

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.**



**MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025**

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## JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, August 18, 2025.

Met at sixteen minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. DiDomenico in the Chair) (having been appointed by the President, under authority conferred by Senate Rule 4, to perform the duties of the Chair).

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

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Pledge of  
allegiance.

### *Communication.*

Communication from the Department of Public Health submitting its Arbovirus weekly report for the week of August 11, 2025 (received August 15, 2025),-- **was placed on file.**

Arbovirus 8/11/25  
weekly report.  
SD3145

### *Reports.*

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

Report of the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to line item 1595-0115 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Civics Project Trust Fund Transfer Schedule 2026 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 14, 2025);

Civics Project  
Trust Fund 2026  
report.  
SD3140

Report of the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to line item 1595-0116 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Genocide Education Trust Fund Transfer Schedule 2026 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 14, 2025);

Genocide  
Education Trust  
Fund 2026 report.  
SD3141

Report of the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to line item 1595-0035 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Twenty First Century Education Trust Fund 2026 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 14, 2025);

Comptroller,--  
Transfer Schedule  
2026 report.  
SD3142

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for the North Central Correctional Institute, the Plan of Correction (POC) from the facility and the POC acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) (received August 15, 2025);

DPH,-- NCCI  
Gardner-  
Inspection report.  
SD3143

Report of the Executive Office of the Trial Court (pursuant to Section 15(c) of Chapter 239 of the General Laws) submitting its report summary statistics on eviction filings, actions, and dispositions from January 2024 through July 2025 (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Housing and the Joint Committee on the Judiciary) (received August 15, 2025);

EOTC,-- rental  
protections July  
2025 report.  
SD3144

Report of the Department of Economic Research (pursuant to Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) submitting its Quarterly Outlook Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund August 2025 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 Labor and Workforce Development) (received August 15, 2025); and

DER,-- Quarterly  
Outlook August  
2025 report.  
SD3146

Report of the Division of Occupational Safety (pursuant to Section 1 of Chapter 82A of

Division of

the General Laws) submitting its Excavation and Trench Safety 2025 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 Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received August 15, 2025).

Occupational  
Safety,-- trench  
safety.  
SD3147

*Report of a Committee.*

By Mr. Keenan, for the committee on Election Laws, a Bill relative to the office of district councilor in the city of Boston (Senate, No. 2511, changed in line 3 by striking out the following word:- “not”; and in lines 3 - 4 by striking out the following words:- “by a special municipal election and shall instead be filled”) [Local approval received];

Boston,-- district  
city councilor.

**Read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.**

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A message from Her Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to providing for the terms of certain bonds to be issued by the Commonwealth (House, No. 4413),-- **was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets.**

Bonds and notes,--  
terms.

Petitions were severally referred, in concurrence, as follows, to wit:

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4414) of Simon Cataldo (by vote of the town) relative to the town administrator of the town of Carlisle;

Carlisle,-- town  
administrator.

**To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.**

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4415) of Michael J. Moran (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the procurement and award of contracts for construction of a certain affordable housing and cultural space in the Brighton section of the city of Boston;

Brighton,--  
affordable housing.

**To the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.**

A Bill increasing the membership of the board of health of the town of Marblehead from three members to five (House, No. 3912,-- on petition) [Local approval received],-- **was read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.**

Marblehead,--  
board of health.

*Engrossed Bill.*

An engrossed Bill validating the results of a certain special election held in the town of Hardwick (see House Bill, printed in House, No. 4004) (which originated in the House), **having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage was passed to be enacted, two-thirds of the members present having voted in the affirmative, and signed by the Acting President (Mr. DiDomenico) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.**

Bill laid before  
Governor.

*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 increasing the membership of the select board in the town of Mattapoisett (House, No. 4245) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Mattapoisett,--  
select board.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill establishing a charter for the city of Medford (House, No. 4263,-- on House, No. 4146) [Local approval received on House, No. 4146],-- was read.

Medford,-- charter.

**There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mrs. Dooner, and the bill was read a second time and ordered to a third reading.**

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Alexandra Schwartz, an employee of the department of state police (House, No. 4323,-- on petition),-- was read.

Alexandra  
Schwartz,-- sick  
leave.

**There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mrs. Dooner, and the bill was read a second time and ordered to a third reading.**

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Stephanie Bramante Miller, an employee of the appellate tax board (House, No. 4324,-- on petition),-- was read.

