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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026.

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Monday, November 16, 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).

Pledge of allegiance.

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.

Resolutions.

Jillian Valentino,—Eagle Scout.

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representative Hogan of Stow) congratulating Jillian Valentino on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of Scouting America, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

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

Communications.

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Capital expenditures.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (see Section 62 of Chapter 7 of the General Laws) submitting its report for fiscal year 2026 which contains a list of all capital projects, the legislation and line-items authorizing such funding, the municipalities and the Senate and House legislative districts in which such projects are located;

Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital.

From the Department of Public Health (see item 4590-0915 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting a monthly report through July, 2026 on the status of the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children;

Medical assistance trust fund.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see item 1595-1068 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025, as amended by Sections 84 and 85 of Chapter 14 of the Acts of 2025) submitting a revised Medical Assistance Trust Fund transfer schedule for fiscal year 2026; and

Behavioral health.

From the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission (see item 4000-0054 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting the Behavioral Health Workforce Center (BHWC) report entitled "Strengthening the Behavioral Health Workforce: Pathways to Licensure and Opportunities for Reform";

Severally were placed on file.

Petition.

Pepperell,—enterprise

Representative Scarsdale of Pepperell and Senator Howard presented a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4963) of Margaret R. Scarsdale and Vanna

Howard (by vote of the town) that the town of Pepperell be authorized to establish a Patriot Regional Emergency Communications Center enterprise fund in said town; and the same was referred to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government. Sent to the Senate for concurrence. fund.

Papers from the Senate.

The House Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2026 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (House, No. 5700), came from the Senate, passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 3299. Supplemental appropriations.

Under the suspension of Rule 35, on motion of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, the amendment was considered forthwith. The House then non-concurred with the Senate in its amendment; and on motion of the same member, asked for a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches. Representatives Michlewitz, Diggs of Barnstable and Smola of Warren were appointed the committee on the part of the House. Sent to the Senate to be joined. Committee of conference.

Subsequently notice was received from the Senate that said branch had insisted on its amendment, concurred with the House in the appointment of a committee of conference; and that Senators Rodrigues, Comerford and O'Connor had been appointed the committee on the part of the Senate. Id.

Petitions were referred, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, in concurrence, as follows:

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3303) of Mark C. Montigny and Christopher Hendricks for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Thomas Ryan, an employee of the Department of Correction; and Thomas Ryan,— sick leave.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3304) of Mark C. Montigny and Christopher Hendricks for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Karrie Medeiros, an employee of the department of transitional assistance; Karrie Medeiros,— sick leave.

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 amending the charter of the city known as the town of Randolph (Senate, No. 3287) [Local Approval Received]; and Randolph,— charter.

The House Bill authorizing and directing the retirement board of the city of Lawrence to grant credible service to Lawrence police officer Abel Cano Jr [sic] (House, No. 5565) [Local Approval Received]; Lawrence,— Abel Cano.

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.

A report of the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, under the last sentence of Rule 7A, that the Senate Bill authorizing the town of Medfield to utilize alternative methods for notice of public hearings (Senate, No. 3138) [Local Approval Medfield,— public hearings.

Received], 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. Garballey of Arlington, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Designating April 5 as Okur-Chung Neurodevelopmental Syndrome Awareness Day (see House, No. 3366); Bills enacted.

Authorizing print-free digital legal notices in the town of Wellesley (see House, No. 4138, amended); and

Authorizing the town of Shrewsbury to increase the value of estates eligible for certain abatements (see House, No. 5515);

(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 Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Timothy Cluett, an employee of the Worcester county sheriff's office (Senate, No. 3296), 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 authorizing the town of Avon to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5692), 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. Id.

The House Bill amending the town charter of the town of Falmouth to create the Falmouth Licensing Commission (House, No. 5365, changed) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading), reported by said committee to be correctly drawn, was read a third time. Falmouth,— licensing commission.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by substitution of a bill with the same title (House, No. 5720), which was read.

The amendment was adopted; and the substituted bill 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 Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M. Next sitting.

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 adjourned, to meet the following Thursday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.