

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, September 21, 2026.

Met at six minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Ms. Jehlen 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. Jehlen), 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 Inspector General (pursuant to Section 196(c) of Chapter 46 of the Acts of 2015) submitting a review of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority's warehousing and logistics contract with Mancon, LLC (2017 – 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 Transportation) (received September 17, 2026); and

OIG,-- MBTA
Privatization report.
SD4249

Report of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (pursuant to line-item 1599-6086 of Section 2 of Chapter 268 of the Acts of 2022) submitting its Effectiveness of Workforce Development Services 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 Economic Development and Emerging Technologies and the Joint Committee on the Judiciary) (received September 17, 2026).

EOLWD,--
Effectiveness
Workforce report.
SD4250

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5673) of Sean Garballey, Cindy F. Friedman and David M. Rogers (by vote of the town) that the town of Arlington be authorized to grant 10 additional licenses for the sale of all-alcoholic beverages in said town;

Arlington,-- liquor
licenses.

To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5674) of Sean Garballey, Cindy F. Friedman and David M. Rogers (by vote of the town) relative to providing for recall elections in the town of Arlington;

Arlington,-- recall
elections

To the committee on Election Laws.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5675) of Rob Consalvo (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the retirement board of the city of Boston be authorized to increase the accidental disability retirement allowance payable to Richard Lopez, a retired firefighter of the fire department of the said city;

Boston,-- Richard
Lopez.

To the committee on Public Service.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5676) of Sean Garballey, Cindy F. Friedman and David M. Rogers (by vote of the town) for legislation to further regulate the taxation of recreational lands in the town of Arlington;

Arlington,--
recreational land
tax.

To the committee on Revenue.

Bills

Amending the town charter for the town of Plymouth (House, No. 5497,-- on petition) [Local approval received];

Plymouth,-- charter.

Exempting George Patrinos from the maximum age requirement age for the position of firefighter in the town of Dudley (printed in, House, No. 5520,-- on petition); and

Dudley,-- George Patrinos.

Establishing the term of office for the town manager of the town of Bridgewater (House, No. 5600,-- on House, No. 5545) [Local approval received on House, No. 5545];

Bridgewater,-- town manager.

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

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Crighton) “honoring longtime Lynnfield resident Phil Crawford for his decades of public service to the Town of Lynnfield”;

Phil Crawford.

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Dooner) “commending Sister Donald Marie Kerr on her many years of dedication and service to Our Lady of Lourdes School and Church and to the greater Taunton community”;

Sister Donald Marie Kerr.

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Dooner) “commending Sister Teresa Silva for her many years of dedication and service to the Sisters of Mercy Convent and Our Lady of Lourdes Church”; and

Sister Teresa Silva.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Friedman) “congratulating the Housing Corporation of Arlington on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of its founding.”

Housing Corporation of Arlington.

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 further regulating the Ayer Library (House, No. 4174) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading),-- was read a third time.

Ayer Library.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Eldridge presented an amendment in section 3 by striking out the second sentence and inserting in place thereof the following 2 sentences:- “Vacancies on the board of trustees shall be filled until the next annual town election by the remaining members of the board of trustees and the select board at a joint meeting held after 1 week’s notice has been posted on the town website, the town bulletin board, if any, and at the Ayer Library. Alternatively, the select board may call for a special election to fill a vacancy; provided, however, that a person elected at a special election to fill such vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.”

The amendment was adopted.

The bill, as amended, was then passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with the amendment.

Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.

The House Bill authorizing the Dracut Water Supply District to supply and sell water to certain customers in the town of Dracut (House, No. 4101, amended) (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.**

Dracut Water Supply District.

The House Bill authorizing the select board of the town of Hull to establish a schedule of fines for parking violations (House, No. 4247),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Hull,-- parking violations.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Bourne to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5347),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Bourne,-- liquor license.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Natick to continue the employment of police chief James Hicks beyond the age of 65 (House, No. 5427),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Natick,-- James Hicks.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Natick to continue the employment of deputy police chief Brian Lauzon (House, No. 5428),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Natick,-- Brian Lauzon.

The House Bill authorizing the town of Southborough to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (House, No. 5546),-- **was read a second time, ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Southborough,-- liquor license.

Report of Committees.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that the Senate Order, granting the committee on Election Laws until November 3, 2026, within which time to make its final report on a current Senate document numbered 3186, relative to faithful presidential electors (Senate, No. 3271),-- ought to be adopted.

Election Laws,-- extension order.

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Durant, and, after remarks, the order was adopted.

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. Jehlen) and laid before the Governor for her approbation, to wit:

Establishing a sewer and water advisory board in the town of Walpole (see Senate, No. 3087);

Bills laid before the Governor.

Authorizing the Edgartown Affordable Housing Trust Fund to expend funds for certain community housing purposes (see House, No. 4186);

Enabling expenditures from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund of the town of West Tisbury (see House, No. 4378);

Amending the charter of the town of Nantucket (see House, No. 4441, changed);

Authorizing the county of Nantucket to convey School street in the town and county of Nantucket (see House, No. 4505);

Amending the charter of the city of Pittsfield (see House, No. 4716, amended); and

Authorizing the town of Monterey to continue the employment of police officer Jennifer O. Brown (see House, No. 4862, amended).

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Durant,--

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

Time of meeting.

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

On motion of the same Senator, at twenty-seven minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.