

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2026

[50]

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, June 4, 2026.

Met at seven minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Brownsberger in 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, during consideration of the Orders of the Day, the following guests were introduced:

The Chair (Mr. Driscoll) handed the gavel to Mr. Fattman for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Fattman then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, members of the Sons of the American Legion, a group of males of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the United States military and were eligible for American Legion membership. The group was accompanied by William Cassidy and Sutton Select Board member Jesse Limanek. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Sons of the American Legion.

The Chair (Mr. Driscoll) handed the gavel to Mr. Fattman for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Fattman then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, members of the Sturbridge 250th anniversary committee. The committee was visiting the State House in memory of Richard Louis Volpe, one of their members that had passed away in January. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Sturbridge 250th anniversary committee.

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) handed the gavel to Mr. Collins for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Collins then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, a group of dignitaries from various Caribbean islands. Among the group were: Consulate General of St. Kitts Kressell Daniel, Ambassador of Saint Lucia to the United States, Her Excellency Elizabeth Darius-Clarke, Ambassador of Grenada to the United States, His Excellency Tarlie Francis, Consul General of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, Ambassador Michael E. Brotherson, Dr. Claire Nelson from the Institute of Caribbean Studies, Consul General of Haiti Regine Etienne and President of the Authentic Caribbean Foundation Andrew Sharpe. The group was visiting the State House in recognition of Caribbean Heritage Month. Ambassadors Darius-Clarke and Francis addressed the Chamber from the Rostrum. The Senate welcomed them with applause, the entire delegation signed the guest book and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Caribbean Islands dignitaries.

Reports.

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

Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Barnstable County Sheriff's Office Fourth Quarter 2025 Population report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received June 1, 2026);

Barnstable County Sheriff,-- Q4 2025 population report. SD3947

Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Berkshire County Sheriff's Office Fourth Quarter 2025 Population report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee

Berkshire County Sheriff,-- Q4 2025 population report.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received June 1, 2026);	SD3948
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Bristol County Sheriff's Office Fourth Quarter 2025 Population report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received June 1, 2026);	Bristol County Sheriff,-- Q4 2025 population report. SD3949
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Dukes County Sheriff's Office Fourth Quarter 2025 Population report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received June 1, 2026);	Dukes County Sheriff,-- Q4 2025 population report. SD3950
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Essex County Sheriff's Office Fourth Quarter 2025 Population report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received June 1, 2026);	Essex County Sheriff,-- Q4 2025 population report. SD3951
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Franklin County Sheriff's Office Fourth Quarter 2025 Population report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received June 1, 2026);	Franklin County Sheriff,-- Q4 2025 population report. SD3952
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Hampshire County Sheriff's Office Fourth Quarter 2025 Population report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received June 1, 2026);	Hampshire County Sheriff,-- Q4 2025 population report. SD3953
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Hampden County Sheriff's Office Fourth Quarter 2025 Population report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received June 1, 2026);	Hampden County Sheriff,-- Q4 2025 population report. SD3954
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Middlesex County Sheriff's Office Fourth Quarter 2025 Population report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received June 1, 2026);	Middlesex County Sheriff,-- Q4 2025 population report. SD3955
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Norfolk County Sheriff's Office Fourth Quarter 2025 Population report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received June 1, 2026);	Norfolk County Sheriff,-- Q4 2025 population report. SD3956
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Plymouth County Sheriff's Office Fourth Quarter 2025 Population report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received June 1, 2026);	Plymouth County Sheriff,-- Q4 2025 population report. SD3957
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Suffolk County Sheriff's Office Fourth Quarter 2025 Population report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee	Suffolk County Sheriff,-- Q4 2025 population report. SD3958

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received June 1, 2026);

Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Worcester County Sheriff's Office Fourth Quarter 2025 Population report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) (received June 1, 2026);

Worcester County Sheriff,-- Q4 2025 population report. SD3959

Report of the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women (pursuant to Section 66 of Chapter 3 of the General Laws) submitting its MCSW FY2026 annual report (received June 1, 2026);

