

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2025

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, August 21, 2025.

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

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

Pledge of
allegiance.

Distinguished Guests.

There being no objection, the Chair (Mr. Oliveira) handed the gavel to Mr. Feeney for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Feeney then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, the Rolling Warriors Volt Hockey team from North Attleborough. The Rolling Warriors were recognized for winning the first gold medal for a United States team at the North American Volt Hockey Championship in Toronto. Members of the team included: Mia Bean, Christian Caruso, Ellary Kinnane, Lara Liedtke, Vivienne Liedtke and Maddie Manning. They were accompanied by Helena Liedtke, co-founder and President of Space2Thrive, Coach Helge Liedtke, Co-Coach Craig Kinnane, Paul Caruso, Kim Damato, Patrick Murphy, Sarah Hennessey, Jim Downs, Autumn Greco, Karen Bean and Representative Scanlon of North Attleborough. The Senate applauded their accomplishments, wished them luck at the Volt Hockey World Cup in Sweden in September and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Rolling Warriors
Volt Hockey team.

Reports.

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

Report of the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to line item 1595-6368 Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Fiscal Year 2026 transfer schedule for the Massachusetts Transportation Trust Fund report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 18, 2025);

Comptroller,--
Transportation
Trust Fund 2026
report.
SD3148
MBTA Contract
Assistance 2026
report.
SD3149

Report of the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to line item 1595-6369 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) Contract Assistance 2026 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 18, 2025);

Report of the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to line item 1595-1068 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Medical Assistance Trust Fund (MATF) 2026 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 18, 2025);

Comptroller,--
MATF 2026
report.
SD3150

Report of the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to line item 1595-6379 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Merit Rating Board (MRB) Transfer Schedule 2026 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 18, 2025);

Comptroller,--
MRB Transfer
Schedule 2026
report.
SD3151

Report of the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to line item 1599-3384 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Settlements and Judgements Quarter 4 Fiscal Year 2025 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee

Comptroller,--
Settlements and
Judgements Q4
FY25 report.

on Ways and Means) (received August 19, 2025);

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to line item 4590-0915 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its August 2025 Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children Status 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 Health) (received August 19, 2025);

Report of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (pursuant to Section 125 of Chapter 239 of the Acts 2024) submitting its Flood Risk Mapping 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 Environment and Natural Resources) (received August 19, 2025); and

Report of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (pursuant to Section 122 of Chapter 239 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Guidance on Electric Battery Storage & EV Chargers (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (received August 20, 2025).

Petition.

Mr. Durant presented a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Peter J. Durant for legislation relative to creditable service for Vincent Provencher,-- **and the same was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.**

Committees Discharged.

Mr. Velis, for the committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1414) of Michael O. Moore, John J. Cronin, James B. Eldridge, Paul R. Feeney and other members of the Senate for legislation to increase access to Applied Behavior Analysis services by recognizing assistant level providers,-- and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Public Health.

**Under Senate Rule 36, the report was considered forthwith and accepted.
Sent to the House for concurrence.**

Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Election Laws to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to relative to election matters (Senate, No. 2567); and

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Municipalities and Regional Government to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to relative to municipalities and regional government matters (Senate, No. 2568);

And recommending that the same severally be referred to the committee on Rules;

Under Senate Rule 36, the reports were severally considered forthwith and accepted.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Notice was received from the House of Representatives announcing the following appointment by the Minority Leader:

Mary J. Gatslick of Plymouth has been re-appointed to serve as his designee (under

SD3152

DPH,-- Pappas
Rehab Hospital
Status report.
SD3153

EOEEA,-- Flood
Risk Mapping
2025 report.
SD3154

EOEEA, --
Electric Battery
Storage & EV
Chargers report.
SD3156

Provencher,--
creditable service.
SD3155

Behavioral health
services.

Election Laws,--
study.

Municipalities and
Regional
Government,--
study.

Nuclear

Section 14 of Chapter 188 of the Acts of 2016) to the Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel.

Decommissioning
Advisory Panel,--
appointment.

The following petitions, having been timely filed by five o'clock P.M. on January 17, 2025, were referred in concurrence as follows:

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4430) of Kate Hogan relative to agriculture resilience and sustainability;

Agriculture,--
sustainability.

To the committee on Agriculture and Fisheries.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4431) of David K. Muradian, Jr., relative to internet gaming;

Internet gaming.

