

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.**



**TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026**

[37]

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Tuesday, April 21, 2026.

Met at seven minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Cronin 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. Cronin), 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 Department of Higher Education (pursuant to Chapter 337 of the Acts of 2020) submitting its Campus Sexual Misconduct Incident Data 2024-2025 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 Higher Education) (received April 15, 2026);

DHE,-- CSVP  
FY24-FY25 report.  
SD3852

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to line item 4000-0601 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Fiscal Year 2024 Senior Care report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means (received April 17, 2026);

MassHealth,--  
FY24 Senior Care  
report.  
SD3853  
EOHLC,-- FY2025  
DLTA report.  
SD3854

Report of the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (pursuant to Section 2XXX of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting its 2025 District Local Technical Assistance annual report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received April 2, 2026);

Report of the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (pursuant to line item 7004-9024 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP) and the Alternative Housing Voucher Program (AHVP) 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 Housing) (received April 2, 2026); and

EOHLC,-- MRVP  
and AHVP report.  
SD3855

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to line item 4000-0601 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Fiscal Year 2025 Senior Care report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received April 17, 2026).

MassHealth,--  
FY25 Senior Care  
report.  
SD3856

Report of a Committee.

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

By Mr. Brady, for the committee on Public Service (under Joint Rule 10), on Senate, Nos. 2939 and 2942, an Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Public Service to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to public service matters (Senate, No. 3060);

Public Service,--  
study.

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

*Committees Discharged.*

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 State Administration and Regulatory Oversight to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to authorizing the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to grant easements to NSTAR electric company d/b/a Eversource Energy in return for NSTAR releasing or modifying easements for the benefit of the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 3058); and

State Administration and Regulatory Oversight,-- study.

Of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Public Service to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to public service matters (Senate, No. 3060);

Public Service,-- study.

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.**

Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, to whom was referred the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to authorizing the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to grant easements to NSTAR electric company d/b/a Eversource Energy in return for NSTAR releasing or modifying easements for the benefit of the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 3058), reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2922) of Sal N. DiDomenico for legislation to authorize the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to grant easements to NSTAR electric company d/b/a Eversource Energy in return for NSTAR releasing or modifying easements for the benefit of the Commonwealth,-- **and recommending that the same be recommitted to the committee on the State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.**

NSTAR easements.

**Under Senate Rule 36, the report was considered forthwith and accepted.**

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5383) of Joseph D. McKenna, Ryan C. Fattman and Paul K. Frost (by vote of the town) that the town of Oxford be authorized to grant one additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises in said town;

Oxford,-- liquor licenses.

**To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.**

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5384) of Andres X. Vargas (with the approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to authorize Craig Riley to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill, notwithstanding the maximum age requirement;

Haverhill,-- Craig Riley.

**To the committee on Public Service.**

A Bill authorizing the Dalton fire district to continue the employment of interim fire chief Christopher Francis Cachat (House, No. 4321,-- on petition),-- **was read and, under Senate Rule 26, referred to the committee on Rules.**

Dalton,-- Christopher Francis Cachat.

Bills

**UNCORRECTED PROOF.**

Providing for the election of candidates in the city of Haverhill (House, No. 4203,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Providing for the election of candidates in the city of Haverhill (House, No. 4204,-- on petition) [Local approval received]; and

Regulating elections in the town of Conway (House, No. 4498,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

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

Haverhill,--  
elections.

Haverhill,-- elected  
and appointed  
officials.

Conway,--  
elections.

*Committee Changes.*

The Chair (Mr. Cronin) announced the resignation of Senator Tarr of Essex and Middlesex as a member of the committee on Bills in the Third Reading and the appointment of Senator Durant of Worcester and Hampshire to fill the vacancy.

Subsequently, the Chair (Mr. Cronin) announced the resignation of Senator Durant of Worcester and Hampshire as a member of the committee on Bills in the Third Reading and the reappointment of Senator Tarr of Essex and Middlesex thereto.

Committee on Bills  
in the Third  
Reading,--  
changes.

*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 authorizing the town of Marblehead to establish a means-tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 4225),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Marblehead,--  
senior tax  
exemptions.

The House Bill further regulating the appointment of special police officers in the city of Malden (House, No. 4584, amended) (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.**

Malden,-- special  
police officers.

*Reports of Committees.*

By Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that the Senate Order granting the committee on Financial Services until May 4, 2026, within which time to make its final report on current Senate documents numbered 688, 705, 723, 731, 766, 833, and 837, relative to financial services matters (Senate, No. 2796).

Financial  
Services,--  
extension order.

**The rules were suspended on motion of Mr. Durant, and, after remarks, the order was considered forthwith and adopted.**

By Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that the Senate Order granting the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs until April 30, 2026, within which time to make its final report on current Senate documents numbered 2466, 2467, and 2500, relative to veterans and federal affairs matters (Senate, No. 2775),-- ought to be adopted.

Veterans and  
Federal Affairs,--  
extension order.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Durant, and the order was considered forthwith.

Pending the question on adoption of the order, Mr. Rush presented an amendment, in line 2 by striking out the words "April 30, 2026" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- "June 30, 2026".

**The amendment was adopted.**

**After remarks, the order (Senate, No. 2775, amended) was adopted.**

By Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that the Senate Order granting the committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery until April 30, 2026, within which time to make its final report on a current Senate document numbered 1402, relative to addiction services (Senate, No. 2776),-- ought to be adopted.

Mental Health,  
Substance Use and  
Recovery,--  
extension order.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Durant, and the order was considered forthwith.

Pending the question on adoption of the order, Ms. Kennedy presented an amendment, in line 2 by striking out the words "April 30, 2026" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- "June 30, 2026".

**The amendment was adopted.**

**After remarks, the order (Senate, No. 2776, amended) was adopted.**

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

*Emergency Preamble Adopted.*

An engrossed Bill designating the Weider park tennis courts as the Kim O'Connell tennis courts (see House, No. 4259, amended), having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage and containing an emergency preamble,-- was laid before the Senate; and, a separate vote being taken in accordance with the requirements of Article LXVII of the Amendments to the Constitution, the preamble was adopted in concurrence, by a vote of 2 to 0.

Roslindale,-- Kim  
O'Connell tennis  
courts.

**The bill was signed by the Acting President (Mr. Cronin) and sent to the House for enactment.**

*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. Cronin) and laid before the Governor for her approbation, to wit:

Designating the Weider park tennis courts as the Kim O'Connell tennis courts (see House, No. 4259, amended); and

Bills laid before  
the Governor.

Increasing the membership of the select board in the town of Monson (see House, No. 4602).

*Order Adopted.*

On motion of Mr. Durant,--

*Ordered*, that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M., and that the Clerk be directed to dispense with the printing of a calendar.

Time of meeting.

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