MCSW,-- FY2026 annual report. SD3960

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to Section 61 of Chapter 7 of the General Laws) submitting its Supplier Diversity Office FY25 annual report (received June 1, 2026);

SDO,-- FY25 annual report. SD3962

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for the Western Massachusetts Recovery and Wellness 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 June 2, 2026);

DPH,-- Western Mass Wellness Center Inspection report. SD3963

Report of the Asian American and Pacific Islanders Commission (pursuant to Section 68(e) of Chapter 3 of the General Laws) submitting its 2025 annual report (received June 1, 2026);

AAPIC,-- FY25 annual report. SD3964

Report of the Massachusetts Capital Resource Company (pursuant to Section 2(e) of Chapter 259 of the Acts of 1998) submitting its 2025 annual report and statement of financial condition of the Life Insurance Community Investment Initiative, LLC (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); and

MCRC,-- FY25 annual report. SD3965

Report of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (pursuant to line item 8000-0125 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Sex Offender Registry Board FY26 annual report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received June 3, 2026).

EOPSS,-- SORB FY26 annual report. SD3967

Petition.

Ms. Friedman presented a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Cindy F. Friedman for legislation to authorize the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to take easements over certain land located in the city of Woburn and the town of Burlington held in trust by the city of Boston for the Mary P. C. Cummings Testamentary Trust,-- **and the same was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.**

DOT easements. SD3961

Reports of Committees.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that the Senate Bills

Establishing the interagency financial scams task force (Senate, No. 749); and

To empower communities against environmental damage (Senate, No. 1245);

Financial scams,-- task force. Environmental,-- task force.

Severally ought to pass;

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

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

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5461) of Alice Hanlon Peisch (by vote of the town) that the town of Weston be authorized to grant an additional license for sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises in said town;

Weston,-- liquor licenses.

To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5462) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., Sally P. Kerans and Bruce E. Tarr (by vote of the town) relative to recall petitions in the charter of the town of Middleton;

Middleton,-- charter.

To the committee on Election Laws.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5463) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., Sally P. Kerans and Bruce E. Tarr (by vote of the town) relative to a conservation restriction in the town of Middleton; and

Middleton,-- conservation restriction.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5467) of Alice Hanlon Peisch (by vote of the town) that the town of Weston be authorized to transfer certain parcels of land in said town from the conservation commission to the select board;

Weston,-- land.

Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5468) of Kimberly N. Ferguson (by vote of the town) that the town of Princeton be authorized to continue the employment of police officer Paul Quinn, notwithstanding the maximum age requirement;

Princeton,-- Paul Quinn.

To the committee on Public Service.

A Bill authorizing the town of Raynham to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5099,-- on House, No. 4877) [Local approval received on House, No. 4877],-- **was read and, under Senate Rule 26, placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session.**

Raynham,-- liquor license.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Fattman) “recognizing the town of Sturbridge for its enduring contributions to the United States of America on the occasion of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the United States of America”; and

Town of Sturbridge.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Rush) “congratulating Zachary Ulrich on his elevation to the rank of Eagle Scout.”

Zachary Ulrich.

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 for legislation to provide for improved public access and climate resiliency on the Mystic River and increasing the utilization of the designated port area.

Mystic River,-- port area.
SD3846

Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mr. Tarr, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

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 ensure appropriate and timely emergency medical response.

Medical response,-- emergency.
SD3452

Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mr. Tarr, 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.

Severally sent to the House for concurrence.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5477) of Steven Ultrino relative to the treatment of cleft palate and cleft lip,-- **was referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Financial Services.**

Cleft palate,--
treatment.

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 June 5, 2026, within which time to make its final report on current Senate documents numbered 766 and 837, relative to credit union matters (Senate, No. 3079),-- ought to be adopted.

Financial Services,--
extension order.

