

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, February 2, 2026.

Met at four minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Brownsberger 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. Brownsberger), 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 Executive Office of Health and Human Services (pursuant to Chapter 309 of the Acts of 2020) submitting its Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund FY25 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 Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery) (received January 29, 2026);

EOHHS,-- ORRF
FY25 annual
report.
SD3631

Report of Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (pursuant to line item 8200-0222 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Municipal Police Training Committee 2025 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received January 15, 2026);

EOPSS,-- MPTC
FY25 report.
SD3632

Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant to line item 8910-7110 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its MSA FY25 Commissary report and Appendix A and B (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received January 28, 2026);

MSA,-- FY25
Commissary &
Trust Fund report.
SD3633

Report of the University of Massachusetts (pursuant to line item 7100-0200 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its UMass FY2026 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 Higher Education) (received January 30, 2026);

UMass,-- FY26
report.
SD3634

Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant to Section 6A of Chapter 124 of the General Laws) submitting its July 1 - December 31, 2025 Operational Capacity report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received January 28, 2026);

MSA Operational
Capacity report.
SD3635

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024, Section 10 of Chapter 1 of the Acts of 2025, and Section 88 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Emergency Housing Assistance Program bi-weekly report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received January 30, 2026); and

A&F,-- EA
Housing bi-weekly
report.
SD3640

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (Section 5 of Chapter 214 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Stabilization Fund and Long-term Liability Financing Task Force report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received January 30, 2026).

A&F,--
Stabilization Fund
Task Force report.
SD3644

Petitions.

Petitions were severally presented and referred as follows:

Mrs. Dooner and Mr. Thurber of Somerset presented a joint petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2939) of Kelly A. Dooner and Justin Thurber (by vote of the town) for legislation relative to the appointment of retired police officers as special police officers in the town of Dighton,-- **and the same was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committee on Public Service.**

Sent to the House for concurrence.

By Ms. Comerford and Ms. Whipps of Athol, a joint petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Joanne M. Comerford and Susannah M. Whipps for legislation to provide equal opportunity for residents to vote on establishment of the Great River Regional School District;

By Ms. Rausch, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Rebecca L. Rausch for legislation to get ICE out of families;

By the same Senator, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Rebecca L. Rausch for legislation to de-ICE Massachusetts law enforcement;

By the same Senator, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Rebecca L. Rausch for legislation to support the pursuit of justice against ICE;

By the same Senator, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Rebecca L. Rausch for legislation to melt ICE defenses; and

By the same Senator, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Rebecca L. Rausch for legislation to uncover ICE;

Severally, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Special Commission Report.

Report of the Special Commission on Micro-mobility Vehicles (pursuant to Section 306 of Chapter 238 of the Acts of 2024, as amended by Section 159 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its report on micro-mobility vehicles (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received January 31, 2026),-- **was placed on file.**

Order.

Mr. Collins presented an Order relative to granting the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight until February 28, 2026, within which time to make its final report on current Senate documents numbered 2111, 2112, 2113, 2165, and 2172, relative to state administration and regulatory oversight matters (Senate, No. 2941);

Referred, under Joint Rule 30, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Reports of Committees.

By Ms. Edwards, for the committee on the Judiciary, on petition, a Bill to provide continuum of care for severe mental illness (Senate, No. 1115); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill establishing a bill of rights for people experiencing homelessness (Senate, No. 1120);

Severally referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care

Dighton,-- special police officers.

Great River Regional School District,-- ballot question.
SD3630
ICE,-- families.
SD3636

ICE,-- MA law enforcement.
SD3638
ICE,-- supporting justice.
SD3639
ICE defenses.
SD3641

ICE,-- undercover registration.
SD3643

MassDOT,-- Micromobility Commission report.
SD3645

State Administration and Regulatory Oversight,-- extension order.

Mental health,-- community based.
Homelessness,-- bill of rights.

Financing.

By Ms. Edwards, for the committee on the Judiciary, on petition, a Bill relative to treatment, not incarceration (Senate, No. 1117);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to fair investment (Senate, No. 1119);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to combating hate in the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 1126);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to facilitate alternatives to foreclosure (Senate, No. 1130);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to the fair treatment of employees (Senate, No. 1148);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill providing protection from child enticement (Senate, No. 1150);

By Mr. Cronin, for the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security, on petition, a Bill relative to the Maggie Hubbard rental safety act (Senate, No. 2736); and

By Mr. Collins, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on petition, a Bill relative to equity in public contracting in honor of Bruce C. Bolling (Senate, No. 2175);

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

By Mr. Collins, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on petition, a Bill to update disability commission chair requirements (Senate, No. 2161); and

By Mr. Collins, for the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, on petition, a Bill relative to educational collaboratives (Senate, No. 2193);

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

Committees Discharged.

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

Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on the Judiciary to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to judicial matters (Senate, No. 2930); and

Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Health Care Financing to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents health care financing matters (Senate, No. 2931);

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 appointments by the Speaker:

Amy Goh of Boston, Christopher Huang of Quincy and Jennifer Rubin of Newton have been appointed to serve as his designees (under Section 68 of Chapter 3 of the General Laws) to the permanent commission on the status of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Bills

Probation,--
substance abuse.

Fair investments.

Hate crimes.

Foreclosure,--
program.

Employees,-- fair
treatment.

Child enticement,--
protection.

Short-term rental,--
inspections.

Public
contracting,--
equity.

Disability
commission,--
meetings.

Educational
collaboratives.

Judiciary,-- study.

Health Care
Financing,-- study.

Asian Americans
and Pacific
Islanders,--
appointments.

Authorizing the town of Hudson to grant 1 additional license for the sale of wine and malt beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4272,-- on House, No. 386) [Local approval received on House, No. 386];

Hudson,-- liquor licenses.

Amending the town charter of the town of Plymouth (House, No. 4501, changed,-- on petition) [Local approval received]; and

Plymouth,-- charter.

Authorizing the town of Cohasset to grant five additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 4561,-- on House, No. 3894) [Local approval received on House, No. 3894];

Cohasset,-- liquor licenses.

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

Matters Taken Out of the Orders of the Day.

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

The Senate Bill providing accidental death benefits for the surviving spouse of a former firefighter of the city of Boston (Senate, No. 2574) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed.**

Firefighter Troy,-- accidental death benefits.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

The Senate Bill authorizing the city of Taunton to establish a separate billing rate for water supplied to manufactured housing communities (Senate, No. 2652),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed.**

Taunton,-- manufactured homes water.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

The House Bill providing for the recall of elected officers of the town of Sharon (House, No. 862) (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.**

Sharon,-- elected officers.

The Senate Bill establishing Building Trades Recovery Week (Senate, No. 2110),-- **was read a second time, ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to read as follows: "An Act designating the last week in April as Building Trades Recovery Week".**

Building Trades Recovery Week.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Engrossed Bills.

The following engrossed bills (both of which originated in the House), having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, were severally passed to be enacted and were signed by the Acting President (Mr. Brownsberger) and laid before the Governor for her approbation, to wit:

Further regulating the Great Barrington fire district (see House, No. 924, amended); and

Bills laid before the Governor.

Authorizing the town of Ludlow to pay a certain unpaid bill (see House, No. 4589).

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. O'Connor,--

Ordered, that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Thursday

Time of meeting.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

next at eleven o'clock A.M., and that the Clerk be directed to dispense with the printing of a calendar.

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