

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2025.

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Monday, September 29, 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.

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representatives Peisch of Wellesley and other members of the House) commending Hope and Comfort, Inc. on observing the week of October 5, 2025 as Hygiene Insecurity Awareness Week, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Hygiene
Insecurity
Awareness
Week.

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

Order.

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.

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

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4567), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Ms. Barber of Somerville, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

Communications.

Communications

From the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (see Section 18A(f) of Chapter 21A of the General Laws) submitting the Department of Environmental Protection's Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment Program report for calendar year 2024;

Safe
drinking
water.

From the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (see Section 4(D) of Chapter 21I of the General Laws) submitting the Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Program annual report for fiscal year 2023;

Toxics use
reduction.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see Section 2EEEEEE(e) of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting a report on the activities of and expenditures from the Commonwealth Federal Match and Debt Reduction Fund;

Federal Match
and Debt
Reduction fund.

From the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency (see Section 5 of Chapter 121D of the General Laws) submitting its annual report for fiscal year 2025;

Housing
Finance Agency.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see item 1599-6152 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting the State Retiree Benefits Trust Fund transfer report for fiscal year 2026;

State Retiree
Benefits
Trust Fund.

From the Department of Public Health (see item 5011-0100 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Case Management Best Practices Report;

Case
Management
Best Practices.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and the Executive Office for Housing and Livable Communities (see item 1599-0514 of Section 2 of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023 and Section 19 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the September 18, 2025 biweekly report on the emergency housing assistance program; and

Emergency
housing.

From the Department of Agricultural Resources (see Section 9 of Chapter 213 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its report on the licensing of kennels;

Kennel
licensing.

Severally were placed on file.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Sweezey of Duxbury, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4570) of Kenneth P. Sweezey and Kathleen R. LaNatra (by vote of the town) that the town of Pembroke be authorized to issue an additional license for the sale of alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises. To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Pembroke,—
liquor
license.

By Representative Garballey of Arlington and Senator Friedman, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4571) of Sean Garballey and Cindy F. Friedman (by vote of the town) that the town of Arlington be authorized to prohibit use of second generation anti-coagulant rodenticides by commercial pesticide applicators in said town. To the committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Arlington,—
rodenticides.

By Representative Montaña of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4572) of Samantha Montaña (with the approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to authorize the appointment of Doumy Pamera as a police officer in the city of Boston, notwithstanding the maximum age requirement; and

Boston,—
Doumy
Pamera.

By Representative Vargas of Haverhill, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4573) of Andres X. Vargas (with the approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to authorize Sean Duffy to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement.

Haverhill,—
Sean Duffy.

Severally to the committee on Public Service.

By Representative Garballey of Arlington and Senator Friedman, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4574) of Sean Garballey and Cindy F. Friedman (by vote of the town) for legislation to establish a real estate transfer fee upon the transfer of property in the town of Arlington;

Arlington,—
real estate
transfer fee.

By the same members, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4575) of Sean Garballey and Cindy F. Friedman (by vote of the town) that the town of Arlington be authorized to further regulate the means tested senior citizen property tax exemption in said town;

Arlington,—
senior citizen
property tax.

By Representative Luddy of Orleans and Senator Cyr, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4576) of Hadley Luddy (by vote of the town) that

Eastham,—
real estate
transfer fee.

the town of Eastham be authorized to impose a 3% real estate transfer fee in said town; and

By the same members, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4577) of Hadley Luddy and Julian Cyr (by vote of the town) that the town of Provincetown be authorized to impose a real estate transfer fee.

Provincetown,—
real estate
transfer fee.

Severally to the committee on Revenue.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Arriaga of Chicopee, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Shirley B. Arriaga for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Amy Tanguay, an employee of the Trial Court.

Amy
Tanguay,—
sick leave.

By Representative Frost of Auburn, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Paul K. Frost relative to refundable credits for eligible pass-through entities.

Refundable
credits.

By Representative Gentile of Sudbury, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Carmine Lawrence Gentile relative to free speech protections for private sector employees.

Private sector
employees,—
free speech.

By Representative Jones of North Reading, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., for legislation to create HVAC construction supervisor licensing.

HVAC
licensing.

By Representative Marsi of Charlton and Senator Fattman, a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of John J. Marsi for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for David A. Russell, an employee of the Department of Correction.

David
Russell,—
sick leave.

By Representative McMurtry of Dedham, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Paul McMurtry relative to licenses for off premises retail of alcoholic beverages located near other off premises licenses.

Alcoholic
beverages.

By Representatives Owens of Watertown and Lawn of Watertown, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Steven Owens (with the approval of the city council) relative to property tax classifications in the city of Watertown for fiscal year 2027 and subsequent fiscal years.

Watertown,—
property tax
classifications.

