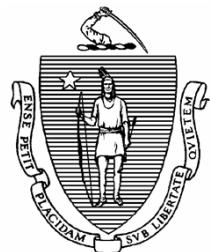


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

[11]

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, February 5, 2026.

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

The Chair (Ms. Rausch), 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 (Ms. Rausch) handed the gavel to Mr. O'Connor for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. O'Connor then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, the Duxbury High School girls soccer team. The team was recognized for winning the 2025 MIAA Division 2 State Championship Title, with a score of 3-1 over Longmeadow High School, and for their hard work and dedication throughout the season. The Duxbury Dragons were accompanied by Head Coach Rob Jones, Assistant Coaches Graham Nelson and Kellie Errasti and Athletic Director Jeff Maidment. The Senate applauded their accomplishments and they withdrew from the Chamber.

The Chair (Ms. Rausch) then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, the Medfield High School girls soccer team. The team was recognized for winning the 2025 MIAA Division 3 State Championship Title, with a score of 1-0 over Nipmuc Regional High School, and for their hard work and dedication throughout the season. The team was accompanied by Head Coach Melinda Lohan, Assistant Coach Perry Oasis, Goalie Coach Mimi Borkan and Managers Kathryn Layden, Charlie Werner and Lila Quinlan. The Senate applauded their accomplishments and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Duxbury High School girls soccer team.

Medfield High School girls soccer team.

Communications.

Communication from the seven non-insurance members of the of the Auto Body Labor Rate Advisory Board (pursuant to Section 292 of Chapter 238 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its alternative executive synopsis of the Auto Body Labor Rate Advisory Board December FY25 final report (received January 20, 2025),-- **was placed on file.**

ABLRAB,--
Alternative
Synopsis report.
SD3659

Communication from the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (pursuant to Section 9B of Chapter 128A of the General Laws and Section 222 of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) proposed amendments to regulations for 205 CMR 149.00: Race Horse Development Fund (Senate, No. 2951) (received January 30, 2025),-- **was referred to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.**

Mass. Gaming Commission,--
regulations.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

Reports.

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

Report of the Norfolk District Attorney (pursuant to Section 32(e) of Chapter 12 of the General Laws) submitting its Community Based Juvenile Justice Program CY2025 report (a

Norfolk DA,--
Juvenile Justice report. SD3380

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copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received February 3, 2026);

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for Dukes County Correctional Facility, the Plan of Correction (POC) from the facility and the POC acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) (received February 2, 2026);

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for the Norfolk County House of Correction and Alternative Center, the Plan of Correction (POC) from the facility and the POC acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) (received February 2, 2026);

Report of the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to Section 12 of Chapter 7A of the General Laws) submitting its Statutory Basis Financial FY25 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received February 2, 2026);

Report of the Office of the Child Advocate (pursuant to Section 10 of Chapter 18C of the General Laws) submitting its 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 Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities) (received February 3, 2026);

Report of the Middlesex District Attorney (pursuant to Section 32(e) of Chapter 12 of the General Laws) submitting its Community Based Juvenile Justice Program CY2025 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received February 3, 2026);

Report of the Plymouth District Attorney (pursuant to Section 32(e) of Chapter 12 of the General Laws) submitting its Community Based Juvenile Justice Program CY2025 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received February 3, 2026);

Report of the Essex County District Attorney (pursuant to Section 32(e) of Chapter 12 of the General Laws) submitting its Community Based Juvenile Justice Program CY2025 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received January 30, 2026);

Report of the University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees (pursuant to Section 3 of Chapter 75 of the General Laws) submitting its rules and regulations adopted and/or amended by the Trustees of the University of Massachusetts in 2025 (copies having been forwarded to the Governor, the Commissioner of Administration and Finance, and the Chairs of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means) (received February 3, 2026);

Report of the Department of Revenue (pursuant to Section 5 of Chapter 62F, as amended by the Acts of 2023) submitting its December 2025 report on year-to-date net state tax revenue for the current fiscal year (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Revenue) (received February 4, 2026);

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for Hampden County Jail and House of Correction, the Plan of Correction from the facility and the Plan of Correction acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) (received February 4, 2026); and

Report of the Department of Mental Health (pursuant to line item 5046-0000 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Fiscal Year 2025 report on the Distribution of Funds (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received February 4, 2026).

DPH,-- Dukes County Correctional Facility Inspection report.

SD3646
DPH,-- Norfolk County HC and AC Inspection report.

