

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025.

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Monday, September 22, 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.

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 was not present in the House Chamber for the sitting of Wednesday, September 17th. If I had been present for the taking of roll call number 73, I would have voted in the affirmative.

Statement of
Representative
Ciccolo of
Lexington.

Statement of Representative Saunders of Belchertown.

A statement of Mr. Saunders of Belchertown 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 was not present in the House Chamber for the sitting of Wednesday, September 17th. If I had been present for the taking of roll call number 73, I would have voted in the affirmative.

Statement of
Representative
Saunders of
Belchertown.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representative Sabadosa of Northampton) recognizing the fortieth anniversary of the Children's Clinic of the Cutchins Programs for Children and Families, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Children's
Clinic.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, reported that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Badger of Plymouth, 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.

Communications.

Communications

From the Office of the Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Northern District (see Section 2KKK of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting the County Registers Technology Fund request for funds [copies of the communication were forwarded to

Bristol
County,—
technology
fund.

the committee on Ways and Means and the committee on Post Audit and Oversight, as required by said law];

From the Berkshire District Attorney's Office (see Section 47(d) of Chapter 94C of the General Laws) submitting a report on its fiscal year 2025 law enforcement trust funds for drug rehabilitation, drug education and neighborhood crime watch programs; and

Berkshire District Attorney,—
enforcement funds.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see item 1599-2040 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the final Paid Prior Year Deficiency Report for fiscal year 2025 and accounts payable;

Paid prior year deficiency.

Severally were placed on file.

Monthly Report.

A monthly report of the Executive Office of the Trial Court (under Section 15 of Chapter 239 of the General Laws, as amended by Section 64 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its report on filings, actions, and dispositions of summary process cases relative to permanent rental protections, was placed on file.

Trial Court,—
permanent rental protections.

Petition.

Representative Cruz of Salem presented a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4547) of Manny Cruz (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to excise upon the transfer of parking spaces in the city of Salem; and the same was referred to the committee on Revenue. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Salem,—
excise.

Papers from the Senate.

A report of the committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1413) of Mark C. Montigny for legislation to promote the victim service fund with revenues received by the commonwealth from public and private sources as gifts, grants and donations,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities,— accepted by the Senate, was considered forthwith, under Rule 42; and it was accepted, in concurrence.

Victims services,—
fund.

Bills

Protecting individuals with disabilities in day habilitation programs (Senate, No. 165) (on a petition);

Day programs.

Further regulating fentanyl test strips (Senate, No. 1057) (on a petition); and

Fentanyl.

Relative to affordable car rentals (Senate, No. 2616) (on Senate bill No. 2603);

Automobiles,—
rental.

Severally passed to be engrossed by the Senate, were read; and they were referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Bills

Authorizing the appointment of alternate members to the conservation commission of the town of Swampscott (Senate, No. 23) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received];

Swampscott,—
conservation commission.

Authorizing the town of Brookfield to continue the employment of Herbert A. Chaffee, II (Senate, No. 1830) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received]; and

Brookfield,—
Herbert Chaffee.

Authorizing the town of Marblehead to establish fines related to parking violations (Senate, No. 2528) (on a joint petition) [Local Approval Received];

Marblehead,—
parking.

Severally passed to be engrossed by the Senate, were read; and they were referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

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 Michelle L. Badger for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Marie Letendre, an employee of the Department of Transitional Assistance. To the committee on Public Service.

Marie
Letendre,—
sick leave.

Joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa and Joanne M. Comerford relative to the operation of golf carts in certain rural communities. To the committee on Transportation.

Golf
carts.

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

By Mr. Lewis of Framingham, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill further amending the charter of the town of Middleton (House, No. 4399) [Local Approval Received]. Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Middleton,—
charter.

Mr. Honan of Boston, for said committee, reported 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.

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:

Establishing a sick leave bank for Candy J. Pike, an employee of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) (House, No. 4514); and

Candy Pike,—
sick leave.

Establishing a sick leave bank for Kathleen Rodrigue (House, No. 4521).

Kathleen
Rodrigue.

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

By Mr. Day of Stoneham, for the committee on the Judiciary, on a petition, a Bill to prevent the imposition of mandatory minimum sentences based on juvenile adjudications (House, No. 1900) [Representative Garry of Dracut dissenting].

Juveniles,—
sentences.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 1695, a Bill promoting diversion of juveniles to community supervision and services (House, No. 4515) [Representative Garry of Dracut dissenting].

Juveniles,—
community
supervision.

By Mr. Lewis of Framingham, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill encouraging public-private partnerships to create affordable housing at public sites (House, No. 2284).

Affordable
housing.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to exclusionary zoning (House, No. 2348).

Exclusionary
zoning.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill incentivizing inclusionary zoning (House, No. 2356).

Inclusionary zoning.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the town of Billerica to transfer control of certain land of the town situated in the town of Billerica for recreational purposes for the purposes of constructing the Yankee Doodle Bike Path (House, No. 4440) [Local Approval Received].

Billerica,—
bike path.

