

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025.

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JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, September 25, 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 Biele of Boston, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute to the memory of John "Jack" Linehan, who passed away on August 13, at the age of 93 after a long and courageous battle with dementia.

John "Jack"
Linehan.

Born in South Boston to Irish immigrants during the Great Depression, Jack dropped out of school after the death of his father, Cornelius, to help support his mother, Elizabeth, and his five siblings.

After serving in the United States Army during the Korean War, Jack was transferred to Japan where he met his wife. After an honorable discharge from the Army, they moved back to South Boston where they raised their four children. Upon returning home, Jack worked as a custodian for Boston Public Schools for almost 40 years.

Husband of the late Kyoko (Honda) Linehan and devoted father of Kathy, John, Paul, and Mark, Jack is survived by his grandchildren, Timothy, Melissa, Jessica, Kai, Cade, Amanda, and Stephen, his great grandchildren, Tommy and Erin, and many nieces and nephews.

Order.

An Order (filed by Representatives Cabral of New Bedford and Tyler of Boston) relative to extending until Wednesday, December 3, 2025 the time within which the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight is authorized to report on current House documents, was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

State
Administration
and Regulatory
Oversight,—
extension
of time for
reporting.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4560), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

Communications.

Communications

From the Department of Mental Health (see Section 23 of Chapter 19 of the General Laws) relative to the Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Council for calendar year 2024;

Children's
Behavioral
Health Council.

From the Department of Unemployment Assistance (see Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) relative to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund for August, 2025; and

Unemployment
Insurance
Trust Fund.

From the Department of Public Health (see item 4590-0915 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting a report on the status of the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children; and

Pappas
hospital.

Severally were placed on file.

Annual and Quarterly Reports.

A report of the Berkshire District Attorney's Office (under Section 24W(e) of Chapter 90 of the General Laws) submitting a report on its fiscal year 2025 Operating Under the Influence Deterrent Trust Fund (Melanie's Law); and

Melanie's
Law.

Quarterly reports

Of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (under Section 2 of Chapter 35 of the Acts of 2021) submitting its Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (SAECK) report for the first quarter of calendar year 2025;

Sexual assault
collection kits.

Of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (under Section 2 of Chapter 35 of the Acts of 2021) submitting its Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (SAECK) report for the fourth quarter of calendar year 2024; and

Id.

Of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (under Section 2 of Chapter 35 of the Acts of 2021) submitting its Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (SAECK) report for the third quarter of calendar year 2024;

Id.

Severally were placed on file.

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 petition of Manny Cruz, Hannah Bowen and John Francis Moran for legislation to expand access to the family self-sufficiency program. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Owens of Watertown, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 then was suspended; and petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Housing. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Family self-
sufficiency
program.

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 police officers and firefighters relative to Chapter 41, Section 111F (House, No. 2940); and

Police officers
and firefighters.

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.

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

By Mr. Donahue of Worcester, for the committee on Cannabis Policy, on a petition, a Bill to facilitate labor peace among the cannabis workforce (House, No. 161).

Cannabis,—
labor
agreements.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to supporting sustainability in the cannabis industry (House, No. 165).

Cannabis,—
sustainability.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 145, a Bill expanding access to legal, regulated cannabis delivery (House, No. 4533).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 180, a Bill regularizing accounts receivable in the cannabis industry (House, No. 4534).

By Mr. Vargas of Haverhill, for the committee on Community Development and Small Businesses, on a petition, a Bill establishing the office of Massachusetts main streets (House, No. 304).

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Education, on a petition, a Bill relative to the enforcement of anti-bullying policies in our schools (House, No. 507).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill prohibiting the use of Native American mascots by public schools in the Commonwealth (House, No. 575) [Representatives Marsi of Charlton and Sullivan-Almeida of Abington dissenting].

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Resolve authorizing a study of starting times and schedules (House, No. 585).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to school bullying (House, No. 591).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill requiring critical incident drills in schools (House, No. 749).

By Ms. Barber of Somerville, for the committee on Environment and Natural Resources, on a petition, a Bill relative to on-site sewage disposal systems (House, No. 887).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to toxic air contaminant reduction (House, No. 959).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill updating the management of the Commonwealth's water resources (House, No. 1018).

By Mr. Day of Stoneham, for the committee on the Judiciary, on a petition, a Bill to protect victims of stalking in violation of harassment prevention orders (House, No. 1750).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 1987, a Bill to establish a DNA exception rule for victims of rape (House, No. 4536).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 1921, a Bill relative to sexual harassment (House, No. 4537).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 573, 1634, 1733, 1734 and 1832, a Bill relative to preventing educator sexual misconduct and abuse of children and youth (House, No. 4538).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 1580, 1639, 1732, 1830 and 1833, a Bill enhancing remedies for survivors of childhood sexual abuse (House, No. 4539).

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

By Mr. Donahue of Worcester, for the committee on Cannabis Policy, on a petition, a Bill relative to seeds (House, No. 150).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 154 and 190, a Bill to protect children from the use of alcohol and marijuana (House, No. 154).

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, for the committee on Education, on a petition, a Bill to protect library patron privacy (House, No. 638).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to school absences (House, No. 667).

Cannabis,—
delivery.

Cannabis,—
receivables.

Massachusetts
main streets.

Schools,—
anti-bullying.

Schools,—
mascots.

Schools,—
start times.

Schools,—
bullying.

Schools,—
incident drills.

Sewage
disposal
systems.

Air contaminant
reduction.

Water
resources.

Stalking
victims.

DNA
exception rule.

Sexual
harassment.

Educators,—
sexual abuse.

Childhood
sexual abuse.

Cannabis
seeds.

Children,—
substance use.

Library records,—
privacy.

Schools,—
absences.

By Ms. Barber of Somerville, for the committee on Environment and Natural Resources, on a petition, a Bill relocating certain harbor lines in New Bedford Harbor (House, No. 4109).

New Bedford,—
harbor lines.

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

Orders of the Day.

House bills

Relative to the Regional Commissions on the Status of Women (House, No. 2313);

Third
reading
bills.

Amending the charter of the town of Millis (House, No. 3911) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading);

Re-authorizing the town of Swansea to issue additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4276); and

Authorizing the city known as the town of West Springfield to grant 4 additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4287);

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.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Avon to appoint a town clerk (House, No. 2270), having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Avon,—
clerk.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by substitution of a bill with the same title (House, No. 4556), which was read.

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted 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 on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

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