

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2026

[77]

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, August 31, 2026.

Met at twenty-eight minutes before twelve o'clock noon (Mr. DiDomenico 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. DiDomenico), 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 Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting a report on the inspection of Franklin County Jail and House of Correction, 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 27, 2026);

DPH,-- Franklin
County Jail 2026
Inspection report.
SD4157

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for Hampden County Jail and House of Correction, the Plan of Correction from the facility and the Plan of Correction acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) (received August 27, 2026);

DPH,-- Hampden
County Jail and
HOC Inspection
report.
SD4158
MassHealth,-- IP
Psych-SUD FY26
report.
SD4159

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to line item 4000-0500 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its analysis of the rate differential for inpatient psychiatric, and substance use hospital per diem payments for fiscal year 2026 (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing) (received August 28, 2026);

MassHealth,--
CBHC Rates FY26
report.
SD4160

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to Section 13D1/2 of Chapter 118E of the General Laws) submitting its Community Behavioral Health Center (CBHC) Rates fiscal year 2026 report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing and the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery) (received August 28, 2026);

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to line item 4000-0300 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its December 2025 quarterly Pharmacy Pipeline 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 Health Care Financing) (received August 28, 2026);

MassHealth,--
Pharmacy Pipeline
December 2025
report.
SD4161

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to line item 4000-0300 of Section 2 Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its January 2025 quarterly Pharmacy Pipeline 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 Health Care Financing) (received August 28, 2026);

MassHealth,--
Pharmacy Pipeline
January 25 report.
SD4162

Report of the Department of Correction (pursuant to Section 16 of Chapter 123A of the General Laws) submitting its Massachusetts Treatment Center for Sexually Dangerous Persons 2025 annual 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 the Judiciary) (received August 28, 2026);

DOC,-- MTC on
SDPs CY25 annual
report.
SD4163

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to line item 4000-0300 of Section 2 Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its October 2024 quarterly Pharmacy Pipeline report (copies having

MassHealth,--
Pharmacy Pipeline

been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing) (received August 28, 2026);

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to line item 4000-0300 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its September 2025 quarterly Pharmacy Pipeline 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 Health Care Financing) (received August 28, 2026);

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to line item 4000-0300 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its March 2026 quarterly Pharmacy Pipeline 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 Health Care Financing) (received August 28, 2026);

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to Section 2AAAAA of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting its Safety Net Provider Payment (SNPP) Trust Fund Accounting fiscal year 2025 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 28, 2026);

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to line item 4000-0601 of Section 2 of Chapter of 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Medicare Savings Program report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 28, 2026);

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to Section 2SSSS of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting its Delivery System Reform (DSRIP) first quarter fiscal year 2026 Trust Fund report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 28, 2026);

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to Section 2SSSS of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting its Delivery System Reform (DSRIP) second quarter fiscal year 2026 Trust Fund report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 28, 2026);

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to line item 4000-0300 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its Pharmaceutical Utilization fiscal year 2026 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 28, 2026);

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to line item 4000-0700 of Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025) submitting its MassHealth Dental Coverage 2026 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 28, 2026); and

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to Section 26 of Chapter 197 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its cost and feasibility of changes to the eligibility requirements for Medicaid long-term care services (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received August 28, 2026).

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE.

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

Representatives Plouffe of Brockton and Worrell of Boston have been appointed to serve as his designees on the special commission established (under Section 214 of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) to the award selection committee for the Madeline Amy Sweeney Award for Civilian Bravery.

October 2024
report.

SD4164
MassHealth,--
Pharmacy Pipeline
September 2025
report.

SD4165
MassHealth,--
Pharmacy Pipeline
March 2026 report.
SD4166

MassHealth,--
SNPP Trust Fund
FY25 report.
SD4167

MassHealth,-- MSP
report.
SD4168

MassHealth,--
(DSRIP) Q1 FY26
trust fund report.
SD4169

MassHealth,--
(DSRIP) Q2 FY26
trust fund report.
SD4170

MassHealth,--
Pharmaceutical
Utilization FY26
report.
SD4171

MassHealth,--
Dental FY26 report.
SD4172

MassHealth,--
Long-Term Care
Services report.
SD4173

Madeline Amy
Sweeney Award for
Civilian Bravery
committee,--
appointments.

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 designating Domestic Workers' Rights Day (House, No. 3417),-- **was read a third time and, after remarks, passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Domestic workers' rights day.

The House Bill authorizing Kenneth Navarro to take the civil service examination for the position of firefighter in the city of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement (House, No. 4476),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Haverhill,--
Kenneth Navarro.

The House Bill 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 (House, No. 4477),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Haverhill,-- William
Cargill.

The House Bill 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 (House, No. 4879),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Haverhill,--
Jonathan Gagne.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Marion to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5451),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Marion,-- liquor
license.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill providing for the appointment of associate members of the Planning Board of the town of Tisbury to fill vacancies on the board (House, No. 5434,-- on petition) [Local approval received],-- was read.

Tisbury,-- Planning
Board.

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

A Bill relative to amending the town charter of the town of Provincetown (House, No. 5476,-- on petition) [Local approval received],-- was read.

Provincetown,--
charter.

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

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5664) of Paul J. Donato, Steven Ultrino and Kate Lipper-Garabedian for legislation to authorize the release or amendment of certain use restrictions on former state property in the city of Malden,-- **was referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.**

Malden,-- property
use restrictions.

Engrossed Bill.

An engrossed Bill authorizing the town of Weston to grant an additional license for sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (see House, No. 5548) (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. DiDomenico) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.**

Bill laid before the
Governor.

Matter Taken Out of the Orders of the Day.

There being no objection, the following matter was taken out of the Orders of the Day and considered as follows:

The House Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Edward Gillen, an employee of the highway division (House, No. 5528, amended),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Edward Gillen,--
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.

Time of meeting.

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