Severally, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill establishing the Massachusetts data privacy act (Senate, No. 2619) (on Senate bill No. 2608), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Data
privacy.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2617) of Michael O. Moore (with the approval of the city council) to grant the city of Worcester the authority to require the adoption of institutional master plans, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Worcester,—
master plans.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the House Bill relocating certain harbor lines in New Bedford Harbor (House, No. 4109), be scheduled for consideration by the House.

New Bedford,—
harbor lines.

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.

A report of the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, under the last sentence of Rule 7A, that the Bill to authorize the city of Westfield to establish an age limit for original appointment to the position of police officer (House, No. 3916) [Local Approval Received], be scheduled for consideration by the House (the time within which said committee is required to report having expired).

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.

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, for the committee on Financial Services, on House, No. 1148, a Bill relative to the practice of acupuncture (House, No. 4548).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 1178, a Bill to improve outcomes for persons with limb loss and limb difference (House, No. 4549).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 1190, a Bill relative to modern family building (House, No. 4550).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 1191, a Bill improving access to infertility treatment (House, No. 4551).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 1223, a Bill to ensure access to scalp and facial hair prostheses for children and adults with alopecia areata (House, No. 4552).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 1258, a Bill requiring coverage of medically necessary oral and dental care for head and neck cancer survivor (sic) (House, No. 4553).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 1346, a Bill to improve sickle cell care (House, No. 4554).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 1347, a Bill to improve sickle cell care (House, No. 4555).

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

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Transportation, on a petition, a Bill relative to a commission to redetermine the definition of disabled veteran in the laws and regulations for the registry of motor vehicles (House, No. 4088). Read; and referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Transportation, on a petition, a Bill creating Cold War veteran license plates (House, No. 3759).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill updating Massachusetts student transportation (House, No. 3772).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to reduce the fee for motor vehicle veteran registration plates (House, No. 3782).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill addressing the shortage of school bus drivers (House, No. 3787).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing for a red shield/blue shield license plate to survivors of firefighters and police officers who have died in the line of duty (House, No. 3815).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the air medal license plate (House, No. 3818).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to competitive bidding for school transportation (House, No. 3976).

Westfield,—
police
officers.

Acupuncture.

Limb loss
and difference.

Infertility
care.

Id.

Insurance,—
hair
prosthesis.

Cancer
survivors,—
dental care.

Sickle
cell care.

Id.

Veteran,—
definition.

Cold War
license plate.

Student
transportation.

Veterans
plates,— fees.

School bus
drivers.

Survivors,—
license plates.

Air medal
plate.

School
transportation.

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

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Marie Letendre (House, No. 4565).

Marie Letendre,—
sick leave.

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, for the committee on Transportation, on a petition, a Bill relative to the enhancement of child safety (House, No. 3808).

Ice cream
vans.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill relative to loading and alighting vehicles from car carriers on public ways (House, No. 3810).

Car
carriers.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill increasing the penalties for passing a stopped school bus (House, No. 3814).

School
buses.

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

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Paul Starvaski, an employee of the Department of Correction (see House, No. 4426), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was considered, the question being on adopting the emergency preamble.

Paul
Starvaski,—
sick leave.

A separate vote was taken, as required by the provisions of Article XLVIII (as amended by Article LXVII) of the Amendments to the Constitution; and the preamble was adopted, by a vote of 3 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Subsequently, the Senate having concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, the bill (which originated in the House) was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Bill
enacted.

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Expanding the select board of the town of Weston (see House, No. 4158); and

Exempting certain affordable housing and branch library space in the Dorchester section of the city of Boston from public procurement laws (see House, No. 4532);

Bills
enacted.

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 House Bill authorizing the town of Acton to increase the residency limit for members of its police and fire departments (House, No. 4168), 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. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Third
reading
bill.

The House Bill establishing an annual stipend for the city known as the town of Bridgewater Town Council (House, No. 2268) (its title having been changed by the

Bridgewater,—
stipends.

committee on Bills in the Third Reading), reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend the bill by adding the following section:

“SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon acceptance by a majority of the voters in the city known as the town of Bridgewater, but not otherwise.”.

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (House, No. 2268, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The House Bill relative to the temporary absence of the Town Manager in the city known as the town of Bridgewater (House, No. 2269) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading), reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Bridgewater,—
town manager.

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. 4569), which was read.

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted bill was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The House Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Kathleen Rodrigue, an employee of the office of Chief Medical Examiner (House, No. 4521) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading), reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Kathleen
Rodrigue,—
sick leave.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by striking out section 2; and 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 establish forthwith a sick leave bank for Kathleen Rodrigue, an employee of the office of the chief medical examiner, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.”.

The amendments were adopted; and the bill (House, No. 4521, 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 twenty-three minutes after eleven o’clock A.M., on motion of Mr. McKenna of Sutton (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.