The rules were suspended on motion of Mr. Tarr 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 Financial Services until June 12, 2026, within which time to make its final report on current Senate documents numbered 705, 731 and 833, relative to mortgage financing matters (Senate, No. 3080),-- ought to be adopted.

Id.

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

Reports of a Committee.

Ms. Creem in the Chair, by Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the House Bill relative to benefits for teachers (House, No. 4361) (also based on Senate, No. 1884),-- ought to pass, with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 3109; and by inserting before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:-

Teachers,-- benefits.

“Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to provide forthwith an opportunity for eligible teachers to participate in the alternative superannuation retirement benefit program, therefore, it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.”

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Brownsberger, and the bill was read a second time and was amended, as recommended by the committee on Ways and Means.

After remarks, the bill, as amended, was then ordered to a third reading and read a third time.

The question on passing the bill to be engrossed, was determined by a call of the yeas and nays, at two minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Rodrigues, as follows to wit (yeas 39 to nays 0) **[Yeas and Nays No. 187]**.

YEAS.

Barrett, Michael J.
Brady, Michael D.
Brownsberger, William N.
Collins, Nick
Creem, Cynthia Stone
Crighton, Brendan P.
Cronin, John J.
Cyr, Julian
DiDomenico, Sal N.

Howard, Vanna
Jehlen, Patricia D.
Keenan, John F.
Kennedy, Robyn K.
Lewis, Jason M.
Lovely, Joan B.
Mark, Paul W.
Miranda, Liz
Montigny, Mark C.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Dooner, Kelly A.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.
Durant, Peter J.
Edwards, Lydia
Eldridge, James B.
Fattman, Ryan C.
Feeney, Paul R.
Fernandes, Dylan A.
Finegold, Barry R.
Friedman, Cindy F.
Gómez, Adam

Moore, Michael O.
O'Connor, Patrick M.
Oliveira, Jacob R.
Payano, Pavel
Rausch, Rebecca L.
Rodrigues, Michael J.
Rush, Michael F.
Spilka, Karen E.
Tarr, Bruce E.
Velis, John C. – 39.

NAYS – 0.

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING.

Comerford, Joanne M. – 1.

The yeas and nays having been completed at four minutes past twelve o'clock noon, the bill was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence with the amendments. Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendments.

By Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the House Bill relative to enhancing child welfare protections (House, No. 4646),-- ought to pass, with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 3111.

Child welfare,--
protections.

Order Adopted.

Mr. Rodrigues offered the following order, to wit:

Ordered, That notwithstanding Senate Rule 7 or any other rule to the contrary, the House Bill enhancing child welfare protections (House, No. 4646) (the committee on Ways and Means having recommended that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 3111) shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for a second reading on Thursday, June 11, 2026, for immediate consideration with the Ways and Means new text pending; and be it further ordered that all amendments to the proposed new text 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. Fattman, and the order was considered forthwith and adopted.

The bill will be placed in the Orders of the Day for Thursday, June 11, 2026, for a second reading with the amendment pending.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE

Committee of Conference Report.

A report of the committee of conference of the disagreeing votes of the two branches, with reference to the Senate amendments to the House Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2026 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (House, No. 5280) (*amended by the Senate* by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 3054),-- reported, a "Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2026 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects" (House, No. 5470),-- came from the House, and was read.

Supplemental
appropriations.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

After remarks, the question on acceptance of the report of the committee of conference was determined by a call of the yeas and nays, at twenty-two minutes past twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Rodrigues as follows, to wit (yeas 37 – nays 3) **[Yeas and Nays No. 188]**:

YEAS.