Stephanie  
Bramante Miller,--  
sick leave.

**There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mrs. Dooner, and the bill was read a second time and ordered to a third reading.**

Petitions were severally referred, in concurrence, as follows, to wit:

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4425) of Thomas M. Stanley relative to Medicare coverage of end-stage renal disease;

Renal disease,--  
Medicare coverage.

**Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Health Care Financing.**

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4426) of James J. O'Day for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Paul Starvaski, an employee of the Department of Correction; and

Paul Starvaski,--  
sick leave.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4427) of Jeffrey N. Roy for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Ankita Gajendra Patel, an employee of the Department of Correction;

Ankita Gajendra  
Patel,-- sick leave.

**Severally, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Public Service.**

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4428) of William C. Galvin relative to permitting for the transportation of certain loads;

Transportation  
loads,-- permitting.

**Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Transportation.**

*Emergency Preamble Adopted; Engrossed Bill Enacted.*

An engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Robert Tiro, an employee of the trial court of the commonwealth (see Senate, No. 2580), having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage and containing an emergency preamble,-- was laid before the Senate; and, a separate vote being taken in accordance with the requirements of Article LXVII of the Amendments to the Constitution, the preamble was adopted in concurrence, by a vote of 2 to 0.

Robert Tiro,-- sick  
leave.

The bill was signed by the Acting President (Mr. DiDomenico) and sent to the House for enactment.

Subsequently, the bill, which originated in the House, came from the House with the endorsement that it had been enacted in that branch.

**The Senate then passed the bill to be enacted; and it was signed by the Acting President (Mr. DiDomenico) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.**

*Moment of Silence.*

At the request of the Chair (Mr. DiDomenico), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Joseph William Kenneally.

Moment of silence.

*Order Adopted.*

On motion of Mrs. Dooner,--

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

Time of meeting.

*Adjournment in Memory of Mr. Joseph William Kenneally.*

The Senator from Suffolk, Mr. Collins moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourns in memory of Mr. Joseph William Kenneally.

Mr. Joseph William Kenneally, formerly of South Boston and West Roxbury, passed away peacefully on August 12th, 2025, at the age of 75, surrounded by his loving family, after a courageous battle with lung and brain cancer.

Mr. Joseph "Joe" Kenneally is survived by his devoted, loving wife and best friend of 55 years, Marie "Val" (Hayes) Kenneally. He was the beloved father of Susan Kenneally and her husband Bryan Van Dorpe of South Boston, and Valerie Hogan of West Roxbury. He is also survived by his son, Joseph, and his wife Cinda, of Florida.

Joe was a loving grandfather to Morgan Vitiello and her husband Fran, Hailey Newcomb, Matthew and Ryan Hogan, Brendan Toland, and Lilly Kenneally. He was a proud Papa to three great-grandchildren: Mya Frazier, Jameson Buccanon, and Frankie Vitiello IV.

He was a cherished brother to the late Paul and Eunice Kenneally, and to Jimmy and Audrey Kenneally. Joe was also a proud uncle to Jason, with whom he shared many joyful trips to Disney alongside Audrey and Jason. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Joe also leaves behind his lifelong friend and sidekick, Bill "Butchie" Lynch, and his special Florida family: Shirley, Alysha, Thomas Klein and Chris Page.

A proud veteran, Joe served in the U.S. Army ASA in Cu Chi, Vietnam, from 1970 to 1971. Following his military service, he proudly and respectfully wore the uniform of the Boston Police Department for 35 years, serving with honor and integrity. Throughout his career, he worked alongside many great colleagues, including his late "brother in blue," Frank Jankowski.

Joe retired from District 4 (D-4), where he spent much of his distinguished career.

Joe cherished family vacations with his children and grandchildren. He found great joy in spending time with loved ones and caring for his beloved German Shepherd dogs. He especially looked forward to "Goula" weekends and Halloween celebrations on Cape Cod.

Joe and his family will always cherish the memories made together and extend a heartfelt thank you to Mr. Tomas McCormick, owner of the Irish Village, and his manager, Cailin, for the unforgettable memories made there. Sláinte!

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Mr. Joseph William Kenneally, at ten minutes past twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mrs. Dooner, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.