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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, August 17, 2026.

Met at ten minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Collins 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. Collins), 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 Executive Office of Health and Human Services (pursuant to Section 1(c) of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2022 and to line item 4000-0054 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its Behavioral Health Trust Fund FY25 report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing and the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery) (received August 13, 2026);

EOHHS,-- Behavioral Health Trust Fund FY25 report. SD4113

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for the MCI Framingham, the Plan of Correction (POC) from the facility and the POC acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) (received August 13, 2026);

DPH,-- MCI Framingham Inspection report. SD4115

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for the Barnstable 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 August 13, 2026);

DPH,-- Barnstable CC Complete Inspection report. SD4116

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for the Massachusetts Treatment 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 August 13, 2026);

DPH,-- MTC-Complete Inspection report. SD4117

Report of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (pursuant to line item 8000-0605 of Section 2 Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Human Trafficking Enforcement and Training FY26 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 13, 2026);

EOPSS,--Human Trafficking FY26 report. SD4118

Report of the Executive Office of the Trial Court (pursuant to Section 15(c) of Chapter 239 of the General Laws) submitting its report summary statistics on eviction filings, actions, and dispositions from January 2025 through July 2026 (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Housing and the Joint Committee on the Judiciary) (received August 14, 2026);

EOTC,-- rental protections July 2026 report. SD4119

Report of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (pursuant to line item 4000-0005 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the General Laws) submitting its Safe and Successful Youth Initiative FY24 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 14, 2026); and

EOHHS,-- S&S Youth Initiative FY24 report. SD4120

Report of the Department of Economic Research (pursuant to Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) submitting its Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund data for August 2026 quarterly outlook 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 Labor and Workforce Development) (received August 10, 2026).

DER,-- Unemployment Trust Fund Quarterly August FY26 report. SD4121

Special Commission Report.

Report of the Special Working Group on Youth Sports (pursuant to Section 305 of Chapter 238 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its final report on the State of Youth Sports in Massachusetts (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies and the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing) (received August 13, 2026),-- **was placed on file.**

Special Working Group on Youth Sports,-- Commission report. SD4112

Petition.

Mrs. Dooner and Mr. Thurber of Somerset presented a joint petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3262) of Kelly A. Dooner and Justin Thurber (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Dighton to impose community impact linkage fees,-- **and the same was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government**.

Dighton,-- community impact linkage fees.

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:

Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Labor and Workforce Development, to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to labor and workforce development matters (Senate, No. 3256);

Labor and Workforce Development,-- study.

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 establish an Indigenous Peoples Day (Senate, No. 3257);

State Administration and Regulatory Oversight,-- study.

Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security, to make an investigation and study of certain current Senate documents relative to public safety matters (Senate, No. 3259); and

Public Safety and Homeland Security,-- study.

Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Public Service, to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to authorize the town of Andover to exempt all Andover police officers from civil service (Senate, No. 3260);

Public Service,-- study.

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5656) of William C. Galvin (by vote of the town) that the town of Avon be authorized to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on premises in said town,-- **was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.**

Avon,-- liquor license.

Emergency Preambles Adopted.

An engrossed Bill authorizing the division of capital asset management and maintenance to release a certain sewer line easement in the West Roxbury section of the city of Boston (see House, No. 5304), having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and

West Roxbury,-- sewer line easement.

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.

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

Bolton/Lancaster,-- land.

An engrossed Bill authorizing the division of capital asset management and maintenance to convey certain parcels of land to the town of Bolton, the town of Lancaster or a municipal utility serving the town of Bolton or the town of Lancaster (see House, No. 5440), 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.

The bill was signed by the Acting President (Mr. Collins) 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. Collins) and laid before the Governor for her approbation, to wit:

Bills laid before the Governor.

Allowing fair compensation of credit union directors (see House, No. 1338, amended); and

Amending the charter of the city known as the town of North Attleborough (see House, No. 5426).

Patrick Nelligan,-- sick leave.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5657) of Paul McMurtry and Michael F. Rush for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Patrick Nelligan, an employee of the Department of Correction,**-- was referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Public Service.**

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:

Swampscott,-- property exemptions.

The House Bill providing for a real property exemption for persons with disabilities in the town of Swampscott (House, No. 4444) (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.**

Haverhill,-- Sean Duffy.

The House Bill authorizing Sean Duffy to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 4573),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Lynnfield,-- fund appropriation.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Lynnfield to appropriate funds from the Golf Enterprise Fund to the Recreation Capital Trust Stabilization Fund (House, No. 5416),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

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. Time of meeting.

On motion of the same Senator, at eighteen minutes before twelve o'clock noon, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.