Barrett, Michael J.	Jehlen, Patricia D.
Brady, Michael D.	Keenan, John F.
Brownsberger, William N.	Kennedy, Robyn K.
Collins, Nick	Lewis, Jason M.
Comerford, Joanne M.	Lovely, Joan B.
Creem, Cynthia Stone	Mark, Paul W.
Crichton, Brendan P.	Miranda, Liz
Cronin, John J.	Montigny, Mark C.
Cyr, Julian	Moore, Michael O.
DiDomenico, Sal N.	O'Connor, Patrick M.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.	Oliveira, Jacob R.
Edwards, Lydia	Payano, Pavel
Eldridge, James B.	Rausch, Rebecca L.
Feeney, Paul R.	Rodrigues, Michael J.
Fernandes, Dylan A.	Rush, Michael F.
Finegold, Barry R.	Spilka, Karen E.
Friedman, Cindy F.	Tarr, Bruce E.
Gómez, Adam	Velis, John C. – 37.
Howard, Vanna	

NAYS.

Dooner, Kelly A.	Fattman, Ryan C. – 3.
Durant, Peter J.	

The yeas and nays having been completed at twenty-seven minutes past twelve o'clock noon, the report was accepted, in 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 Senate Bill relative to toxic-free medical devices (Senate. No. 3106),-- **was read a third time, and, after remarks, was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the House for concurrence.**

Toxic-free,--
medical devices.

The Senate Bill relative to advancing the profession of commercial interior design (Senate, No. 3107),-- was read a third time.

Interior design,--
board of
registration.

There being no objection, the matter was temporarily laid aside.
Subsequently, the bill was further considered and passed to be engrossed.

Recess.

There being no objection, at a quarter before one o'clock P.M., the Chair (Ms. Creem) declared a recess, subject to the call of the Chair; and, at three minutes before two o'clock P.M., the Senate reassembled, Mr. Driscoll in the Chair.

Recess.

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Driscoll), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection in memory of Richard Louis Volpe.

Moment of silence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Emergency Preamble Adopted.

An engrossed Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2026 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (see House, No. 5470), 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 5 to 0.

Supplemental appropriations.

The bill was signed by the Acting President (Mr. Driscoll) (having been appointed by the President, under authority conferred by Senate Rule 4, to perform the duties of the Chair) and sent to the House for enactment.

Engrossed Bill.

An engrossed Bill authorizing the town of Berkley to recall elected officials (see Senate, No. 3018) (which originated in the Senate), **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. Driscoll) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.**

Bill laid before the Governor.

Engrossed Bills—Land Takings for Conservation Etc.

An engrossed Bill extending the deadline for the town of Milton to appropriate money for the construction of a new school on certain land acquired for conservation purposes (see Senate Bill, printed in Senate, No. 2963) (which originated in the Senate), having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final Senate; and, this being a bill which had been submitted by the Governor, under the provisions of Section 8 of Article LXXXIX of the Amendments to the Constitution; and also a bill providing for the taking of land or other easements used for conservation purposes, etc., as defined by Article XCVII of the Amendments to the Constitution, the question on passing the bill to be enacted was determined by a call of the yeas and nays, at a quarter before three o'clock P.M., as follows, to wit (yeas 39 - nays 0) **[Yeas and Nays No. 189]:**

Milton,-- land.

YEAS.

- Barrett, Michael J.
- Brady, Michael D.
- Brownsberger, William N.
- Collins, Nick
- Comerford, Joanne M.
- Creem, Cynthia Stone
- Crighton, Brendan P.
- Cronin, John J.
- Cyr, Julian
- DiDomenico, Sal N.
- Dooner, Kelly A.
- Driscoll, Jr., William J.

- Gómez, Adam
- Howard, Vanna
- Jehlen, Patricia D.
- Keenan, John F.
- Kennedy, Robyn K.
- Lewis, Jason M.
- Lovely, Joan B.
- Mark, Paul W.
- Miranda, Liz
- Montigny, Mark C.
- Moore, Michael O.
- O'Connor, Patrick M.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Durant, Peter J.
Edwards, Lydia
Eldridge, James B.
Fattman, Ryan C.
Feeney, Paul R.
Fernandes, Dylan A.
Finegold, Barry R.
Friedman, Cindy F.

