

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2025.**

[100]\*

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## JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

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Wednesday, October 29, 2025.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M. 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 Tributes.*

During the session, the Speaker took the Chair and, at the request of Representatives Marsi of Charlton and Smola of Warren, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silent tribute in respect to the memory of longtime Southbridge resident and former Massachusetts State Representative Mark J. Carron, who passed away on October 18th, 2025, at the age of 63.

Mark  
Carron.

The towns of Southbridge, Warren and the 6th Worcester District are grateful for Mr. Carron's 30 plus years of dedicated public service and volunteerism within the town of Southbridge in multiple capacities, including Town Councilor.

In 1999 Mr. Carron was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives and served three plus terms representing Southbridge, Charlton, Dudley, Sturbridge and Oxford, where he faithfully served his community.

He is survived by his loving partner Carrie Nault, ex-wife and friend Cynthia Keene, children Alyxxandria, Cole, Kenz, Michael and Christopher; his stepdaughters Olivia, Kaitlyn and Emma, and his 5 granddaughters, as well as his mother Ann, his brother Jeffery, and his sister Nancy. He was predeceased by his stepfather Roger.

The entire Southern Worcester County community sends their love and support to the entire Carron Family.

During the session (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), at the request of Representatives Fluker-Reid of Boston, Worrell of Boston and Tyler of Boston, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silence in memory of the Honorable Judge Leslie Harris, who passed away on October 15th.

Honorable  
Judge Leslie  
Harris.

He was a devoted father, husband, son, uncle, and friend who was known by all for his kindness and integrity. Judge Harris dedicated his life to youth and justice, becoming a champion of diversity and a mentor to countless students and young people. He was a former judge at the Suffolk Juvenile Court and one of the founding members of the BC Law Black Alumni Network. Prior to his judgeship, he served as an elementary school teacher at the New School for Children in Roxbury, as the METCO Coordinator in Melrose, a public defender in Boston, and the Chief of the Juvenile Division at the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office. He later taught at local institutions including the Museum of Afro-American History and Salem State.

He is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, who continue to honor his legacy.

During the session (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), at the request of Representative Higgins of Leominster, the members, guests and employees stood in a moment of silence in memory of former Representative Dennis Rosa, who passed away on Wednesday October 22, surrounded by his family, after an illness.

Dennis Rosa.

Dennis owned and operated American Auto Body Repair and DJ'S Discount Auto Body Supplies both in Leominster.

He served our Nation during The Vietnam War as a member of The United States Air Force from 1968 to 1974 and was discharged with the rank of E-5.

His political career included State Representative, serving the Fourth Worcester District from 2008-2017, and he previously served as Councilor-at-Large on the Leominster City Council from 1990-2009.

Dennis was pre-deceased by the love of his life, his wife Deborah (Kinsey) Rosa in 2008. He leaves his son Scott and his wife Sarah (Sebren) Rosa, a daughter Amy and her husband Paul Roux, seven grandchildren, and many more loved ones and great friends who miss him deeply.

*Statement of Representative Ferguson of Holden.*

A statement of Ms. Ferguson of Holden was spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call to the attention of the House the fact that I am unable to be present in the House Chamber for today's sitting due to a family scheduling conflict. Had I been present, I would have voted in the affirmative on Yea and Nay Nos. 97 to 100, inclusive, and Nos. 103 and 104, and in the negative on Yea and Nay Nos. 101 and 102. My missing of roll calls today is due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of  
Representative  
Ferguson of  
Holden.

*Statement of Representative Kane of Shrewsbury.*

A statement of Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury was spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call to the attention of the House the fact that I am unable to be present in the House Chamber for today's sitting due to international travel. Had I been present, I would have voted in the affirmative on Yea and Nay Nos. 97 to 100, inclusive, and Nos. 103 and 104, and in the negative on Yea and Nay Nos. 101 and 102. My missing of roll calls today is due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of  
Representative  
Kane of  
Shrewsbury.

*Guests of the House.*

During the session, the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford) declared a brief recess, and introduced seated in the House Chamber, the Uxbridge 9U Cal Ripken summer baseball team, who won their district championship and the Western Massachusetts State Championship this past summer. At the invitation of the Chair, the team participated in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. They were the guests of Representatives Soter of Bellingham and McKenna of Sutton and Senator Fattman.