SD3647
Comptroller,-- Statutory FY25 report.

SD3648
OCA,-- annual FY25 report.

SD3649
Middlesex DA,-- Juvenile Justice report.

SD3651
Plymouth DA,-- Juvenile Justice report.

SD3652
Essex DA,-- Juvenile Justice report.

SD3653
UMass Board of Trustees,-- rules and regulations.

SD3656
DOR,-- December 2025 Net State Tax Revenue Determination report.

SD3657
DPH,-- Hampden County Jail and HOC Inspection report.

SD3658
DMH,-- FY25 Distribution of Funds report.

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Petition.

Mr. Cyr presented a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Julian Cyr for legislation for long-term coverage of gender affirming care medications,-- **and the same was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.**

Coverage,-- gender affirming care.
SD3650

Orders.

Ms. Rausch presented an Order relative to granting the committee on Environment and Natural Resources until March 31, 2026, within which time to make its final report on current Senate documents numbered 2877 and 2896, relative to environment and natural resources late files (Senate, No. 2949); and

Ms. Rausch presented an Order relative to granting the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government until March 31, 2026, within which time to make its final report on current Senate documents numbered 2878, 2894, and 2897, relative to municipalities and regional government late files (Senate, No. 2950);

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

Environment and Natural Resources,-- extension order.

Municipalities and Regional Government,-- extension order.

Reports of Committees.

The following reports was received the time within which the said committee was required to report having expired

By Mr. Brady, for the committee on Public Service (under Joint Rule 10), on Senate No. 2750, an Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Public Service to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to add certified emergency telecommunicators within the city of Boston to the Group 2 retirement classification (Senate, No. 2948); and

By Mr. Lewis, for the committee on Education (under Joint Rule 10), on Senate Nos. 359, 368, 376, 380, and 387, an Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Education to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to education matters (Senate, No. 2952);

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

By Ms. Edwards, for the committee on the Judiciary, on petition, a Bill establishing a commission to study reparations in Massachusetts (Senate, No. 1181);

Read and, under Joint Rule 29, referred to the committee on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

By Ms. Edwards, for the committee on the Judiciary, on petition, a Bill relative to the well-being of new mothers and infants (Senate, No. 1171); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to minimizing suffering during the commitment process (Senate, No. 1173); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to strengthen laws combatting human trafficking and protecting survivors of modern-day slavery (Senate, No. 1197);

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

Public Service,-- study.

Education,-- study.

Reparations commission.

Mothers and infants,-- well-being.
Commitment process,-- suffering.
Human trafficking,-- laws.

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By Ms. Edwards, for the committee on the Judiciary, on petition, a Bill relative to rental protections for elderly, disabled and low-to-middle income tenants (Senate, No. 1152);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to the protection of vulnerable adults from sexual assault committed by mandated reporters, persons in a position of trust and providers of transportation (Senate, No. 1153);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to extend the statute of limitations for human trafficking (Senate, No. 1155);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to protect the privacy of 911 callers (Senate, No. 1156);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill providing for the development of a graduate judicial training school (Senate, No. 1159);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill protecting minors from the creation of computer-generated child sexual abuse visual materials (Senate, No. 1174);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill promoting equity in traffic stops (Senate, No. 1182);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to prevent human trafficking through increased public awareness (Senate, No. 1187);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill extending the statute of limitations for certain actions involving international human rights abuses (Senate, No. 1188);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to prevent unscrupulous medical debt recovery practices (Senate, No. 1194);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to enhance the lives of survivors of human trafficking (Senate, No. 1198);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to GPS tampering (Senate, No. 1222);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to uniform partition of heirs property (Senate, No. 1239);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill specifying an electronic system to ensure that sales of certain products containing pseudoephedrine (PSE) do not exceed limits established under federal law (Senate, No. 1243);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to add sex and gender as protected classes for crime prosecutions (Senate, No. 1246);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill codifying organizational standing to protect and promote civil rights (Senate, No. 1248);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill prohibiting body size discrimination (Senate, No. 1249);

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill strengthening the commonwealth's Anti-SLAPP law (Senate, No. 1250); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to protect the free flow of information in Massachusetts (Senate, No. 1253);

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

By Ms. Edwards, for the committee on the Judiciary, on petition, a Bill amending the statute of limitations regarding criminal prosecutions for the crimes of sexual assault and rape of a child (Senate, No. 1165);

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

Housing,-- rent protection.