Oliveira, Jacob R.
Payano, Pavel
Rausch, Rebecca L.
Rodrigues, Michael J.
Rush, Michael F.
Tarr, Bruce E.
Velis, John C. – **39.**

NAYS – 0.

The yeas and nays having been completed at four minutes before three o'clock P.M., the bill was passed to be enacted, two-thirds of the members present having agreed to pass the same, and it was signed by the Acting President (Mr. Driscoll) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.

An engrossed Bill providing for the exchange of certain park land in the town of Lexington (see House Bill, printed in House, No. 4843) (which originated in the House), having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final Senate; and, this being a bill which had been submitted by the Governor, under the provisions of Section 8 of Article LXXXIX of the Amendments to the Constitution; and also a bill providing for the taking of land or other easements used for conservation purposes, etc., as defined by Article XCVII of the Amendments to the Constitution, the question on passing the bill to be enacted was determined by a call of the yeas and nays, at three o'clock P.M., as follows, to wit (yeas 39 - nays 0) **[Yeas and Nays No. 190]:**

Lexington,-- land.

YEAS.

Barrett, Michael J.
Brady, Michael D.
Brownsberger, William N.
Collins, Nick
Comerford, Joanne M.
Creem, Cynthia Stone
Crighton, Brendan P.
Cronin, John J.
Cyr, Julian
DiDomenico, Sal N.
Dooner, Kelly A.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.
Durant, Peter J.
Edwards, Lydia
Eldridge, James B.
Fattman, Ryan C.
Feeney, Paul R.
Fernandes, Dylan A.
Finegold, Barry R.
Friedman, Cindy F.

Gómez, Adam
Howard, Vanna
Jehlen, Patricia D.
Keenan, John F.
Kennedy, Robyn K.
Lewis, Jason M.
Lovely, Joan B.
Mark, Paul W.
Miranda, Liz
Montigny, Mark C.
Moore, Michael O.
O'Connor, Patrick M.
Oliveira, Jacob R.
Payano, Pavel
Rausch, Rebecca L.
Rodrigues, Michael J.
Rush, Michael F.
Tarr, Bruce E.
Velis, John C. – **39.**

NAYS – 0.

The yeas and nays having been completed at four minutes past three o'clock P.M., the bill was passed to be enacted, two-thirds of the members present having agreed to pass the same, and it was signed by the Acting President (Mr. Driscoll) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.

Engrossed Bill—State Loan.

An engrossed Bill financing long-term improvements to municipal roads and bridges (see House Bill, printed in House No. 5375) (which originated in the House), having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was put upon its final passage; and, this being a bill providing for the borrowing of money, in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 of Article LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution, the question on passing it to be enacted was determined by a call of the yeas and nays, at five minutes past three o'clock P.M., as follows to wit (yeas 39 - nays 0) [**Yeas and Nays No. 191**]:

Roads and bridges.

YEAS.

Barrett, Michael J.
Brady, Michael D.
Brownsberger, William N.
Collins, Nick
Comerford, Joanne M.
Creem, Cynthia Stone
Crighton, Brendan P.
Cronin, John J.
Cyr, Julian
DiDomenico, Sal N.
Dooner, Kelly A.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.
Durant, Peter J.
Edwards, Lydia
Eldridge, James B.
Fattman, Ryan C.
Feeney, Paul R.
Fernandes, Dylan A.
Finegold, Barry R.
Friedman, Cindy F.

Gómez, Adam
Howard, Vanna
Jehlen, Patricia D.
Keenan, John F.
Kennedy, Robyn K.
Lewis, Jason M.
Lovely, Joan B.
Mark, Paul W.
Miranda, Liz
Montigny, Mark C.
Moore, Michael O.
O'Connor, Patrick M.
Oliveira, Jacob R.
Payano, Pavel
Rausch, Rebecca L.
Rodrigues, Michael J.
Rush, Michael F.
Tarr, Bruce E.
Velis, John C. – **39.**

NAYS – 0.

