

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025.

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, October 9, 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 Representative Jones of North Reading) commending the AADC Family Network in acknowledging October 23, 2025 as AADC Deficiency Awareness Day in Massachusetts, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

AADC
day.

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

Order.

An Order (filed by Representatives Vargas of Haverhill and Hong of Lowell) relative to extending until Sunday, November 23, 2025 the time within which the committee on Community Development and Small Businesses is authorized to report on current House documents, was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Community
Development
and Small
Businesses,—
extension of time
for reporting.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4595) ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Hong of Lowell, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

Paper from the Senate.

A petition (accompanied by bill) of Paul W. Mark for legislation to promote energy conservation in residential buildings through the installation of energy-conserving windows, came from the Senate referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Housing.

Residences,—
windows.

The House then concurred with the Senate in the suspension of said rule; and the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2644) was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Housing.

Reports of Committees.

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 the cleanup of accidental home heating oil spills (House, No. 1194);
To establish commonsense permitting reforms for businesses and landowners (House, No. 2280);

Relative to fire protection (House, No. 2644); and

Pertaining to public fire safety and professionalism (House, No. 2646);

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

A report of the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, under the last sentence of Rule 7A, that the House Bill relative to primary insurance (House, No. 1301), 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. Ouelette of Westport, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on House, Nos. 3384 and 3393, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight to make an investigation and study of certain House documents relative to state agency language access and inclusion and removing certain accessibility restrictions on public records (House, No. 4564). Referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

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.

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill prioritizing patient access to care (House, No. 2370) [Representative Thurber of Somerset dissenting].

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to provider choice (House, No. 2384).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to patient access to information regarding breast reconstructive surgery (House, No. 2421).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to create equitable approaches to public health (House, No. 2529) [Representative Thurber of Somerset dissenting].

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

By Ms. Barber of Somerville, for the committee on Environment and Natural Resources, on a petition, a Bill establishing a coastal waters wastewater financing commission (House, No. 1000). Read; and referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

By Mr. Vargas of Haverhill, for the committee on Community Development and Small Businesses, on a petition, a Bill promoting microbusiness and small business assistance transparency (House, No. 312) [Representative Thurber of Somerset dissenting].

Oil spills.

Zoning,—
variances.

Sprinklers.

Qualifications.

Primary
Insurance.

State
Administration
and Regulatory
Oversight,—
study.

Existing
pregnancies.

Vaccine advisory
council.

Breast
reconstructive
surgery.

Public health
grant program.

Commission,—
wastewater.

Small business
assistance
transparency.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill empowering disadvantaged state contractors” [sic] provides up-front down payments and bridge loans to socially or economically disadvantaged microbusinesses and small businesses that secure state contracts through CDFIs and non-traditional lenders (House, No. 315) [Representative Thurber of Somerset dissenting].

Small
business
loans.

By Ms. Barber of Somerville, for the committee on Environment and Natural Resources, on a petition, a Bill establishing an office of outdoor recreation (House, No. 902).

Outdoor
recreation.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the Office of the State Climatologist (House, No. 961).

State
climatologist.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the Department of Fish and Game (House, No. 986).

Department of
Fish and Game.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 1053, a Bill to create a Merrimack River Collaborative (House, No. 4591).

Merrimack River
Collaborative.

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill relative to autopsy reports by the medical examiner (House, No. 2392).

Autopsy
reports.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing the human service transportation (HST) consumer advisory board (House, No. 2403).

Consumer
advisory board.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 2427, a Bill to improve indoor air quality for highly-impacted communities (House, No. 4590) [Representative Thurber of Somerset dissenting].

Indoor
air quality.

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

By Ms. Barber of Somerville, for the committee on Environment and Natural Resources, on a petition, a Bill relative to the Great Barrington Fire District (House, No. 924).

Great
Barrington
Fire District.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to a technical change to the George L. Darey Inland Fisheries and Game Fund (House, No. 1064).

Inland
Fisheries and
Game Fund.

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill relative to defining invasive surgical procedures (House, No. 1362).

Invasive
procedures.

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

Orders of the Day.

House bills

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

Exempting the position of assistant fire chief in the town of Natick from the civil service law (House, No. 3901);

Third
reading
bills.

Authorizing the town of Lancaster to dissolve its animal control commission (House, No. 4212); and

Relative to the Williamstown Library Trustees (House, No. 4347);

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.

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

Agawam,—
charter.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it in section 2, in line 8, by striking out the following: “2025 regular election” and inserting in place thereof the following: “next regular or special election following the 2025 regular election”; and

By adding the following section:

“SECTION 4. Sections 2 and 3 shall take effect upon passage of this act.”.

The amendments were adopted; and the bill (House, No. 4380, amended) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Recess.

At nine minutes after eleven o’clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed until twenty-five minutes after eleven o’clock; and at twenty-nine minutes after eleven o’clock the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

*Joint Session of the Two Houses to Consider Specific
Amendments to the Constitution.*

Pursuant to assignment, at a half past eleven o’clock A.M., the two branches met
in

Joint session of
the two branches.

JOINT SESSION

and were called to order by the Honorable William N. Brownsberger, having been appointed by the President, to perform the duties of the Chair.

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of
allegiance.

Without action on the matters duly and constitutionally assigned for consideration, at twenty-nine minutes before twelve o’clock noon, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the Joint Session was recessed until Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at twelve o’clock noon; and the Senate withdrew from the House Chamber under the escort of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

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 twenty-seven minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Tuesday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.