

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2025.**

[118]

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## JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

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Thursday, December 18, 2025.

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

Pledge of  
allegiance.

### *Orders.*

The following order (filed by Speaker Mariano of Quincy) was referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules:

*Ordered*, That the precept to be issued by the Speaker, under the provisions of Section 141 of Chapter 54 of the General Laws, appointing a time for the election to fill the vacancy existing in the office of Representative in the General Court from the Fifth Essex District shall designate Tuesday, March 31, 2026, as the time ordered by the House of Representatives for said election.

Fifth Essex  
Representative  
District,—  
time for election  
to fill vacancy.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, then reported that the order ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

The following orders were referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules:

Order (filed by Representatives Gordon of Bedford and Ayers of Quincy) relative to extending until Wednesday, March 18, 2026 the time within which the committee on Education is authorized to report on current House documents (House, No. 4847).

Extensions  
of time for  
committees  
to make  
reports.

Order (filed by Representatives Ryan of Boston and Higgins of Leominster) relative to extending until Wednesday, March 18, 2026 the time within which the committee on Public Service is authorized to report on current House documents (House, No. 4865).

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the orders ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Owens of Watertown, the orders were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

The following orders were referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules:

Order (filed by Representatives Cahill of Lynn and Worrell of Boston) relative to extending until Wednesday, March 18, 2026 the time within which the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security is authorized to report on current House documents (House, No. 4864).

Id.

Order (filed by Representatives Madaro of Boston and Philips of Sharon) relative to extending until Friday, February 20, 2026 the time within which the committee on Revenue is authorized to report on current House documents (House, No. 4841).

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the orders ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Donato of Medford, the orders were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

The Order (filed by Representatives Gordon of Bedford and Ayers of Quincy) relative to extending until Wednesday, March 18, 2026 the time within which the committee on Education is authorized to report on current House documents, was referred, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Education,—  
extension  
of time for  
reporting.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4863) ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

### *Communications.*

#### Communications

From the Cannabis Control Commission (see Section 4(h) of Chapter 94G of the General Laws) submitting its eighth annual activities report for fiscal year 2025;

Cannabis Control  
Commission.

From the Department of Unemployment Assistance (see Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) relative to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund for October, 2025;

Unemployment  
Insurance  
Trust Fund.

From the Committee for Public Counsel Services (see Section 17 of Chapter 211D of the General Laws) submitting its Title IV-E report for calendar year 2025;

Public Counsel  
Services.

From the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and the Executive Office for Housing and Livable Communities (see Section 10 of Chapter 1 of the Acts of 2025 and Section 19 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting the November 13, 2025 biweekly report on the emergency housing assistance program; and

Emergency  
housing  
assistance.

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 the first quarter of fiscal year 2026;

Settlements  
and judgements.

Severally were placed on file.

### *Annual Report.*

A monthly report of the Executive Office of the Trial Court (under Section 15(c) of Chapter 239 of the General Laws, as amended by Section 64 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its report on filings, actions, and dispositions of summary process cases relative to permanent rental protections, was placed on file.

Permanent  
rental  
protections.

### *Papers from the Senate.*

Petitions were referred, in concurrence, as follows:

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2877) of Michael O. Moore and David K. Muradian, Jr. (by vote of the town) for legislation to prohibit or restrict the application of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides. To the committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Grafton,—  
rodenticides.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2878) of Barry R. Finegold and David Allen Robertson (by vote of the town) for legislation to lease the North Street Elementary School for a term of years not exceeding 99 years. To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Tewksbury,—  
lease.

A communication from the Division of Banks (pursuant to Section 6A of Chapter 171 of the General Laws) submitting the final amended regulation 209 CMR 50.00 et seq.: Parity with Federal Credit Unions (Senate, No. 2871), was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Financial Services.

Federal credit unions,— regulations.

*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 Carole A. Fiola relative to survivors and holders of abuse or harassment prevention orders. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Owens of Watertown, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on the Judiciary. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Abuse prevention.

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 town of Sandwich (Senate, No. 2859) [Local Approval Received]; and

Sandwich,— charter.

House bills

Relative to dark money in local government (House, No. 806);

Relative to police certification (House, No. 2582); and

Campaign funds.  
Police certification.

Providing for recall elections in the town of Dalton (House, No. 4242, changed) [Local Approval Received];

Dalton,— recall elections.

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

By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on a petition, a Bill to establish a Massachusetts children's cabinet (House, No. 3302).

Children's cabinet.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the Massachusetts Poland Trade Commission (House, No. 3376).

Commission,— Poland trade.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Resolve establishing a commission on infrastructure resilience (House, No. 3437).

Commission,— infrastructure.

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

By Mr. Madaro of Boston, for the committee on Revenue, on so much as relates to sections 45 to 72, inclusive, 85 and 86 of House, No. 56, an Order relative to authorizing the committee on Revenue to make an investigation and study of a certain House document concerning certain revenue petitions relating to property and local taxes (House, No. 4850). Referred, under Joint Rule 29, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Property and local taxes,— study.