The yeas and nays having been completed at eleven minutes past three o'clock P.M., the bill was passed to be enacted, two-thirds of the members present having agreed to pass the same, and it was signed by the Acting President (Mr. Driscoll) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.

Engrossed Bill.

An engrossed Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2026 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (see House, No. 5470) (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. Driscoll) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.**

Bill laid before the Governor.

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 State Administration and Regulatory Oversight until September 30, 2026, within which time to make its final report on current

State Administration and Regulatory

Senate documents numbered 2111, 2112, 2113, 2165 and 2172, relative to state administration and regulatory oversight matters (Senate, No. 2977),-- ought to be adopted.

Oversight,-- extension order.

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

Pending the question on adoption of the order, Mr. Collins offered an amendment, in line 2 by striking out the words "September 30, 2026" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- "July 31, 2026".

The amendment was adopted.

The order (Senate, No. 2977, amended) was adopted.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Brownsberger in the Chair, the Senate Bill relative to individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities (Senate, No. 2563, amended),-- came from the House with the endorsement that the House had concurred in the Senate further amendment striking out the text 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 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.", *with a still further amendment* by striking out the text and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 5474.

Individuals with disabilities.

The rules were suspended, on motion of Ms. Jehlen, and, after remarks, the still further House amendment was considered forthwith and adopted, in concurrence.

Emergency Preamble Adopted; Engrossed Bill Enacted.

An engrossed Bill relative to individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities (see Senate, No. 2563, 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 3 to 0.

Id.

The bill was signed by the Acting President, (Mr. Brownsberger) (having been appointed by the President, under authority conferred by Senate Rule 4, to perform the duties of the Chair) and sent to the House for enactment.

Subsequently, the bill, which originated in the House, came from the House with the endorsement that it had been enacted in that branch.

The Senate then passed the bill to be enacted; and it was signed by the Acting President (Mr. Brownsberger) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tarr,--

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.

Time of meeting.

Adjournment in Memory of Richard Louis Volpe.

The Senator from Worcester and Hampden, Mr. Fattman, moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it do so in memory of Richard Louis Volpe.

Richard Louis Volpe of Sturbridge, passed away on Friday, January 23, 2026, surrounded by his family.

Richard Louis Volpe was born on July 11, 1950, in New York City to Louis and Mary (Albanese) Volpe. A gifted athlete, he distinguished himself at La Salle Academy as an All American basketball player, affectionately known as “The Man with the Golden Arm.” He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Business, Management, and Marketing from Fordham University in 1972.

Rich began his professional life as a financial analyst before transitioning into sales—a field in which he truly thrived. Over nearly two decades at Duracell, followed by roles at Rayovac and later Berry Plastics Corporation, he became known for building genuine, lasting relationships with clients and colleagues. His dedication earned him numerous accolades, including being named the 2013 Salesperson of the Year in Berry Plastics’ Engineered Materials Division.

Richard understood the importance of building strong connections, whether with clients during his sales career, with neighbors in his beloved community of Sturbridge, or with his own family. His deep sense of civic responsibility and his passion for antiques led him to serve as Chairperson of Sturbridge’s 250th Anniversary Committee — a role he embraced enthusiastically as the town prepared for this historic celebration. He also gave generously of his time through service on the Board of Health, the Historical Commission, the Design & Review Committee, and the Monument Committee.

He is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, MaryLou (Amato) Volpe; his daughters, Jessica Baker and her husband Chris, and Amanda Volpe and her husband Brad; his cherished grandchildren, Norah and Jack Baker; and many other beloved family members.

Although his presence will be profoundly missed, Richard’s legacy will continue to live on through his family, friends, and the Sturbridge community he served with such commitment. Our thoughts are with his family, friends, colleagues, and the entire community during this difficult time.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Richard Louis Volpe, at four minutes past five o’clock A.M., on motion of Mrs. Dooner, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o’clock A.M.