Sexual assault,-- mandated reporter.

Human trafficking,-- statute of limitations.
911 callers,-- privacy.

Judicial school.

Computer-generated child sexual abuse.
Traffic stops,-- evidence.

Human trafficking,--public awareness.
Human rights abuses.

Medical debt,-- recovery practices.

Human trafficking,-- survivors.
GPS,-- tampering.

Heirs property,-- partition.

Pseudoephedrine,-- regulations.

Hate crime prosecutions.

Civil rights,-- protections.

Body size,-- discrimination.

Anti-SLAPP law.

Free Flow of Information Act.

Sexual assault,-- statute of limitations.

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Placed on File.

By Mr. Feeney, for the committee on Financial Services, on the communication from the Division of Banks (pursuant to Section 6A of Chapter 171 of the General Laws) submitting the final amended regulation 209 CMR 50.00 et seq.: Parity with Federal Credit Unions (Senate, No. 2871),-- **reported that the same be placed on file.**

Division of Banks,-- 209 CMR 50.00 regs.

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

Committees Discharged.

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

Education,-- study.

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Education to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to education matters (Senate, No. 2952);

And recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Rules.

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

Schools,-- healthy culture and climate.

Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, to whom was referred the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Education, to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to education matters (Senate, No. 2952), reported, in part, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 359) of Paul R. Feeney for legislation to promote a healthy culture and climate within schools;

Schools,-- exclusionary discipline.

The same Senator, for the same committee, to whom was referred the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Education, to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to education matters (Senate, No. 2952), reported, in part, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 368) of Adam Gomez, Michael J. Barrett, Joanne M. Comerford, Jason M. Lewis and other members of the Senate for legislation to reduce exclusionary discipline for grooming and dress code violations;

Student success,-- court involved children.

The same Senator, for the same committee, to whom was referred the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Education, to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to education matters (Senate, No. 2952), reported, in part, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 376) of Patricia D. Jehlen for legislation to promote the education success of court involved children;

RAISE Act.

The same Senator, for the same committee, to whom was referred the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Education, to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to education matters (Senate, No. 2952), reported, in part, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 380) of Patricia D. Jehlen and James B. Eldridge for legislation to establish statewide targets for addressing persistent disparities in achievement and suspension and expulsion in public schools;

Safer schools,-- resource officers.

The same Senator, for the same committee, to whom was referred the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Education, to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to education matters (Senate, No. 2952), reported on the residue, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition

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(accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 387) of Robyn K. Kennedy for legislation relative to safer schools;

And recommending that the same be severally recommitted to the committee on Education.

Severally under Senate Rule 36, the reports were considered forthwith and accepted.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5051) of David M. Rogers and William N. Brownsberger (by vote of the town) relative to removing the seating capacity requirements for licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises in the town of Belmont;

To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5052) of Kenneth I. Gordon (by vote of the town) relative to town meeting form of government in the town of Burlington; and

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5053) of Susannah M. Whipps and Joanne M. Comerford (by vote of the town) that the town of Orange be authorized to establish a town charter for said town;

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5054) of Thomas P. Walsh (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the maintenance of pre-employment physical examination records for public safety personnel in the city of Peabody;

To the committee on Public Service.

Bills

Authorizing the town of Rochester to continue the employment of fire chief Scott Weigel (House, No. 4235,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Luis Cabral (House, No. 4349,-- on petition) [Local approval received]; and

Authorizing the town of Orange to increase the membership of the board of selectmen (House, No. 4701,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

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

Order.

Mr. Collins in the Chair, the following House Order was considered forthwith as follows:

Ordered, That a special joint committee on initiative petitions be established for the purpose of considering the initiative petitions transmitted to the Clerk of the House of Representatives by the Secretary of the Commonwealth in accordance with the requirements of Article XLVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution; and *be it further*

Ordered, That the special joint committee shall consist of 10 members as follows: 5 members of the senate, 4 of whom shall be appointed by the president of the senate and 1 of whom shall be appointed by the minority leader of the senate; and 5 members of the house of representatives, 4 of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the house and 1 of whom shall be appointed by the minority leader of the house.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. O'Connor, and, the order (House, No. 5011) was considered forthwith; and, was adopted, in concurrence.

Belmont,-- liquor license requirements.

Burlington,-- town meeting.

Orange,-- charter.

Peabody,-- public safety records.

Rochester,-- Scott Weigel.

