

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.**



**MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2025.**

[119]

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Monday, December 22, 2025.

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.

## *Resolutions.*

Resolutions (filed with the Clerk by Representative Decker of Cambridge) honoring the United States Postal Service on the occasion of its two hundred and fiftieth anniversary, were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

United States  
Postal Service.

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

## *Orders.*

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

Order (filed by Representatives Chan of Quincy and Keefe of Worcester) relative to extending until Wednesday, March 18, 2026 the time within which the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure is authorized to report on a current House document (House, No. 4872).

Extensions  
of time for  
committees  
to make  
reports.

Order (filed by Representatives Barber of Somerville and Cataldo of Concord) relative to extending until Wednesday, March 18, 2026 the time within which the committee on Environment and Natural Resources is authorized to report on current House documents (House, No. 4871).

Order (filed by Representatives Decker of Cambridge and Kerans of Danvers) relative to extending until Tuesday, January 27, 2026 the time within which the committee on Public Health is authorized to report on current House documents (House, No. 4874).

Order (filed by Representatives Decker of Cambridge and Kerans of Danvers) relative to extending until Monday, March 16, 2026 the time within which the committee on Public Health is authorized to report on a current House document (House, No. 4873).

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. Garballey of Arlington, the orders were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

## *Communications.*

Communications

From the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (see Section 69 of Chapter 23K of the General Laws) submitting its gaming revenue reports and associated sports wagering revenue report through October, 2025;

Gaming and sports wagering revenue.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see Section 1A and 1B of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting the actual revenue tax and non-tax collections for the first quarter of fiscal year 2026;

Tax and non-tax revenue collections.

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

Pappas hospital.

From the Office of the Comptroller (see item 1595-7066 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting the Massachusetts Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Pipeline Fund transfer schedule for fiscal year 2026; and

STEM transfer schedule.

From the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (see item 8900-1100 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its report on Correctional Industries Program Participation and Recidivism on incarcerated individuals released in 2018;

Incarcerated individuals.

Severally were placed on file.

*Monthly Report.*

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 October, 2025, was placed on file.

Net state tax revenue.

*Petitions.*

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Gallagher of Bridgewater, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4877) of Dennis C. Gallagher (by vote of the town) that the town of Raynham be authorized to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises. To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Raynham, — liquor license.

By the same member, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4878) of Dennis C. Gallagher (by vote of the town) that the town of Raynham be authorized to lease certain municipal real property for up to 99 years. To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Raynham,— lease.

By Representative Vargas of Haverhill, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4879) of Andres X. Vargas (with the approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to authorize Jonathan Gagne to take the civil service examination for the position of police officer in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement. To the committee on Public Service.

Haverhill,— Jonathan Gagne.

Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Representative Field of Taunton (by request), a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Jim Durkin for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for William Blalock, an employee of the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office.

William Blalock,— sick leave.

By Representative Kushmerek of Fitchburg, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Michael P. Kushmerek for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Michelle Joseph, an employee of the Department of Children and Families.

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

Michelle Joseph,—  
sick leave.

*Papers from the Senate.*

The House Bill authorizing the town of Milford to convert a license for the sale of wine and malt beverages into a license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be consumed on the premises (House, No. 4359, amended), 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 2893. The amendment was referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

Milford,—  
liquor  
license.

A Bill directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officer Cherell Mellace (Senate, No. 1907) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received], passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Boston,—  
Cherell  
Mellace.

*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 joint petition of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Marnie Jean Goldstein, an employee of the Department of Children and Families. 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 the Public Service. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Marnie Jean Goldstein,—  
sick leave.

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

Authorizing the town of Orange to increase the membership of the board of selectmen (House, No. 4701) [Local Approval Received];

Orange,—  
selectmen.

Relative to the annual town meeting for the town of Orange (House, No. 4717) [Local Approval Received];

Orange,—  
town meeting.

Relative to the auto damage appraiser licensing board (House, No. 4806); and

Auto appraisers.

Authorizing the town of Milton to grant additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4813) [Local Approval Received];

Milton,—  
liquor  
licenses.

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.

By Mr. Galvin on Canton, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the Bill establishing a Norwood hospital working group (House, No. 2525),— 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.

Norwood hospital  
working group.

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on a petition, a Bill relative to the small necessities leave act (House, No. 2083).	Family and medical leave.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to enforce laws protecting worksite safety (House, No. 2101).	Workplace safety.
By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill relative to health equity and community health workers (House, No. 359) [Representative Thurber or Somerset dissenting].	Community health workers.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing senior psychologist licensure (House, No. 462).	Senior psychologists.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to patient access to certain health care services (House, No. 2477) [Representative Thurber or Somerset dissenting].	Health care,— patient access.
By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 2497, a Bill relative to medical health and fitness facilities (House, No. 4834) [Representative Thurber or Somerset dissenting].	Health and fitness facilities.
Severally referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.	
By Ms. Barber of Somerville, for the committee on Environment and Natural Resources, on a petition, a Bill expanding access to trails for people of all abilities (House, No. 915) [Representative Gaskey of Carver dissenting].	Trails,— access.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing a pilot program for nature-based solutions to climate change (House, No. 971) [Representative Gaskey of Carver dissenting].	Climate change,— solutions.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill establishing the municipal reforestation program (House, No. 1013) [Representative Gaskey of Carver dissenting].	Municipal reforestation.
By Mr. Haggerty of Woburn, for the committee on Housing, on House, No. 1476, a Bill to codify pet-friendly elderly housing policies and ensure pet parity across housing authorities (House, No. 4835).	Housing policies.
By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on a petition, a Bill creating fairness in workers' compensation disfigurement benefits (House, No. 2105).	Workers' compensation.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill amending the Massachusetts Paid Family Medical Leave Law definitions of a covered business entity and a covered contract worker (House, No. 2109).	Family medical leave.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill improving the Massachusetts Paid Family Medical Leave Law (House, No. 2110).	Id.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to workers' compensation disfigurement benefits concerning scarring (House, No. 2123).	Workers' compensation.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to transparency in employee benefits reporting in private construction (House, No. 2144).	Private construction,— benefits.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to protect injured workers (House, No. 2151).	Injured workers.
By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill providing for the self-certification of benefits for small businesses (House, No. 2155).	Family medical leave.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relating to protecting the interests of minor children featured on for-profit family vlogs (House, No. 2170).

Social media  
protections,—  
minors.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to prevent heat-related illness in public sector outdoor workers (House, No. 2172).

Outdoor workers,—  
protection.

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill relative to abandoned remains (House, No. 2464).

Abandoned  
remains.

By the same member, for the same committee, on House, No. 2436, a Bill to eliminate fees for the removal of a child's body by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (House, No. 4833).

Body  
removal.

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

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on a petition, a Bill protecting an employee's right to rebuttal of personnel records (House, No. 2112).

Personnel  
records.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to professional employer organizations (House, No. 2113).

Employer  
organizations.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to anti-retaliation protections for public employees (House, No. 2116).

Public  
employees.

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

### *Orders of the Day.*

The Senate Bill validating the proceedings at the town of Millbury annual town meeting (printed in Senate, No. 2678), 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.

### *Order.*

On motion of Mr. Mariano of Quincy,—

*Ordered*, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Wednesday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next  
sitting.

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At eight minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Wednesday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.