

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025.

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Thursday, October 16, 2025.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Owens of Watertown 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. Owens), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of
allegiance.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Representative Barber of Somerville) commending the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary; and

Department of
Environmental
Protection.

Resolutions (filed by Representative Thurber of Somerset) honoring the Friends of the Somerset Public Library as it celebrates National Friends of Libraries Week;

Somerset,—
library.

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 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.

Communications.

Communications

From the Essex 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);

Essex District
Attorney,—
Melanie's Law.

From the Hampden 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); and

Hampden
District Attorney,—
Melanie's Law.

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.

Severally were placed on file.

Annual Reports.

Annual Reports

Of the Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation (under Section 10 of Chapter 221A of the General Laws) submitting a report for fiscal year 2025; and

Legal
assistance.

Of the Norfolk 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);
Severally were placed on file.

Norfolk District
Attorney,—
Melanie's Law.

Petition.

Representative Kilcoyne of Clinton and Senator Kennedy presented a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4621) of Meghan K. Kilcoyne and Robyn K. Kennedy (by vote of the town) relative to changing the board of selectmen in the town of Boylston to select board; and the same was referred to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Boylston,—
select
board.

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 Steven Owens and John J. Lawn, Jr., (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. Under suspension 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 Revenue. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Watertown,—
property tax
classifications.

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

Senate bills

Authorizing the appointment of alternate members to the conservation commission of the town of Swampscott (Senate, No. 23) [Local Approval Received];

Swampscott,—
commission.

Authorizing the town of Marblehead to establish fines related to parking violations (Senate, No. 2528) [Local Approval Received];

Marblehead,—
parking fines.

House bills

Amending the charter of the city of Greenfield (House, No. 4379) [Local Approval Received];

Greenfield,—
charter.

Relative to the charter of the city known as the town of Randolph (House, No. 4400) [Local Approval Received];

Randolph,—
charter.

Relative to the charter of the town of Swampscott establishing a fall annual town meeting (House, No. 4438) [Local Approval Received]; and

Swampscott,—
charter.

Changing the name of the board of selectmen in the town of Williamsburg to select board (House, No. 4524) [Local Approval Received];

Williamsburg,—
select board.

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

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, asking to be discharged from further consideration:

Of the Bill creating a task force to study the use of the internet by sex offenders (House, No. 84);

Sex offenders,—
study.

Of the Bill to establish an acquired brain injury advisory board (House, No. 231);
and

Acquired brain
injuries.

Of the 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);

And recommending that the same be referred to the House committee on Rules.

Under Rule 42, the reports severally were considered forthwith; and they were accepted.

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill directing the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to study the feasibility of incentivizing inpatient psychiatric hospitals to admit patients directly from community behavioral health centers (House, No. 2363).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill expanding access to hygiene products (House, No. 2390).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 2440 and 2530, a Bill protecting children from harmful diet pills and muscle-building supplements (House, No. 2440).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill protecting patients and healthcare workers from exposure to surgical smoke (House, No. 2442).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing a 90-day supply of medically necessary testosterone therapy medication (House, No. 2447).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 2367, 2500 and 2503, a Bill relative to increasing access to epinephrine (House, No. 4607).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 2399, a Bill to improve access to health care for people with Long COVID (House, No. 4608).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 2400, a Bill measuring the impact of Long COVID in the Commonwealth (House, No. 4609).

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

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill relative to gambling addiction (House, No. 2416).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to establish an amputation prevention task force (House, No. 2433).

Severally read; and referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill relative to menstrual product ingredient disclosure (House, No. 2375).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing Massachusetts entry into the interstate medical licensure compact (House, No. 2393).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to sexual assault counselor task force (House, No. 2446).

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

Engrossed Bill.

The engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Ana C. Contreras, an employee of the trial court of the Commonwealth (see House, No. 1596, amended)

Veteran,—
definition.

Behavioral
health centers.

Hygiene
products.

Harmful
supplements.

Smoke
exposure.

Testosterone
therapy.

Epinephrine,—
access.

Long
COVID.

Id.

Gambling
addiction.

Amputation
prevention.

Menstrual
products.

Interstate medical
licensure.

Sexual assault
counselors.

Bill
enacted.

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

Orders of the Day.

House bills

Exempting Stephen Justice from the maximum age requirement for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill (House, No. 2985) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading);

Third
reading
bills.

Exempting Javier Vargas from the maximum age requirement for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill (House, No. 2986) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading); and

Exempting Brittany Sproule from the maximum age requirement for firefighters in the city of Haverhill (House, No. 2987) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading);

Severally reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed. Severally 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 twenty minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Howitt of Seekonk (Mr. Owens of Watertown being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.