Boston,-- Luis Cabral.

Orange,-- board of selectmen.

Initiative petitions,-- joint committee.

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Engrossed Bill.

An engrossed Bill providing for the recall of elected officers of the town of Sharon (see House, No. 862) (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. Collins) (having been appointed, by the President, under authority conferred by Senate Rule 4, to perform the duties of the Chair) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.**

Bill laid before the Governor.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Fattman) "congratulating Oxford Fire Chief Laurent R. McDonald after 45 years of dedicated public service."

Laurent R. McDonald.

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 Sal N. DiDomenico and Joan B. Lovely for legislation to significantly alleviate poverty.

Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mr. O'Connor, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

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 Joanne M. Comerford for legislation to designate asparagus as the official vegetable of the Commonwealth.

Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mr. O'Connor, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

Severally sent to the House for concurrence.

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 House Bill establishing an annual stipend for the town council of the city known as the town of Bridgewater (House, No. 2268) (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.**

The House Bill providing for the filling of any temporary absence of the town manager in the city known as the town of Bridgewater (House, No. 4569) (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.**

The House Bill further regulating the powers of appointment of the town manager in the city known as the town of Bridgewater (House, No. 4579) (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.**

Poverty reduction.
SD2872

Official vegetable,
- asparagus.
SD3498

Bridgewater,--
charter.

Bridgewater,--
town manager.

Id.

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The House Bill establishing the city of Cambridge Employment and Job Training Trust (House, No. 4774) (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.**

Cambridge,-- job training trust.

The House Bill amending the charter of the town of Natick (House, No. 3898) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading),-- was read a third time.

Natick,-- charter.

Mr. DiDomenico, for the committee on Bills in the Third Reading, reported, recommending that the bill be amended, by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting the text contained in Senate document numbered 2953.

The report was accepted.

The bill was then passed to be engrossed.

Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

The Senate Bill amending certain laws relative to individuals with disabilities (Senate, No. 2563),-- came from the House passed to be engrossed, in concurrence *with an amendment*, striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 4704; and by striking out the title and inserting in place thereof the following title: "An Act relative to individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities".

Individuals with disabilities.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. O'Connor, and the House amendments were considered forthwith.

Ms. Jehlen presented a motion that the Senate concur with the House amendment with *further amendments* striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 2954; and by inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:

"Whereas, the deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to defeat its purpose, which is forthwith to make corrective changes in certain general laws relative to persons with disabilities, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience."

The motion was accepted; and the further amendments were adopted.

Sent to the House for concurrence in the further amendments.

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for William Blalock, an employee of the Suffolk county sheriff's office (House, No. 4908,-- on petition),-- was read.

William Blalock,-- sick leave.

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.

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Senate Bill modernizing protections for consumers in automobile transactions (Senate, No. 228),-- ought to pass with an amendment substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2945).

Auto transactions,-- protections.

Order Adopted.

Mr. Rodrigues offered the following order, to wit:

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Ordered, That notwithstanding Senate Rule 7 or any other rule to the contrary, the Senate Bill modernizing protections for consumers in automobile transactions (Senate, No. 228) shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for a second reading on Thursday, February 12, 2026, for immediate consideration with the Ways and Means amendment pending; and *be it further ordered* that all amendments to the proposed new draft shall be second-reading amendments, but further amendments in the third-degree to such amendments shall be in order.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. O'Connor, and the order was considered forthwith and adopted.

The bill will be placed in the Orders of the Day for Thursday, February 12, 2026, for a second reading with the amendment pending.

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Senate Bill relative to modernizing the pathway to becoming a certified public accountant (Senate, No. 209),-- ought to pass with an amendment substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2946).

Procedural Order.
SD3662

Order Adopted.

Mr. Rodrigues offered the following order, to wit:

Ordered, That notwithstanding Senate Rule 7 or any other rule to the contrary, the Senate Bill relative to modernizing the pathway to becoming a certified public accountant (Senate, No. 209) shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for a second reading on Thursday, February 12, 2026, for immediate consideration with the Ways and Means amendment pending; and *be it further ordered* that all amendments to the proposed new draft shall be second-reading amendments, but further amendments in the third-degree to such amendments shall be in order.

Procedural Order.
SD3661

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. O'Connor, and the order was considered forthwith and adopted.

The bill will be placed in the Orders of the Day for Thursday, February 12, 2026, for a second reading with the amendment pending.