Uxbridge 9U  
Cal Ripken  
summer  
baseball team.

*Remote Participation.*

Notice had been received from House Counsel that, under the provisions of House Rule 49, Representatives Barber of Somerville, Boldyga of Southwick and Ferrante of Gloucester had been approved to participate remotely for today's formal sitting.

Remote participation.

*Order.*

An Order (filed by Representatives Haggerty of Woburn and Ramos of North Andover) relative to extending until Monday, November 17, 2025 the time within which the committee on Housing is authorized to report on current House documents, was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Housing,— extension of time for reporting.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4655) ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Ultrino of Malden, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

*Petitions.*

Representative Peisch of Wellesley and Senator Creem presented a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Alice Hanlon Peisch and Cynthia Stone Creem for the adoption of resolutions to rescind all prior Article V Constitutional Convention applications; and the same was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Constitutional Convention,— application rescinding.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules and the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, then reported recommending that Joint Rule 12 be suspended. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Ultrino of Malden, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by resolutions) was referred to the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Gregoire of Marlborough, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Danielle W. Gregoire relative to the recording of a confirmatory deed by the Commonwealth of a certain parcel of land in the city of Marlborough to Louis G. Monti, Jr., of said city.

Marlborough,— land.

By Representative Puppolo of Springfield, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr., and others for the issuance of an annual proclamation by the Governor to designate May 2 as veterinary youth day.

Veterinary youth day.

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

*Paper from the Senate.*

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2668) of Ryan C. Fattman (by vote of the town) for legislation to the increase [sic] the membership of the select board of the town of Monson, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Monson,— select board.

*Reports of Committees.*

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 establishing a coastal waters wastewater financing commission (House, No. 1000); and

Commission,—  
wastewater.

Of the Bill addressing challenges facing public libraries and digital resource collections (House, No. 3595);

Public  
libraries.

And recommending that the same severally 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 providing safeguards for home healthcare workers (House, No. 2364).

Healthcare  
workers.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill instructing the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to study the feasibility of absorbing oversight of all “memory care” assisted living facilities and units in the Commonwealth (House, No. 2366).

Memory care  
assisted living.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to creating accessible CNA training (House, No. 2381).

Longterm care,—  
training.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to safe patient handling and mobility in certain health facilities (House, No. 2396) [Representative Thurber of Somerset dissenting].

Patient handling  
and mobility.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to staffing at home health and hospice agencies (House, No. 2408).

Home health  
and hospice.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to improve access to family physicians (House, No. 2451) [Representative Thurber of Somerset dissenting].

Health care  
applicants.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to emergency medical services oversight (House, No. 2473).

Emergency  
medical services.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill protecting the interests of patients in the event of the sale, relocation or closure of certain physician practices (House, No. 2478).

Physician  
practices.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to LGBTQ+ health disparities (House, No. 2501).

Health  
disparities.

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

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on a petition, a Bill establishing a special commission on paid family and medical leave for public employees (House, No. 2070). Read; and referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Public employee  
leave,—  
study.

By Mr. Livingstone of Boston, for the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, on a petition, a Bill relative to the family medical history of adopted children (House, No. 244).

Adopted  
children,—  
medical history.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to establish an office of youth development (House, No. 293).

Office of youth  
development.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 268, 269 and 270, a Bill to preserve family and sibling bonds for children in foster care (House, No. 4656).

Family and  
sibling bonds,—  
foster children.

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on a petition, a Bill securing the application of Massachusetts law to

Remote  
employees.

employees of employers incorporated or operating in Massachusetts who provide their labor and services remotely (House, No. 2090).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to collective bargaining rights of Massachusetts employees (House, No. 2097).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 2154, a Bill establishing parking cash-out (House, No. 4658).

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill establishing a nursing workforce center (House, No. 2397).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to finance the Betsy Lehman Center's statewide provider health care safety education pilot program (House, No. 2476).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 2557, a Bill relative to requiring trauma kits in public buildings (House, No. 4659).

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill relative to certain employees of the MBTA advisory board (House, No. 2991).

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

By Mr. Chan of Quincy, for the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, on House, No. 4184, a Bill authorizing the town of Scituate to issue four additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4657).

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on a petition, a Bill relating to privileged communication between individuals and their labor organizations (House, No. 2087).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to teacher strikes (House, No. 3949).

