

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2026.

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Thursday, October 8, 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.

Silent Tribute.

At the request of Mr. Worrell of Boston, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute for Janet S. Jones, who passed away on June 21, 2026.

Janet
Jones.

Janet and her spouse of 52 years, Davida Andelman, made their home in Dorchester, where they founded the Greater Bowdoin-Geneva Neighborhood Association. Janet also helped establish the Dorchester-Roxbury Labor Committee and Boston Area Women's Self-Defense Collective.

Throughout her life, Janet fought for tenants' rights, workers' rights, women's empowerment, racial equity, and greater access to jobs and swimming opportunities for Boston residents. Janet is survived by Davida, her dog Sky, and many cousins, nieces, nephews, grand-nieces, and grand-nephews who loved her deeply.

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill authorizing the appointment of retired police officers as special police officers in the town of Dighton (Senate, No. 3275) (on Senate bill No. 2939) [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.

Dighton,—
police
officers.

A joint petition (accompanied by bill) of Mark C. Montigny and Mark D. Sylvia for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Margaret Connolly-Masson, an employee of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on the Public Service.

Margaret
Connolly-
Masson,—
sick leave.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the joint petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3279) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on the Public Service.

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 Patricia A. Duffy for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Jonathan Murphy, an employee of the Human Resources Division. Under suspension

Jonathan
Murphy,—
sick leave.

of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Public Service. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the House Bill expanding the select board of the town of Tisbury (House, No. 5655) [Local Approval Received], be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Tisbury,—
select
board.

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. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Carry Shulock-Sexton, an employee of the department of agricultural resources (House, No. 5685). Read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Carry Shulock-
Sexton,—
sick leave.

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

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Authorizing a certain employment contract for the town of Boylston (see Senate, No. 3088) (which originated in the Senate);

Bills
enacted.

Designating a certain bridge in the town of Hopkinton as the Major General Frank D. Merrill memorial bridge (see House, No. 3608);

Providing for recall elections in the town of Berlin (see House, No. 3896);

Expanding small property tax abatements in the town of Auburn (see House, No. 4754); and

Authorizing the town of Grafton to establish a means tested senior tax exemption (see House, No. 5035);

(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 amendment of the House Bill amending the means tested senior citizen property tax exemption in the town of Sudbury (House, No. 4755, amended), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was adopted, in concurrence.

Sudbury,—
property taxes.

The Senate Bill directing the city of Boston police department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Elijah George Osborne (Senate, No. 3017), 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.

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),

Id

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.

Order.

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Tuesday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

At fourteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Howitt of Seekonk (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Tuesday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.