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.

Subsequently, Mr. Galvin of Canton, for said committee, on the foregoing Order relative to authorizing the committee on Revenue to make an investigation and study

Id.

of a certain House document concerning certain revenue petitions relating to property and local taxes (House, No. 4850), reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration of sections 45 to 72, inclusive, 85 and 86 of the message from Her Excellency the Governor's recommending legislation relative to empowering municipalities and local governments (for message, see House No. 56),— and recommending that the same be recommitted to the committee on Revenue.

Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted.

By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on House, No. 6 and on a part of House, No. 3, a Bill improving government accountability (House, No. 6).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 7 and on a part of House, No. 3, a Bill improving the internal controls within state agencies (House, No. 7).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 12 and on a part of House, No. 11, a Bill updating Chapter 30B (House, No. 12).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 13 and on a part of House, No. 11, a Bill relative to snow hauling and removal (House, No. 13).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 40 and on a part of House, No. 35, a Bill relative to the 401(k) CORE Plan (House, No. 40).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to public hiring preference for veterans, peace corps, americorps and commonwealth corps [sic] workers (House, No. 3284).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 3291 and 3313, a Bill transferring Bridgewater State Hospital from the Department of Correction to the Department of Mental Health (House, No. 3291).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing the Executive Office of Food Resources and Security (House, No. 3331).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing the executive office of structural racism (House, No. 3348).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill promoting the civil rights and inclusion of American Muslims in the Commonwealth (House, No. 3351).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relating to fair pay and safe workplaces (House, No. 3360).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill promoting governmental efficiency (House, No. 3382).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill adding an indigenous member to the Massachusetts Historical Commission (House, No. 3390).

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to promote diversity on public boards and commissions (House, No. 3398).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 3326 and 3430, a Bill designating Diwali Day as a state holiday (House, No. 3430, changed in section 1, in lines 4 and 5, by striking out the following- "establishing the day as a state holiday,").

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women (House, No. 3433).

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 3439, 3440 and 3441, a Bill [sic] the Commonwealth housing, economic, education and equity in recovery and reconstruction (House, No. 3439).

Government  
accountability.

State agencies,—  
internal  
controls.

Uniform  
Procurement Law.

Snow removal.

401(k) CORE  
plan.

Public hiring  
preferences.

Bridgewater  
State Hospital.

Food and  
security.

Structural  
racism.

Civil rights  
and inclusion.

Workplaces,—  
safety.

Open meeting law  
complaints.

Commission,—  
member.

Commission,—  
diversity.

Diwali  
Day.

Commission on the  
Status of Women.

Recovery and  
reconstruction.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing a Massachusetts Agency of Freedmen Affairs (House, No. 4351).

Freedmen  
affairs.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 3311, a Bill advancing equity for rural communities receiving state grants (House, No. 4830).

State grants,—  
rural communities.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, Nos. 3283, 3290, 3299, 3328, 3342 and 3426, a Bill to modernize participation in public meetings (House, No. 4831).

Public  
meetings.

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

By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on a petition, a Bill directing the superintendent of state office buildings to install a permanent memorial in the Massachusetts State House in honor of Mercy Otis Warren (House, No. 3315).

Mercy Otis  
Warren,—  
memorial.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing Getting to Zero Week (House, No. 3381).

HIV and AIDS  
epidemic.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill establishing the official ice cream flavor of the Commonwealth (House, No. 3409).

Official ice  
cream flavor.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing Lobular Breast Cancer Awareness Day (House, No. 4625).

Lobular breast  
cancer day.

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 Amy Tanguay, an employee of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth (see House, No. 4647), 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.

Amy  
Tanguay,—  
sick leave.

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 5 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

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

Bill  
enacted.

#### *Engrossed Bills.*

##### Engrossed bills

Providing for the issuance of revenue bonds for the construction and reconstruction of telecommunications facilities by the city of Quincy (see Senate, No. 2625) (which originated in the Senate); and

Bills  
enacted.

Relative to the town resident requirement for the town manager of the town of Dalton (see House, No. 4210) (which 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.*

House bills

Establishing the fourth Thursday in March as Tuskegee Airmen Commemoration Day (House, No. 3306);

Relative to the appointment of the police chief in the city of Fall River (House, No. 4214);

Amending the town manager act of the town of Arlington (House, No. 4502); and

Relative to Town Manager Powers of Appointment in the town of Bridgewater (House, No. 4579) (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.

Third  
reading  
bills.

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The Senate Bill amending the charter of the town of Rockland (Senate, No. 2716, amended), reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, was read a third time.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, in concurrence, Mr. Walsh of Peabody moved to amend it by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 4866.

The amendment was adopted; and the bill (Senate, No. 2716, amended) was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence. Sent to the Senate for concurrence in the amendment.

Rockland,—  
charter.

*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.

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At five minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. McKenna of Sutton (Mr. Garballey of Arlington being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.