By Mr. Cahill of Lynn, for the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security, on a petition, a Bill relative to technical rescue services (House, No. 2565).

Technical rescue services.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill requiring carbon monoxide alarms in all residential, governmental and commercial structures (House, No. 2568).

Carbon monoxide alarms.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill expanding the availability of adaptable housing for people with disabilities and seniors (House, No. 2569).

Housing,—
disabled
and seniors.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to establish a window falls prevention program within the Department of Public Health and mandate window guards in residential homes AKA “Zella Ray’s Law” (House, No. 2616).

Homes,—
window
guards.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to legacy firefighters (House, No. 2683).

Legacy firefighters.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to fire safety (House, No. 2691).

Fire safety.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to public safety retention in gateway municipalities (House, No. 2698).

Gateway municipalities.

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

By Mr. Lewis of Framingham, for the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, on a petition, a Bill to establish commonsense permitting reforms for businesses and landowners (House, No. 2280).

Zoning variances.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill amending the charter of the city of Greenfield (House, No. 4379) [Local Approval Received].

Greenfield,—
charter.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill amending the charter of the city known as the town of Agawam to strike the reference to the board of appeals (House, No. 4380) [Local Approval Received].

Agawam,—
charter.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill further regarding the term of the town moderator in the town of Norwood (House, No. 4381) [Local Approval Received].

Norwood,—
moderator.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the charter of the city known as the town of Randolph (House, No. 4400) [Local Approval Received].

Randolph,—
charter.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to certain special revolving funds in the town of Athol (House, No. 4401) [Local Approval Received].

Athol,—
revolving
funds.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the town administrator of the town of Carlisle (House, No. 4414) [Local Approval Received].

Carlisle,—
administrator.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill relative to the charter of the town of Swampscott establishing a fall annual town meeting (House, No. 4438) [Local Approval Received].

Swampscott,—
charter.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing a simplified procedure for the layout and acceptance of subdivision roads in the city of Marlborough (House, No. 4439) [Local Approval Received].

Marlborough,—
subdivision
roads.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill amending the charter for the town of Nantucket (House, No. 4441, changed in section 5, in line 18, by striking out the word “fifty” and inserting in place thereof the following: “twenty-five”) [Local Approval Received].

Nantucket,—
charter.

By Mr. Cahill of Lynn, for the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security, on a petition, a Bill relative to fire protection (House, No. 2644).

Residences,—
sprinklers.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill pertaining to public fire safety and professionalism (House, No. 2646).

Fire chiefs,—
qualifications.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to enhancing child safety (House, No. 2676).

Window
guards.

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

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill to increase the income limit for the senior tax deferral program in the town of Ipswich (see House, No. 3156) (which originated in the House), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill
enacted.

Orders of the Day.

House bills

Increasing the age limit for retired police officers serving as special police officers in the town of Weston (House, No. 4031);

Relative to the town of Richmond Free Public Library (House, No. 4154);

Authorizing the city of Watertown to lease property at 124 Watertown street, Watertown (former Parker school) (House, No. 4205);

Amending the charter of the city of Malden (House, No. 4233); and

Updating the linkage exaction program in the city of Medford (House, No. 4252);

Severally having been 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.

Third
reading
bills.

The House Bill relative to the charter in the city of Lynn (House, No. 4149), having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Lynn,—
charter.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by inserting before section 1 the following 6 sections:

“SECTION 1. Chapter 564 of the acts of 1972 is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. Chapter 8 of the acts of 1985 is hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. Chapter 207 of the acts of 1988 is hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. Chapter 105 of the acts of 1997 is hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. Chapter 19 of the acts of 2003 is hereby repealed.

SECTION 6. Chapter 223 of the acts of 2022 is hereby repealed.”;

In line 1 by striking out the figure: “1” and inserting in place thereof the figure: “7”;

In section 1 (as printed), in lines 923 to 934, inclusive, by striking out the paragraph contained in those lines and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:

“(c) The administrative code may retain, modify, repeal or replace any provisions of the following special acts relating to the organization of city government: chapter 92 of the acts of 1931 relating to the board of election commissioners; chapter 655 of the acts of 1956 relating to off-street parking; chapter 59 of the acts of 1986 relating to public works; chapter 253 of the acts of 1986 relating to the appointment of health inspectors; chapter 465 of the acts of 1991 relating to the appointment of the animal control officer; chapter 167 of the acts of 1999 relating to the traffic commission; chapter 332 of the acts of 2014 relating to municipal salaries of elected officials; chapter 378 of the acts of 2014 relating to inspectional services; and chapter 203 of the acts of 2024 relating to capital projects. The provisions of a proposed modification, repeal or replacement of any of these special acts shall not become effective until approved by the legislature through a new special act.”; and

In lines 948 to 950, inclusive, by striking out the paragraph contained in those lines; and

By striking out section 2 (as printed) and inserting in place thereof the following section:

“SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon its passage.”.

The amendments were adopted; and the bill (House, No. 4149, 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 Thursday next at eleven o’clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

At ten minutes after eleven o’clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Thursday at eleven o’clock A.M., in an Informal Session.