

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2026

[78]

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, September 3, 2026.

Met at nine minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Ms. Kennedy 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 (Ms. Kennedy), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of
allegiance.

Communication.

Communication from the Honorable James B. Eldridge, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Revenue, announcing the appointment of Adrienne Viarengo, Counsel (pursuant to Section 14 of Chapter 14 of the General Laws) as his designee on the Tax Expenditure Review Commission (received September 3, 2026),-- **was placed on file.**

Tax Expenditure
Review
Commission,-- appt.

Reports.

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

Report of the Plymouth District Attorney (pursuant to Section 47(d) of Chapter 94C of the General Laws) submitting its Fiscal Year 2026 report relative to the use of monies in the law enforcement trust fund for the purposes of drug rehabilitation, drug education, and other anti-drug or neighborhood crime watch programs (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 31, 2026);

Plymouth DA,--
FY26 forfeiture
report.
SD4174

Report of the Plymouth District Attorney (pursuant to Section 24W(e) of Chapter 90 of the General Laws) submitting its Fiscal Year 2026 OUI Deterrent Trust Fund annual report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 31, 2026);

Plymouth DA,--
OUI Trust Fund
FY26 report.
SD4175

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024, Section 10 of Chapter 1 of the Acts of 2025, and Section 88 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Emergency Housing Assistance Program August 20, 2026 bi-weekly report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 31, 2026);

A&F,-- EA Housing
bi-weekly 8/20/26
report.
SD4176

Report of the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (pursuant to line item 1107-2501 of Section 2 of Chapter 137 of the Acts of 2026) submitting its Fiscal Year 2026 quarterly report for the period of January to March 2026 (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received September 1, 2026);

DPPC,-- FY26
quarterly report.
SD4177

Report of the Department of Transitional Assistance (pursuant to Section 2(B) of Chapter 18 and Section 16 of Chapter 118 of Section of General Laws) submitting its Fiscal Year 2025 Economic Independence Accounts 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 Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities) (received September 1, 2026);

DTA,-- Economic
Independence
Accounts FY25
report.
SD4178

Report of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (pursuant to line item 4000-0321 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Contingency

EOHHS,--
Contingency
Contracts FY25
report.

Contracts Fiscal Year 2025 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received September 1, 2026);	SD4179
Report of MassHealth (pursuant to Section 2WWW(e) of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting its Non-Acute Care Hospital Assessment Trust Fund Accounting Fiscal Year 2025 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received September 1, 2026);	MassHealth,-- Non-Acute Trust FY25 report. SD4180
Report of the Office of the Comptroller (line item 1595-6153 of Section 2E of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its fiscal year 2026 transfer schedule for the Communications Access Trust Fund (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received September 2, 2026);	Comptroller,-- Communications Access Trust Fund FY26 report. SD4181
Report of the Autism Commission (pursuant to Section 217(c) of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) submitting its 2025 annual report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities and the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing) (received September 2, 2026);	Autism Commission 2025 annual report. SD4182
Report of the Department of Revenue (pursuant to Section 5 of Chapter 62F of the General Laws) submitting its determination of whether net state tax revenues exceeded allowable state tax revenues for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 (received September 1, 2026);	DOR,-- Net State Tax Rev FY26 report. SD4183
Report of the Massachusetts Capital Resource Company (pursuant to Section 12 of Chapter 816 of the Acts of 1977) submitting its 2026 annual report on the status of said corporation (received September 2, 2026);	MCRC,-- 2026 annual report. SD4184
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Barnstable County Sheriff's Office first quarter 2026 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 September 3, 2026);	MSA,-- Barnstable Q1 2026 population report. SD4185
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Berkshire County Sheriff's Office first quarter 2026 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 September 3, 2026);	MSA,-- Berkshire Q1 2026 population report. SD4186
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Bristol County Sheriff's Office First Quarter 2026 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 September 3, 2026);	MSA,-- Bristol Q1 2026 population report. SD4187
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Dukes County Sheriff's Office first quarter 2026 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 September 3, 2026);	MSA,-- Dukes Q1 2026 population report. SD4188
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Essex County Sheriff's Office first quarter 2026 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 September 3, 2026);	MSA,-- Essex Q1 2026 population report. SD4189
Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Franklin County Sheriff's Office first quarter 2026 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 September 3, 2026);	MSA,-- Franklin Q1 2026 population report. SD4190

Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Hampden County Sheriff's Office first quarter 2026 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 September 3, 2026);

MSA,-- Hampden
Q1 2026 population
report.
SD4191

Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Hampshire County Sheriff's Office first quarter 2026 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 September 3, 2026);

MSA,-- Hampshire
Q1 2026 population
report.
SD4192

Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Middlesex County Sheriff's Office first quarter 2026 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 September 3, 2026);

MSA,-- Middlesex
Q1 2026 population
report.
SD4193

Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Norfolk County Sheriff's Office first quarter 2026 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 September 3, 2026);

