

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026.

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, October 15, 2026.

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.

Silent Tribute.

At the request of Mr. Biele of Boston, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute to the memory Lawrence "Larry" A. Dwyer, who passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family, on September 28, 2026.

Larry
Dwyer.

Born and raised in South Boston, Larry began his career as a youth worker at the D Street Multi-Service Center. He went on to serve as Boston Parks Commissioner and Commissioner of Health and Hospitals for the city of Boston under Mayor Raymond L. Flynn. He also served with the District of Columbia Housing Authority.

A dedicated public servant, Larry was deeply devoted to the communities he served and his family. Son of the late Lawrence and Eileen Dwyer, cherished brother to Mary Ellen, Gerard, Kathleen, Daniel, Suzanne, Brian and the late Kevin, devoted husband and best friend to the late Ann Theresa Dwyer, Larry is survived by his daughter, Kaitlyn, his grandchildren, Emma and Grace Elizabeth, and many nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

Appointment of the Speaker.

The Speaker announced that (under the provisions of Section 2B of Chapter 115 of the General Laws) he had appointed Joseph B. Fuller of Newton to serve on the commission on veterans employment opportunities.

Veterans
employment
opportunities.

Guests of the House.

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), declared a brief recess and introduced, seated in the Chamber, Sue Asci and her group of supporters. Sue is a survivor of inflammatory breast cancer and is a peer leader, research advisor, and patient advocate. Her advocacy led to Chapter 159 of the Acts of 2002 designating the second Tuesday of October as Inflammatory Breast Cancer Awareness Day. They were the guests of Representatives Garballey of Arlington and Giannino of Revere.

Sue Asci.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions (filed with the Clerk) were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules:

Resolutions (filed by Representative Hogan of Stow) congratulating the Martin family on the one hundredth anniversary of owning and operating their family farm; and

Martin family.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Sabadosa of Northampton and other members of the House) commending the Allpaths Family Building, Empty Arms Bereavement Support and Propa City Community Center Outreach for recognizing October 15, 2026 as National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day;

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported, in each instance, that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Ms. Sabadosa of Northampton, the resolutions (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 University of Massachusetts Medical School (see Section 43(f) of Chapter 75 of the General Laws) submitting a report of the activities of the MassBiologics Laboratories for fiscal year 2026;

MassBiologics.

From the Northwestern District Attorney's Office (see 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);

Northwestern District Attorney,—
Melanie's law.

From the Northwestern District Attorney's Office (see Section 47(d) of Chapter 94C of the General Laws) submitting a report on its fiscal year 2026 expenditures for drug rehabilitation, drug education and other anti-drug or neighborhood crime watch programs;

Id.

From the Cannabis Control Commission (see Section 4(h) of Chapter 94G of the General Laws) submitting its ninth annual activities report for fiscal year 2026;

Cannabis Control Commission.

From the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (see Sections 8(g) and 12 of Chapter 161B of the General Laws) submitting financial statements, supplementary information, and a schedule of expenditures of federal awards and OMB uniform guidance auditors' reports for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026;

Berkshire Regional Transit,—
statements.

From the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (see Sections 8(g) and 12 of Chapter 161B of the General Laws) submitting financial statements, supplementary information, and a schedule of expenditures of federal awards and OMB uniform guidance auditors' reports for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026;

Pioneer Valley Regional Transit,—
statements.

From the Health Connector Board of Directors (see section 3(s) of Chapter 176Q of the General Laws) submitting its approved proposal to continue with the process of amending Minimum Creditable Coverage (MCC) regulations (956 CMR 5.00-5.05), protecting access to preventative services for Commonwealth residents;

Minimum creditable coverage.