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Senate Bill to end housing discrimination in the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 2671),-- ought to pass with an amendment substituting a new draft entitled "An Act regarding fair housing practices in the Commonwealth" (Senate, No. 2947).

Housing
discrimination.

Order Adopted.

Mr. Rodrigues offered the following order, to wit:

Ordered, That notwithstanding Senate Rule 7 or any other rule to the contrary, the Senate Bill to end housing discrimination in the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 2671) shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for a second reading on Thursday, February 12, 2026, for immediate consideration with the Ways and Means amendment pending; and *be it further ordered* that all amendments to the proposed new draft shall be second-reading amendments, but further amendments in the third-degree to such amendments shall be in order.

Procedural Order.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. O'Connor, and the order was considered forthwith and adopted.

The bill will be placed in the Orders of the Day for Thursday, February 12, 2026, for a second reading with the amendment pending.

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Moments of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Collins), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection in memory of James Parker.

Moments of silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Collins), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection in memory of Kimberly Parker.

Time of meeting.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. O'Connor,--

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.

Adjournment in Memory of James "Jim" Parker .

The Senator from First Plymouth and Norfolk, Mr. O'Connor, moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it do so in memory of James Parker.

James "Jim" Parker passed away unexpectedly on January 26, 2026 at the age of 60 years old.

Born in Weymouth, he was the son of Robert and Carol. Jim was a proud graduate of Weymouth North High School, and his pursuit of excellence led him to Bentley University, where he earned his degree and became a Certified Public Accountant. With an entrepreneurial spirit, he built a successful practice, serving his clients with integrity and a personal touch that made each feel like family.

Jim's zest for life extended far beyond his professional achievements. A true people person, he had the rare ability to forge lasting friendships with everyone he met—from school pals to work colleagues, from fellow sports enthusiasts to newfound acquaintances in his many travels. Jim believed that once a friendship was made, it was to be a bond for life.

His passion for sports was undeniable. As a baseball fanatic, he not only celebrated these sports as a spectator but also influenced the next generation as a dedicated coach and an umpire. Jim's voice often echoed on the field with encouragement and a hint of humor, as he nurtured young athletes, teaching them the values of teamwork, discipline, and respect.

Jim made his mark on the school community and contributed to town politics, always ready to lend his expertise and a helping hand. He proudly served his hometown as a member of the Weymouth School Committee for many years.

Above all, Jim was known for his kindness, his infectious humor, and his friendly demeanor. He greeted the world with a smile and left it with a legacy of laughter, love, and an outstretched hand ready to befriend anyone who crossed his path.

His two boys were the most important thing in his life. He loved to watch them grow up, play sports, and see them grow up to be great men. He was so incredibly proud of them.

Jim is survived by his loving wife Katherine "Kathy" Spurling Parker. Cherished father to Rob Parker of Pembroke and Alex Parker of Abington. Brother to Mike Parker and his wife Christine of Weymouth, former spouse Carlyn Parker and companion Bob the cat. He is also survived by many extended family and friends.

Jim's spirit will live on in the hearts of those he touched, forever remembered as a

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beacon of light and a true friend. He has rounded the bases one final time and now, undoubtedly, has found peace in a field of dreams where every day is a sunny day at the ballpark.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Kimberly Parker, at ten minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. O'Connor, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Adjournment in Memory of Kimberly Parker.

The Senator from Suffolk, Mr. Collins moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourns in memory of Ms. Kimberly Parker.

Ms. Kimberly Parker, a devoted public servant and beloved presence in the South Boston community, is remembered for her unwavering commitment to the people she served.

Ms. Parker was a trusted advocate, a steady listener, and a source of reassurance for countless tenants. She approached her work with compassion, fairness, and deep respect, always making sure residents felt seen, heard, and cared for. For many, she was the person they could rely on during both everyday concerns and life's more difficult moments.

Ms. Parker's dedication extended beyond her professional role. She was an active and engaged member of the West Broadway Task Force, where she worked collaboratively to strengthen the community and improve quality of life for residents. Her involvement reflected her belief that strong neighborhoods are built through care, cooperation, and genuine human connection.

Known for her warmth, professionalism, and tireless work ethic, Ms. Parker leaves behind a legacy of service and kindness. Her impact will be felt for years to come in the lives she touched and the community she helped nurture.

She will be deeply missed by her colleagues, residents, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Kimberly Parker, at ten minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. O'Connor, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.