By Mr. Ryan of Boston, for the committee on Public Service, on a petition, a Bill relative to protecting local retirees (House, No. 2799).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the fifth member of the public employee retirement systems (House, No. 2813).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill authorizing the appointment or [sic] retired police officers as special police officers in the town of Brookline (House, No. 2992) [Local Approval Received].

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 Kathleen Rodrigue, an employee of the office of chief medical examiner (see House, No. 4521, amended), 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.

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 4 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

### *Recess.*

Collective bargaining rights.

Parking cash-out.

Nursing workforce center.

Provider safety education.

Trauma kits.

MBTA,—retirement.

Scituate,—liquor licenses.

Privileged communication.

Teacher strikes.

Local retirees,—insurance.

Retirement boards.

Brookline,—special police.

Kathleen Rodrigue,—sick leave.

At seven 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 one o'clock P.M.; and nine minutes after two o'clock, the House was called to order with Ms. Hogan of Stow in the Chair.

Recess.

*Reports of Committees.*

Prior to the noon recess (Mr. Donato being in the Chair), By Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Bill relative to the strengthening of financial literacy throughout the commonwealth (House, No. 627), ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor a Bill relative to personal financial literacy education (House, No. 4670). Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Financial literacy.

Mr. Honan of Boston, for said committee, then reported recommending that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith.

The amendment recommended by the committee on Ways and Means then was adopted; and the substituted bill was ordered to a third reading.

Subsequently, the noon recess having terminated (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Jones of North Reading, the bill (having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) was read a third time.

After debate on the question on passing the bill to be engrossed (the Speaker having taken the Chair) the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of Mr. Gordon of Bedford; and on the roll call 155 members voted in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

Bill passed to be engrossed,—  
yea and nay  
No. 97.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 97](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the bill (House, No. 4670) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Prior to the noon recess (Mr. Donato being in the Chair), By Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Bill expanding student access to the state seal of biliteracy (House, No. 629), ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor a bill with the same title (House, No. 4671). Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Biliteracy seal.

Mr. Honan of Boston, for said committee, then reported recommending that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith.

The amendment recommended by the committee on Ways and Means then was adopted; and the substituted bill was ordered to a third reading.

Subsequently, the noon recess having terminated (the Speaker being in the Chair), there being no objection, the bill (having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) was read a third time.

After remarks on the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of Mr. Lewis of Framingham; and on the roll call 155 members voted in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

Bill passed to be engrossed,—  
yea and nay  
No. 98.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 98](#) in Supplement.]



Therefore the bill (House, No. 4671) was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Prior to the noon recess (Mr. Donato being in the Chair), By Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Bill relative to teacher preparation and student literacy (House, No. 4642), ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor a bill with the same title (House, No. 4672). Referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Student  
literacy.

Mr. Honan of Boston, for said committee, then reported recommending that the matter be scheduled for consideration by the House.

Under suspension of Rule 7A, on motion of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, the bill was read a second time forthwith.

The amendment recommended by the committee on Ways and Means then was adopted; and the substituted bill was ordered to a third reading.

Subsequently, the noon recess having terminated (the Speaker being in the Chair), under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Gordon of Bedford, the bill (having been reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) was read a third time.

After debate on the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Pease of Westfield moved to amend it in section 10, in line 138, by inserting after the word “department” the words “provided further, that the department of elementary and secondary education shall provide funding, subject to appropriation, sufficient to cover the costs incurred by school districts to implement the screening assessments and progress monitoring required under this section, including but not limited to costs associated with assessment tools, data management, staff training, and parent communications.”.

After remarks the amendment was rejected.

Mrs. Sullivan-Almeida of Abington then moved to amend the bill in section 10, in lines 134, 142 and 146, by striking out the word “significantly” and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the words “at risk of falling”.

After debate on the question on adoption of the amendments, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of the same member; and on the roll call 23 members voted in the affirmative and 131 in the negative.

Amendments  
rejected,—  
yea and nay  
No. 99.

**[See Yea and Nay No. 99 in Supplement.]**

Therefore the amendments were rejected.