To the committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

Bills

Amending the charter of the town of Sandwich (House, No. 2357,-- on petition) [Local approval received]; and

Sandwich,--
charter.

Relative to non-civil service public safety personnel in the town of Wellesley (House, No. 4140,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Wellesley,-- public
safety personnel.

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

Resolutions.

The following resolutions (having been filed with the Clerk) were severally considered forthwith and adopted, as follows:-

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Collins) "commending the Caribbean American Carnival Association of Boston, Inc. on their recognition of August 25 through August 31, 2025 as Caribbean week"; and

Caribbean
American Carnival
Association of
Boston, Inc.
Association for
Frontotemporal
Degeneration.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Durant) "commending the Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration for its recognition of the week of September 22, 2025 as Frontotemporal Degeneration Awareness Week."

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 Jason M. Lewis for legislation to require employers to notify current employees of an I-9 employment eligibility verification form, or other employment records, within 72 hours of receiving the notice from a government agency.

Employee rights,--
I-9 audit.
SD3091

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 Labor and Workforce Development.

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 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.

Town meeting,--
remote
participation.
SD3114

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 Municipalities and Regional Government.

Severally sent to the House for concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Ana C. Contreras, an employee of the Trial Court (House, No. 1596, amended,-- on petition),-- was read.

Ana C. Contreras,-
- sick leave.

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

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Kendra Winner, an employee of the department of elementary and secondary education (House, No. 2798,-- on petition),-- was read.

Kendra Winner,--
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 authorizing the town of Lexington to grant ten additional licenses for the sale of wine and malt beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 3893,-- on petition) [Local approval received],-- was read.

Lexington,-- liquor
licenses.

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

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Carlos Borges, an employee of the Department of Correction (House, No. 4322, amended,-- on petition),-- was read.

Carlos Borges,--
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.

Engrossed Bill.

An engrossed Bill increasing the membership of the select board in the town of Mattapoisett (see House, No. 4245) (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 and signed by the Acting President (Mr. Oliveira) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.**

Bill laid before the
Governor.

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Oliveira), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Irene A. O'Shea and Tiffany Marie Horne.

Moment of silence.

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.

Adjournment in Memory of Ms. Tiffany Marie Horne.

The Senator from Suffolk, Mr. Collins moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it do so in memory of Ms. Tiffany Marie Horne.

Ms. Tiffany Marie Horne, a cherished mother, grandmother, daughter, sister and aunt, passed away peacefully in her sleep on August 17, 2025.

Tiffany was born and raised in South Boston. She was a devoted mother to Tasia, Tiara, Talia Horne and Alexis Molina, and a beloved grandmother to Atlas and Yaaziel. She was the youngest daughter of Edward and Dianne (Greeley) Horne of South Boston. Tiffany is survived by her two brothers, Randy Greeley and Gregory Horne, both of South Boston. She

now joins her sisters, Janet Greeley and Valerie Horne and grandparents Stanley Sr. & Jeanette Greeley in Heaven. Tiffany is also survived by many nieces and nephews. She will be greatly missed by her best friend, Amanda Curran.

Tiffany had a passion for taking pictures and, above all, loved being surrounded by her family, especially her great-nieces and nephews, whom she cherished as if they were her own grandchildren.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Ms. Tiffany Marie Horne, at twenty-two minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mrs. Dooner the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Adjournment in Memory of Ms. Irene A. O'Shea.

The Senator from Suffolk, Mr. Collins moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it do so in memory of Ms. Irene A. O'Shea.

Ms. Irene O'Shea of Dorchester, originally of South Boston, died peacefully at home on Friday, August 15th, 2025.

Beloved Daughter of the late Robert G. O'Shea Sr. and the late Kathleen E. (Keough) O'Shea.

Loving sister of Roberta Hatch, Rita Moynihan, Joyce O'Shea, Ginger Jones, Robert O'Shea Jr., Patricia O'Shea, Caryn O'Shea-Feeney, and the late Maureen Lafferty, Kathy O'Shea, Connie O'Shea Reeves, and Aunt to the late Gerry Ferrara and Ryan O'Shea.

She is survived also by many nieces and nephews.

Irene was a huge sports fan and particularly enjoyed watching the New England Patriots and any March Madness games. But more than anything, Irene loved the Rolling Stones and was Mick Jagger's number one fan for most of her life.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Ms. Irene A. O'Shea, at twenty-two minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mrs. Dooner the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.