

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2025

[68]

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, August 7, 2025.

Met at two minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Ms. Jehlen in the Chair).

The Chair (Ms. Jehlen), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of
allegiance.

Reports.

The following reports were severally received and placed on file, to wit:

Report of the Department of Transitional Assistance (pursuant to line item 4400-1020 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the General Laws) submitting its FY25 DTA Secure Jobs report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 5, 2025);

DTA Secure Jobs
FY25 report.
SD3115

Report of the Department of Transitional Assistance (pursuant to Section 10 of Chapter 18 of the General Laws) submitting its Department of Transitional Organizational annual report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities) (received August 5, 2025); and

DTA,--
Organizational
annual report.
SD3116

Report of the Department of Transitional Assistance (pursuant to Section 2(B) of Chapter 18 and Section 16 of Chapter 118 of Section of General Law) submitting its fiscal year 2024 Economic Independence Accounts report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities) (received August 5, 2025).

DTA,-- Economic
Independence
Account FY24
report.
SD3117

Petitions.

Petitions were severally presented and referred as follows:

By Mrs. Dooner and Ms. Field of Taunton, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2582) of Kelly A. Dooner and Lisa Field (with approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to exempt certain positions in the city of Taunton from civil service status [Local approval received];

Taunton,-- school
department.

Under Senate Rule 20, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

Mr. Barrett a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Michael J. Barrett for legislation to authorize any town meeting to be held through remote participation or a hybrid of in-person and remote participation,-- **and the same was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.**

Town meeting,--
remote
participation.
SD3114

Reports of a Committee.

By Mr. Oliveira, for the committee on Labor and Workforce Development, on petition, a Bill relative to employment protections for victims of abusive behavior (Senate, No. 1294);

Employee
protections,--
abusive behavior.
Domestic

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill ensuring domestic

violence victims' protections for all employees in the commonwealth (Senate, No. 1312);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill protecting labor and abolishing barriers to organizing rights (Senate, No. 1327);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to defense against abusive waivers (Senate, No. 1335);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill expanding access to commuter transit benefits offered by employers (Senate, No. 1345);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to snow removal service liability limitation (Senate, No. 1370); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to employee leave of absence to appear in probate and family court (Senate, No. 1378);

Severally read and, under Senate Rule 27, referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A message from Her Excellency the Governor recommending legislation to preserve and advance Massachusetts' competitiveness in discovery, research, and innovation for a vibrant economy (House, No. 4375),-- **was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.**

A Bill relative to Machado-Joseph Disease Awareness Day (House, No. 3298,-- on petition),-- **was read and, under Senate Rule 26, referred to the committee on Rules.**

Bills

Authorizing the town to establish a millennium fund of the Wayland Free Public Library (House, No. 4137,-- on petition) [Local approval received]; and

Authorizing the town of Wellesley to dissolve its Housing Development Corporation (House, No. 4139,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Were severally read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.

Reports of Committees.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the Senate petition of Ryan C. Fattman for legislation to establish compact agreements between certain states allowing cosmetology licensees to move freely between member states.

Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mrs. Dooner, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the Senate petition of Pavel M. Payano for legislation relative to travel insurance.

Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mrs. Dooner, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the Senate petition of Pavel M. Payano for legislation to

violence,--
protections.
Labor relations,--
protect.
Employment
contracts,-- abusive
waivers.
Commuter transit
benefits.
Snow removal
service,-- liability.
Family court,--
leave.

Economic
development.

Machado-Joseph
Disease awareness
day.

Wayland Free
Public Library.

Wellesley,--
Housing
Development Corp.

Cosmetology
Licensure
Compact.
SD2627

Travel insurance.
SD2792

Credible service,--
police officers and
firefighters.

establish credible service for eligible police officers and firefighters.

SD2793

Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mrs. Dooner, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Public Service.

Severally sent to the House for concurrence.

Matter Taken Out of the Orders of the Day.

There being no objection, the following matter was taken out of the Orders of the Day and considered as follows:

The House Bill relative to the Mattapoissett select board (House, No. 4245),-- **was read a second time and ordered to a third reading.**

Mattapoissett,--
select board.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mrs. Dooner,--

Ordered, that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M., and that the Clerk be directed to dispense with the printing of a calendar.

Time of meeting.

On motion of the same Senator, at five minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.