Ms. Decker of Cambridge then moved to amend the bill by inserting after section 11 the following section:

“SECTION 11A. Item 1596-2437 of section 2F of chapter 9 of the acts of 2025 is hereby amended by striking out clauses (iv) and (v) and inserting in place thereof the following clauses:- (iv) the coordination and alignment of assessment and screening, curriculum and professional development across the departments of early education and care and elementary and secondary education; (v) other professional learning initiatives and supports related to literacy assessment, measurement and instruction for specific groups of learners or specific evidence based materials; and (vi) investing in public school libraries and the hiring by school districts of reading specialists, reading interventionists, literacy coordinators, school librarians, library aides, education support professionals or other staff to support student reading and literacy development; provided, that such staff shall be employees of the school district.”.



After debate on the question on adoption of the amendment, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of the same member, and on the roll call 140 members voted in the affirmative and 15 in the negative.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 100](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Decker of Cambridge then moved to amend the bill by inserting after section 11A (inserted by amendment) the following section:

“SECTION 11B. (a) The department of elementary and secondary education, in collaboration with stakeholders, including, but not limited to, the Massachusetts Teachers Association, the American Federation of Teachers Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc. and the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, Inc., shall study and make recommendations relative to the education workforce in public school districts in the area of reading and literacy development.

(b) The study and recommendations shall include, but shall not be limited to, an analysis of: (i) existing student access to public school libraries and its impact on student reading and literacy and recommendations to ensure equitable access to school libraries for all students; and (ii) data reported by school districts to the department of elementary and secondary education on the number of reading specialists, reading interventionists, literacy coordinators, school librarians, library aides, education support professionals and other staff employed by the district that directly support student reading and literacy development and the development of recommended staffing levels based on that analysis. The staffing levels recommended by the department shall be differentiated for school districts based on the unique learning needs of districts’ student populations, including, but not limited to, the number of low-income students, emergent bilingual learners and students with disabilities enrolled in a school district.

(c) Not later than December 31, 2026, the department shall submit a report on its study and recommendations to the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate, the house and senate committees on ways and means and the joint committee on education. The report shall include an estimated cost for school districts to come into compliance with the recommended staffing levels.”.

On the question on adoption of the amendment, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of the same member, and on the roll call 133 members voted in the affirmative and 22 in the negative.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 101](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Decker of Cambridge then moved to amend the bill in section 2, in line 58, by inserting after the word “program” the following paragraph:

“(f) Annually, not later than October 31, each school district shall report to the department the number of reading specialists, reading interventionists, literacy coordinators, school librarians, library aides, education support professionals and other staff employed by the district that directly support student reading and literacy development.”; and

By inserting after section 12 the following section:

“SECTION 12A. School districts shall begin reporting required pursuant to subsection (f) of section 1E ½ of the General Laws not later than October 31, 2026 for the 2025-2026 school year.”.

On the question on adoption of the amendment, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of the same member, and on the roll call 133 members voted in the affirmative and 22 in the negative.

Amendment  
adopted,—  
yea and nay  
No. 100.

Amendment  
adopted,—  
yea and nay  
No. 101.

Amendment  
adopted,—  
yea and nay

[See [Yea and Nay No. 102](#) in Supplement.]

No. 102.

Therefore the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Connolly of Cambridge then moved to amend the bill in section 2, in line 24, by inserting after the word “three-cueing” the following: “; provided, that curricula selected to meet a curriculum framework for kindergarten through grade 3 literacy may use pictures as a supplement to support reading and literacy; and provided further, that said curriculum that uses pictures shall be in compliance with subsection (c).”.

On the question on adoption of the amendment, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of the same member; and on the roll call (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair) 155 members voted in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

Amendment  
adopted,—  
yea and nay  
No. 103.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 103](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the amendment was adopted.

On the question on passing the bill, as amended, to be engrossed, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, at the request of Mr. Gordon of Bedford; and on the roll call 155 members voted in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

Bill passed to  
be engrossed,—  
yea and nay  
No. 104.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 104](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the bill (House, No. 4683, published as 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 tomorrow at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next  
sitting.

Ms. Higgins of Leominster moves that when the House adjourns today, it do so in respect to the memory of Dennis A. Rosa, a member of the House from Leominster from 2009 to 2016, inclusive; and the motion prevailed.

Mr. Jones of North Reading then moved that the House adjourn; and the motion prevailed. Accordingly, without consideration of the matters in the Orders of the Day, at eleven minutes before five o'clock P.M. (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following day at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.