
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, September 22, 2025.

Met at eleven 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 following guests were introduced:

The Chair (Mr. Oliveira) handed the gavel to Mr. Collins for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Collins then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, members of the Caribbean American Carnival Association of Boston, Inc. The group was visiting the State House to promote awareness of Caribbean culture through education and social initiatives and to recognize August 25th through August 31, 2025 as Caribbean Week. The group was welcomed with applause, Shirley Shillingford was presented Senate Resolutions on the Rostrum, and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Caribbean
American Carnival
Association of
Boston, Inc.

The Chair (Mr. Oliveira) then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, Laura Hicks of Belchertown. Ms. Hicks was recognized for being crowned Ms. Senior Massachusetts of 2025 and for sharing her talented voice through song and service to the community. The Senate applauded her accomplishments, she was presented a Senate Citation on the Rostrum, and she withdrew from the Chamber.

Laura Hicks.

Reports.

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

Report of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (pursuant to Section 30 of Chapter 285 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its report on the Plan to End Operations at the Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center (MASAC) (a copy having been forwarded to the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery) (received September 18, 2025);

EOHHS,--
MASAC Plan
report.
SD3207

Report of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (pursuant to Section 2(c) of Chapter 35 of the Acts of 2021) submitting its Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (SAECK) 2024 third quarter report (a copy having been forwarded to the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received September 19, 2025);

EOPSS,-- SAECK
2024 Q3 report.
SD3210

Report of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (pursuant to Section 2(c) of Chapter 35 of the Acts of 2021) submitting its Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (SAECK) 2024 fourth quarter report (a copy having been forwarded to the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received September 19, 2025);

EOPSS,-- SAECK
2024 Q4 report.
SD3211

Report of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (pursuant to Section 2(c) of Chapter 35 of the Acts of 2021) submitting its Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (SAECK) 2025 first quarter report (a copy having been forwarded to the Senate Chair of the

EOPSS,-- SAECK
2025 Q1 report.
SD3212

Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received September 19, 2025);

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to Section 2E(e) of Chapter 29 of the General Laws, as by Chapter 214 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Commonwealth Federal Match and Debt Reduction Fund report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received September 19, 2025); and

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to line item 1599-2051 of Section 2A of Chapter 102 of the Acts of 2021) submitting its Oversight Reserve report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received September 19, 2025).

A&F,-- Fed Match
Fund report.
SD3213

A&F,-- Oversight
Reserve report.
SD3214

Petition.

Mr. Fattman presented a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Ryan C. Fattman for legislation relative to notice of public meetings,-- **and the same was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.**

Meeting notices.
SD3208

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Lewis, for the committee on Education, on Senate, Nos. 351 and 415, a Bill relative to air quality in public schools (Senate, No. 351);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on Senate, Nos. 400, 328, 337, 345, 348, 354, 369, 385, 388, 394, 407, 416, 440 and 460, a Bill to ensure adequate and equitable funding for public education (Senate, No. 400);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on Senate, Nos. 403, 318, 352, 366 and 390, a Bill establishing a special commission to review the adequacy and equity of the Massachusetts school building program (Senate, No. 403); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on Senate, Nos. 316 and 441, a Bill to promote social-emotional learning (Senate, No. 2609);

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

Public schools,--
air quality.

Public education,--
funding.

School Building
Authority,--
commission.

Social-emotional
learning.

By Mr. Lewis, for the committee on Education, on petition, a Bill establishing the Massachusetts farm to school program (Senate, No. 311);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to remodel public school athletics through social-emotional learning (Senate, No. 315);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on Senate, Nos. 342 and 363, a Bill providing for diabetes management in schools (Senate, No. 342);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to licensed care and financial resource information for new parents and guardians (Senate, No. 357);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill providing for a study of chronic student absences (Senate, No. 361);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill enhancing learning in the early school years through a ban on school exclusion in pre-kindergarten through 3rd grade (Senate, No. 373);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to promote equity in school attendance requirements (Senate, No. 399);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill stopping harm inflicted by the exploitation of life and development (Senate, No. 405); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 406), a Bill relative to recovery high schools (Senate No. 2610);

Farm to school
grants.

PS athletics,--
curriculum.

Schools,-- diabetes
management.

Newborns,--
resources.

Students,-- chronic
absenteeism.

School exclusion.

School
attendance,--
requirements.
Sexual abuse,--
children.

Recovery high
schools.

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

By Mr. Lewis, for the committee on Education, on petition, a Bill relative to youth skin health (Senate, No. 334);

Sunscreen application,-- students.

Read and, under Senate Rule 26, referred to the committee on Rules.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Bills

Relative to certain powers of the board of water commissioners of the Cotuit Fire District (House, No. 2258,-- on petition); and

Cotuit Fire District.

Designating veterans suicide awareness and remembrance day (House, No. 3388, amended,-- on petition);

Veterans Suicide Awareness Day.

Were severally read and, under Senate Rule 26, referred to the committee on Rules.

A report of the committee on Education, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 347) of Jeffrey N. Roy, Marjorie C. Decker and Carlos González relative to providing for the availability of disposable menstrual products in schools, and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Public Health,-- **was considered forthwith, under Senate Rule 36, and accepted, in concurrence.**

Menstrual products,-- schools.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Tarr) “congratulating the Cape Ann Chapter of The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of its organization.”

Cape Ann Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Engrossed Bill.

An engrossed Bill to increase the income limit for the senior tax deferral program in the town of Ipswich (see House, No. 3156) (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.

A Bill relative to the charter of the town of Acushnet (House, No. 2341,-- on petition) [Local approval received],-- was read.

Acushnet,-- charter.

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

A Bill relative to the charter of the town of Provincetown (House, No. 4175,-- on petition) [Local approval received],-- was read.

Provincetown,-- charter.

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

A Bill relative to the charter of the town of Provincetown (House, No. 4176,-- on petition) [Local approval received],-- was read.

Id.

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

A Bill changing the term of the elected office of moderator in the town of Holden (House, No. 4211,-- on petition) [Local approval received],-- was read.

Holden,-- town moderator.

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

A Bill relative to making the charter of the city of Chicopee gender neutral (House, No. 4542,-- on House, No. 2244) [Local approval received on House, No. 2244],-- was read.

Chicopee,-- charter.

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

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. O'Connor,--

Ordered, that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in a full formal session with a calendar.

Time of meeting.

On motion of the same Senator, at sixteen minutes before twelve o'clock noon, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.