From the Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation (see Section 10 of Chapter 221A of the General Laws) submitting its annual report for fiscal year 2026;

Legal assistance.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and the Executive Office for Housing and Livable Communities (see Section 10 of Chapter 1 and Section 88 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 2025 and Section 19 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the October 1, 2026 biweekly report on the emergency housing assistance program;

Emergency housing assistance.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and the Executive Office for Housing and Livable Communities (see Section 10 of Chapter 1 and Section 88 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 2025 and Section 19 of Chapter 88 of the Acts

Id.

of 2024) submitting the September 17, 2026 biweekly report on the emergency housing assistance program;

From the Office of the Comptroller (see item 1599-3384 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting the Settlements and Judgements accounts payable report for fiscal year 2026;

Settlements and judgements.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see item 1599-3384 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting the Settlements and Judgements accounts payable report for fiscal year 2026;

Id.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see item 5042-5000 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting the Department of Mental Health's Strengthening Public Access to Mental Health Services for Children and Youth report for fiscal year 2026;

Mental health services.

From the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (see item 5046-0000 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting the Department of Mental Health's Enhanced Outpatient Treatment Pilot for fiscal year 2025;

Mental health outpatient treatment.

From the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (see item 7061-9408 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting a report entitled "Report to the Legislature: Targeted Assistance and Intervention (2024-2025)";

Targeted assistance and intervention.

From the Department of Mental Health (see Section 26 of Chapter 177 of the Acts of 2022) submitting the Expedited Psychiatric Inpatient Admission (EPIA) Advisory Council annual report for calendar year 2025; and

Expedited psychiatric admissions.

From the Department of Mental Health (see Section 26 of Chapter 177 of the Acts of 2022) submitting the Expedited Psychiatric Inpatient Admission (EPIA) Advisory Council annual report for calendar year 2024;

Id.

Severally were placed on file.

Special, Annual and Monthly Reports.

A report of the Division of Insurance (under Section 117C of Chapter 175 of the General Laws) submitting its Credit Insurance report for calendar year 2025; and

Credit insurance.

An annual report of the Executive Office of Veterans Services (under Section 41 of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) submitting its Veterans Homes Council report for fiscal year 2026; and

Veterans Homes Council.

A monthly report of the Department of Revenue (under Section 5(e) of Chapter 62F of the General Laws) on year-to-date net state tax revenue for August, 2026;

Net state tax revenue.

Severally were placed on file.

Petition.

Representative Silvia of Fall River presented a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Alan Silvia relative to health insurance solicitation and coercion of long-term care residents; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Long-term care residents,— protection.

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill providing for the filling of a vacancy on the school committee for the Groton-Dunstable regional school district (Senate, No. 3118) (on a petition), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Groton-Dunstable regional school district.

Petitions were referred, in concurrence, as follows:

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3280) of Paul W. Mark (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Heath to continue the employment of the fire chief; and

Heath,—
Nicholas
Anzuoni.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3281) of Paul W. Mark (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Heath to continue the employment of a call member of the Heath fire department;

Heath,—
Will Emmet.

Severally to the committee on Public Service.

Reports of a Committee.

By Mr. Honan of Boston, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the following bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

The Senate Bill providing for the retirement status of employees of the division of natural resources of the town of Yarmouth (Senate, No. 3273) [Local Approval Received]; and

Yarmouth,—
employees.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Webster to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5689) [Local Approval Received];

Webster,—
liquor
license.

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

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Amending the charter of the city of Holyoke (see House, No. 5171); and

Extending the timeframe for the issuance of licenses granted pursuant to Chapter 46 of the Acts of 2020 in the city of Easthampton (see House, No. 5547);

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 engrossed Bill amending the charter of the city of Pittsfield (see House, No. 4716, amended) which had been returned by Her Excellency the Governor with recommendation of amendment (for message, see House, No. 5683), was considered.

Pittsfield,—
charter.

The committee on Bills in the Third Reading reported that the amendment recommended by the Governor be considered in the form contained in the Governor's message as approved by said committee; and the report was accepted.

The amendment recommended by the Governor then was adopted. Sent to the Senate for its action.

The Senate amendment of the House Bill further regulating the Ayer Library (House, No. 4174, amended), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was adopted, in concurrence.

Ayer,—
library.

The Senate Bill authorizing the town of Medfield to continue the employment of David O'Toole as deputy fire chief (Senate, No. 3139), reported by the committee on

Third
reading

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

bill.

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 fourteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Soter of Bellingham (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.