

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



MONDAY, MAY 4, 2026

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, May 4, 2026.

Met at eleven minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Feeney in the Chair).

The Chair (Mr. Feeney), 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 Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to Section 12 of Chapter 7A of the General Laws) submitting its Fiscal Year 2025 annual comprehensive financial report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received April 30, 2026);

Comptroller,-- FY25 comprehensive financial report. SD3879

Report of the Office of the Inspector General (pursuant to Section 12 of Chapter 12A of the General Laws) submitting its Steamship Authority's Website Development Project report (a copy having been forwarded to the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation) (received April 22, 2026);

OIC,-- Steamship Authority's Website report. SD3880

Report of the Office of the Inspector General (pursuant to Section 12 of Chapter 12A of the General Laws) submitting its Investigatory Review of Failed Service Plaza Procurement 2025 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation) (received April 22, 2026);

OIG,-- MASSDOT Highway Services Plaza's 2025 report. SD3881

Report of the Office of the Inspector General (pursuant to Section 12 of Chapter 12A of the General Laws) submitting its Former CEO of Worcester Regional Retirement System Abused Public Funds 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 Public Service) (received April 22, 2026);

OIG,-- Former CEO of Worcester RRS report. SD3882

Report of the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (pursuant to Section 6M (c)(8) of Chapter 62 of the General Laws and Section 38EE(c)(8) of Chapter 63 of the General Laws) submitting its Community Investment Tax Credit (CITC) 2025 annual report (received May 1, 2026);

EOHLC,-- 2025 CITC annual report. SD3883

Report of the Office of the Inspector General (pursuant to Section 12 of Chapter 12A of the General Laws) submitting its 2025 annual report (copies having been forwarded to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Ways and Means and Post Audit and Oversight) (received May 1, 2026);

OIG,-- FY25 annual report. SD3884

Report of the Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission (pursuant to line item 0800-0000 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its FY26 budget report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received May 1, 2026);

POST Commission,-- FY26 report. SD3885

Report of the Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission (pursuant to Section 16 of Chapter 6E of the General Laws) submitting its 2025 annual report (received May 1, 2026); and

POST Commission,-- FY25 annual report. SD3886

Report of the Division of Insurance (pursuant to Section 228(i) of Chapter 175 of the General Laws) submitting its annual report concerning coverage minimums for

DOI,-- 2025 TNC annual report. SD3887

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

transportation network vehicles for calendar year 2025 (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Financial Services) (received May 4, 2026).

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Cronin, for the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security, on petition, a Bill authorizing the city known as the town of Barnstable to use red lights on certain emergency response vehicles (Senate, No. 2635) [Local approval received];

Barnstable,-- town-owned vehicles

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2027 for the maintenance of the departments, boards, commissions, institutions, and certain activities of the commonwealth, for interest, sinking fund, and serial bond requirements, and for certain permanent improvements (House, No. 5501,-- on House, No. 2),-- **was read and, under Senate Rule 27, referred to the committee on Ways and Means.**

FY27 General appropriations.

Bills

Authorizing the city of North Adams to appoint retired North Adams police officers as special police officers within said city for paid detail assignments (House, No. 4141, amended-- on petition) [Local approval received];

North Adams,-- special police officers.

Authorizing the town of Wrentham to exempt from taxation certain real estate owned and occupied by the surviving spouse of Wrentham Deputy Chief George C. Labonte (House, No. 4269,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Wrentham,-- surviving spouse tax exemption.

Relative to excise upon the transfer of parking spaces in the city of Salem (House, No. 4547, amended,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Salem,-- parking excise.

Authorizing the town of Millis to establish a means-tested senior citizen property tax exemption for school building construction projects (House, No. 4605,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Millis,-- senior property tax exemption.

Authorizing the town of Falmouth to expend funds to offset certain costs associated with the installation of low pressure pumps on private property in future sewer service areas (House, No. 5109,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Falmouth,-- sewer service pumps.

Regarding the disability pension for Misael Rodriguez administered by the Springfield retirement board (House, No. 5391,-- on House, No. 2939) [Local approval received House, No. 2939]; and

Springfield,-- Misael Rodriguez.

Authorizing the town of North Attleborough to establish a means-tested senior citizen property tax exemption (House, No. 5392,-- on House, No. 4526) [Local approval received on House, No. 4526];

North Attleborough,-- senior property tax exemption.

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

Resolutions.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Feeney) “commending the Greater Boston Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals on its recognition of the North American Occupational Safety and Health Week and Occupational Safety and Health Professional Day.”

Greater Boston Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals.

There being no objection, the Chair (Mr. Feeney) then introduced Kristin Hoffman, Government Affairs Committee and Past President, AASP, David Crowley, Government

Affairs Committee and Past President, AASP, Michael Alroy, Past President, AASP and Ivan Kivumbi Member-At-Large, AASP and read the following resolutions, as follows:

RESOLUTIONS COMMENDING THE GREATER BOSTON CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS ON ITS RECOGNITION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK AND OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROFESSIONAL DAY.

