

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.**



**MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2026**

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, April 13, 2026.

Met at two 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.

Distinguished Guests.

There being no objection, the Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) handed the gavel to Mr. Rush for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Rush then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, a group of seniors at Ursuline Academy in Dedham. The students were on a tour of the State House and learning about the different aspects of state government. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Ursuline Academy.

Reports.

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

Report of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (pursuant to Section 84 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its School Meal Waste and Consumption FY24 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 Education) (received April 10, 2026);

DESE,-- School Food Waste FY24 report. SD3842

Report of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (pursuant line-item 1595-0116 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts 2023) submitting its Genocide Education Trust Fund and Programming FY24 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 Education) (received April 10, 2026);

DESE,-- Genocide Education Trust Fund FY24 report. SD3843

Report of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (pursuant to line-item 1595-0115 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts 2023) submitting its Civics Project Trust Fund FY24 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 Education) (received April 10, 2026); and

DESE,-- Civics Project FY24 report. SD3844

Report of Department of Revenue (pursuant to line items 1201-0160 of section 2 of Chapter 9 of Acts 2025) submitting its fiscal year 2026 projected expenditure report for the Department of Revenue Child Support Services Division (DOR/CSS) Trust Fund, along with DOR/CSS ISA financial allocation accounts as of as of February 19, 2026 (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received April 13, 2026).

DOR,-- CSS FY26 trust fund report. SD3845

Petition.

Mr. Feeney presented a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Paul R. Feeney for legislation to ensure fairness in retirement benefits for certain employees of

Department of Correction,-- retirement benefits.

the Department of Correction,-- and the same was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

SD3845

*Report of a Committee.*

By Ms. Rausch, for the same committee on Environment and Natural Resources, (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2961), a Bill authorizing the town of Dighton to use a portion of conservation land for public way purposes (Senate No. 3052) [Local approval received on Senate, No. 2961];

Dighton,-- conservation land.

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

*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 Financial Services to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to licensing of earned wage access services providers by the Division of Banks (Senate, No. 3047); and

Financial Services,-- study.

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Financial Services to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to providing regulation and reporting requirements for qualifying virtual currency kiosk operators (Senate, No. 3049);

Id.

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

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5364) of Patricia A. Duffy (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Holyoke be authorized to further regulate residency requirements in said city; and

Holyoke,-- residency requirement.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5365) of David T. Vieira, Dylan A. Fernandes and Thomas W. Moakley (by vote of the town) that the town of Falmouth be authorized to amend its charter to establish the Falmouth licensing commission;

Falmouth,-- charter.

**Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.**

Bills

Relative to wastewater treatment and disposal in the town of Sandwich (House, No. 1073,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Sandwich,-- wastewater treatment.

Relative to preliminary elections in the town of Longmeadow (House, No. 4309,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Longmeadow,-- preliminary elections.

Relative to extending the timeframe within which the town of Southbridge may grant additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5096,-- on House, No. 4588) [Local approval received on House, No. 4588]; and

Southbridge,-- liquor licenses.

Authorizing the city of Salem to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises upon the return of the license authorized in chapter 67 of the acts of 2008 (House, No. 5098,-- on House, No. 4662) [Local approval received on House, No. 4662];

Salem,-- liquor license.

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

*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 Patricia D. Jehlen for legislation relative to assisted living residencies in the Commonwealth.

Housing access,--  
assisted living.  
SD3838

**Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mr. Durant, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Aging and Independence.**

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 Vanna Howard for legislation relative to a certain property in the city of Lowell.

Lowell,-- parcel of  
land.  
SD3832

**Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mr. Durant, 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.**

*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 amending the charter of the town of Middleton (House, No. 4399) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading),-- was read a third time.

Middleton,--  
charter.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Tarr presented an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 3053.

The amendment was adopted.

**The bill, as amended, was then passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with the amendment.**

**Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.**

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE

*Engrossed Bill.*

An engrossed Bill changing the name of the board of selectmen in the town of Boylston to select board (see House, No. 4621) (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. Brownsberger) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.**

Bill laid before the  
Governor.

*Order Adopted.*

On motion of Mr. Durant,--

*Ordered*, that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Wednesday 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 nine minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., the Senate adjourned to meet again on Wednesday at eleven o'clock A.M.