MSA,-- Norfolk Q1
2026 population
report.
SD4194

Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Plymouth County Sheriff's Office first quarter 2026 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 September 3, 2026);

MSA,-- Plymouth
Q1 2026 population
report.
SD4195

Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Suffolk County Sheriff's Office first quarter 2026 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 September 3, 2026);

MSA,-- Suffolk Q1
2026 population
report.
SD4196

Report of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (pursuant Section 40 of Chapter 126 of the General Laws) submitting its Worcester County Sheriff's Office first quarter 2026 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 September 3, 2026); and

MSA,-- Worcester
Q1 2026 population
report.
SD4197

Report of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (pursuant to Section 225 of Chapter 268 of the Acts of 2022) submitting its Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) Scholarship Criteria FY23 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 Safety and Homeland Security) (received September 3, 2026).

EOPSS,-- MPTC
Scholarship Criteria
FY23 report.
SD4198

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Notice was received from the House of Representatives announcing the following appointments by the Minority Leader:

Representative John J. Marsi of Charlton has been appointed to serve as his designee (under Section 109 of Chapter 137 of the Acts of 2026) on the Special Education Transitional Planning Services Commission.

Special Education
Planning Services
Commission,--
appointment.

Emergency Preamble Adopted.

An engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Edward Gillen, an employee of the highway division (see House, No. 5528, 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.

Edward Gillen,--
sick leave.

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

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 authorizing a certain employment contract for the town of Boylston (Senate, No. 3088),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed.**

Boylston,--
employment
contract.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

The Senate Bill authorizing the town of Holbrook to appoint Patrick Doherty as a firefighter notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (Senate, No. 3165),-- **was read a second time, ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed.**

Patrick Doherty,--
Holbrook
firefighter.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

The House Bill regulating elections in the town of Conway (House, No. 4498),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Conway,--
elections.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill removing the treasurer as acting mayor in the Holyoke charter (House, No. 5171, - on petition) [Local approval received],-- was read.

Holyoke,-- charter.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Durant, and the bill was read a second time and ordered to a third reading.

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Ms. Kennedy), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Firefighter Kyle A. Machado.

Moment of silence.

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 (Ms. Kennedy) and laid before the Governor for her approbation, to wit:

Authorizing the town of Topsfield to convert 4 licenses for sale of wine and malt beverages not to be drunk on the premises to 4 licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (see Senate, No. 2526, amended);

Bills laid before the
Governor.

Designating Domestic Workers' Rights Day (see House, No. 3417);

Authorizing Kenneth Navarro to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (see House, No. 4476);

Authorizing William “Rob” Cargill to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (see House, No. 4477);

Authorizing Jonathan Gagne to take the civil service examination for the position of police officer in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (see House, No. 4879);

Authorizing charity alcohol auctions (see House, No. 5351, amended);

Authorizing the town of Marion to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (see House, No. 5451); and

Establishing a sick leave bank for Edward Gillen, an employee of the highway division (see House, No. 5528, amended).

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Durant,--

Ordered, that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Tuesday next at eleven o’clock A.M.

Time of meeting.

Adjournment in Memory of Firefighter Kyle A. Machado.

The Senator from Bristol and Plymouth, Mrs. Dooner, presented a request that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn in memory of Firefighter Kyle A. Machado of Taunton, who passed away on August 14, 2026 at the age of 28.

Kyle was born in Taunton and graduated from Middleborough High School in 2016. Following graduation, he proudly answered the call to serve his country, beginning eight years of service in the United States Navy. During his time in the Navy, Kyle served aboard the USS Mitscher at Naval Station Norfolk and later in Key West, Florida, where he served as an Air Tactical Service Actions Officer and Staff Training Instructor.

After completing his military service, Kyle and his family returned home to Taunton in 2024, where he once again chose a life of service. He graduated from the Fall River Fire Academy in 2026 and joined the Taunton Fire Department as a firefighter. Though his time with the department was far too short, Kyle quickly earned the friendship and respect of his brothers and sisters in the fire service. His dedication to helping others reflected the kindness, loyalty, and sense of duty that defined his life.

Most importantly, Kyle was a devoted husband and father. He leaves behind his beloved wife, Megan, and their two young children, Lucas and Elena, as well as his parents, siblings, extended family, fellow firefighters, Navy brothers and sisters, and countless friends whose lives he touched.

On behalf of the Senate, I extend our deepest condolences to Megan, Lucas and Elena, to Kyle’s entire family, and to his brothers and sisters at the Taunton Fire Department. We are grateful for Kyle’s service to our country, our city, and our community, and we honor a life dedicated to serving others.

May his family find comfort in the tremendous legacy of service he leaves behind and in knowing that Kyle’s memory will remain with all those who had the privilege of knowing and serving alongside him.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Kyle A. Machado, at nineteen minutes past eleven o’clock A.M, on motion of Mr. Durant, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Tuesday next at eleven o’clock A.M.