WHEREAS, THE GREATER BOSTON CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS WILL RECOGNIZE MAY 4, 2026 THROUGH MAY 9, 2026 AS NORTH AMERICAN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK AND WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2026 AS OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROFESSIONAL DAY; AND

WHEREAS, NORTH AMERICAN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK AND OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROFESSIONAL DAY SEEK TO RECOGNIZE THE COMMITMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS WHO PROTECT PEOPLE, PROPERTY AND THE ENVIRONMENT AT WORK IN THEIR COMMUNITIES; AND

WHEREAS, THE MAJORITY OF WORKPLACE INJURIES AND FATALITIES ARE PREVENTABLE, YET MORE THAN 2 MILLION PEOPLE DIE EACH YEAR FROM WORKPLACE-RELATED ACCIDENTS AND MILLIONS MORE SUFFER OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND ILLNESSES; AND

WHEREAS, SAFER ORGANIZATIONS ENJOY INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY, HIGHER EMPLOYEE SATISFACTION, A BETTER REPUTATION AND RECORD LESS LOST TIME AND LOWER WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND HEALTHCARE COSTS; AND

WHEREAS, THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS MEMBERS, THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AND PARTNERS REPRESENTING THOUSANDS OF BUSINESSES WILL MOBILIZE IN AN EFFORT TO INCREASE EMPLOYER, EMPLOYEE AND PUBLIC AWARENESS OF SAFETY IN THE WORKPLACE TO ENCOURAGE SAFE PRACTICES AND HELP COMPANIES AND ORGANIZATIONS ENHANCE THEIR WORKPLACE SAFETY EFFORTS; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, THAT THE MASSACHUSETTS SENATE HEREBY COMMENDS THE GREATER BOSTON CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS ON ITS RECOGNITION OF MAY 4, 2026 THROUGH MAY 9, 2026 AS NORTH AMERICAN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK AND WEDNESDAY MAY 6, 2026 AS OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROFESSIONAL DAY AND FURTHER ENCOURAGES ALL RESIDENTS TO SUPPORT ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF SAFE WORKPLACES FOR ALL; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THESE RESOLUTIONS BE TRANSMITTED FORTHWITH BY THE CLERK OF THE SENATE TO THE GREATER BOSTON CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS.

The resolutions were then adopted.

Message from Her Excellency the Governor.

Mr. Cronin in the Chair, a message from Her Excellency the Governor recommending legislation to enhance the safe use of micromobility devices (Senate, No. 3077) (received in the office of the Clerk of the Senate on Monday, May 4, 2026, at eight minutes before eleven o'clock A.M.);

Micromobility
vehicles,-- safety.

The message was read; and, under Senate Rule 20, with the accompanying bill, was referred to the committee on Transportation.
Sent to the House for concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Engrossed Bills.

The following engrossed bills (the first of which originated in the Senate), 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) (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, to wit:

Providing for recall elections in the town of Rutland (see Senate, No. 2789);

Bills laid before the Governor.

Further regulating creditable service for employees of the Dedham-Westwood Water district (see House, No. 2917, amended);

Authorizing the town of Lancaster to dissolve its animal control commission (see House, No. 4212);

Relative to the charter of the town of Fairhaven (see House, No. 4232, amended); and

Setting a date for the annual town meeting for the town of Orange (see House, No. 4717, amended).

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 providing for a town administrator in the town of Hopedale (House, No. 4784),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Hopedale,-- town administrator.

The House Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Courtney Cochran, an employee of the department of children and families (House, No. 5245) (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.**

Courtney Cochran,-- sick leave.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tarr,--

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.

Recess.

There being no objection, at twelve minutes before twelve o'clock noon, the Chair (Mr. Cronin) declared a recess, subject to the call of the Chair; and, at three minutes before two o'clock P.M., the Senate reassembled, Mr. Rush in the Chair.

Recess.

Order Adopted.

Mr. Rodrigues offered the following order, to wit:

Ordered, That, pursuant to the provisions of Senate Rule 27A, all amendments to the general appropriations bill as reported by the Committee on Ways and Means shall be filed electronically in the Office of the Clerk of the Senate by 3:00 P.M., on Friday, May 8, 2026; and be it further ordered that, pursuant to the provisions of Senate Rule 38B, the general appropriations bill as reported by the Committee on Ways and Means shall be placed in the

General appropriation bill,-- procedural order.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Orders of the Day for Tuesday, May 19, 2026, for its second reading, as the only item on the calendar (Senate, No. 4).

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Crighton, and the order was considered forthwith and adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tarr, at one minute before two o'clock P.M., the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.