.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Franklin County Correctional Facility for the first quarter of calendar year 2026;

Franklin,—
correctional
facility data.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Hampden County Correctional Facility for the first quarter of calendar year 2026;

Hampden,—
correctional
facility data.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Hampshire County Correctional Facility for the first quarter of calendar year 2026;

Hampshire,—
correctional
facility data.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Middlesex County Correctional Facility for the first quarter of calendar year 2026;

Middlesex,—
correctional
facility data.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Norfolk County Correctional Facility for the first quarter of calendar year 2026;

Norfolk,—
correctional
facility data.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Plymouth County Correctional Facility for the first quarter of calendar year 2026;

Plymouth,—
correctional
facility data.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Suffolk County Correctional Facility for the first quarter of calendar year 2026; and

Suffolk,—
correctional
facility data.

From the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (see Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting the aggregate data on the population of the Worcester County Correctional Facility for the first quarter of calendar year 2026;

Worcester,—
correctional
facility data.

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. 5673) of Sean Garballey, Cindy F. Friedman and David M. Rogers (by vote of the town) that the town of Arlington be authorized to grant 10 additional licenses for the sale of all-alcoholic beverages in said town. To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Arlington,—
liquor
licenses.

By the same members, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5674) of Sean Garballey, Cindy F. Friedman and David M. Rogers (by vote of the town) relative to providing for recall elections in the town of Arlington. To the committee on Election Laws.

Arlington,—
recall
elections.

By Representative Consalvo of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5675) of Rob Consalvo (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the retirement board of the city of Boston be authorized to increase the accidental disability retirement allowance payable to Richard Lopez, a retired firefighter of the fire department of the said city. To the committee on Public Service.

Boston,—
Richard
Lopez .

By Representative Garballey of Arlington and Senator Friedman, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5676) of Sean Garballey, Cindy F. Friedman and David M. Rogers (by vote of the town) for legislation to further regulate the taxation of recreational lands in the town of Arlington. To the committee on Revenue.

Arlington,—
recreational
land tax.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Representative Garballey of Arlington and Senator Friedman presented a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Sean Garballey, Cindy F. Friedman and David M. Rogers relative to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority red line extension; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

MBTA,—
red line.

Papers from the Senate.

House bills

Amending the means tested senior citizen property tax exemption in the town of Sudbury (House, No. 4755), came from the Senate 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 3270;

Sudbury,—
property
tax.

Authorizing the town of Monterey to continue the employment of police officer Jennifer O. Brown (House, No. 4862), came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment in section 1, in line 8, by inserting after the word “service.” the following sentence:

Monterey,—
Jennifer
Brown.

“While continuing to serve as a police officer in the town of Monterey, Jennifer O. Brown shall comply with all requirements of chapter 6E of the General Laws, including: (i) maintaining certification and good standing with the Massachusetts Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission; and (ii) complying with all in-service and other training requirements mandated by the municipal police training committee.”;

Authorizing the city of Westfield to convert a seasonal license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk off premises to an annual license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk off premises (House, No. 5346), came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment in section 2, in line 23, by striking out the following: “license for the sale of wine and malt” and inserting in place thereof the following: “seasonal license for the sale of all alcoholic”;

Westfield,—
liquor
license.

Severally referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

A Bill relative to a certain retirement benefit to be paid to the surviving spouse of fallen officer, Stephen LaPorta, of the police department of the town of Uxbridge (Senate, No. 3051, amended in section 2, in line 6, by striking out the figure: “8” and inserting in the place thereof the figure: “7”) (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.

Uxbridge,—
Stephen
LaPorta.

Reports of Committees.

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 authorizing the town of Tewksbury to lease the North Street elementary school for a term of not more than 99 years (Senate, No. 2878) [Local Approval Received]; and

Tewksbury,—
lease.

The House Bill directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Jorge Enriquez (House, No. 5514) [Local Approval Received];

Boston,—
Jorge
Enriquez.

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.

The following report was received, the time within which the said committee was required to report having expired:

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on House, Nos. 5468, 5507 and 5517, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Public Service to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to retirement benefits and police and fire employment (House, No. 5672). Referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Retirement
benefits and
police and fire
employment,—
study.

Subsequently, Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committees, reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the order; and recommending that the same be referred to the House committee on Rules.

Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted.

Engrossed Bills.

The engrossed Bill amending the charter of the city of Pittsfield (see House, No. 4716) (which originated in the House), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was considered.

Pittsfield,—
charter.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be enacted, Mr. Lewis of Framingham moved that Rule 40 be suspended; and the motion prevailed.

Rule 40
suspended.

Ms. Farley-Bouvier of Pittsfield then moved to amend the bill by adding the following section:

“SECTION 3. Sections 1 and 2 shall be placed on the ballot for acceptance by the voters of the city of Pittsfield at the next city election. The city clerk shall prepare and include a summary of the question to be printed on the ballot.”

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (see House, No. 4716, amended) was sent to the Senate for concurrence in the amendment.

Engrossed bills

Authorizing the city of Beverly to continue the employment of John G. LeLacheur as police chief (see House, No. 5248); and

Bills
enacted.

Amending the charter of the town of Bellingham to allow the Director of Finance to serve as the Town Accountant (see House, No. 5564);

(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.

The Senate Bill establishing a sewer and water advisory board in the town of Walpole (Senate, No. 3087), 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, in concurrence.

Third
reading
bill.

House bills

Amending the town charter for the town of Plymouth (House, No. 5497);

Exempting George Patrinos from the maximum age requirement age for the position of firefighter in the town of Dudley (printed in House, No. 5520); and

Third
reading
bills.

Establishing the term of office for the town manager of the town of Bridgewater (House, No. 5600);

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

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 twelve minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.