

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2026

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, June 25, 2026.

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

Pledge of
allegiance.

Distinguished Guests.

There being no objection, the Chair (Ms. Rausch) introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, a Girl Scout Brownie Troop from Milford. The Troop was recognized for having received the Journey Summit Award for their project entitled "Protecting Our Waters: From Louisa Lake to the Charles River. Among the group were: Anastasia Rivera, Mia Manning, Aadhana Venkateswarlu, Adeline Cossu, Hailey Shaw, Tegan Rogers, Kira Miccihe, Guilianna McDaniel, Semira Beatrice, Mabel Prince, Charlotte Syfert, Vera Iacovelli, Aadhiya Venkateswarlu, Adelyn Holmes and Isla Hix. The scouts were accompanied by various troop leaders and parents. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Milford Girl Scout
Brownie Troop.

Reports.

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

Report of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (pursuant to Section 69 of Chapter 23K of the General Laws) submitting its Gaming Revenues May 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 Economic Development and Emerging Technologies and the Joint Committee on Revenue) (received June 23, 2026);

MassGaming,--
Gaming Revenues
May 2026 report.
SD4018

Report of the Health Policy Commission (pursuant to Chapter 343 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Primary Care Access, Delivery, and Payment Task Force sixth 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 June 24, 2026); and

HPC,-- PCTF
report.
SD4021

Report of the Executive Office of Veterans Services (pursuant to Section 150 of Chapter 178 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Veterans Alternative Therapy Group report (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery and the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs) (received June 25, 2026).

EOVS,-- Therapy
Working Group
report.
SD4023

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the House Bill relative to energy affordability, clean power and economic competitiveness (House, No. 5175),-- ought to pass with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 3143 and by striking the title and

Clean energy.

inserting the following title:- “An Act to save people money, repair the climate and grow the economy”.

In accordance with an order previously adopted, the bill will be placed in the Orders of the Day for Thursday, July 1, for a second reading with the amendment pending.

Orders.

Ms. Edwards presented an Order relative to granting the committee on the Judiciary until July 31, 2026, within which time to make its final report on current Senate documents numbered 1039, 1041, 1143, 1205, 1221, 1247, 1276, and 1284, relative to judicial matters (Senate, No. 3146); and

The Judiciary,--
extension order

Mr. Payano presented an Order relative to granting the committee on the Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure until July 13, 2026, within which time to make its final report on a current Senate document numbered 3082, relative to animal telehealth (Senate, No. 3149);

Consumer
Protection and
Professional
Licensure,--
extension order.

Severally referred, under Joint Rule 30, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Committee Discharged.

Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the House Bill establishing memorial markers in the towns of Milton and Canton in memory of certain law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty (House, No. 1069),-- and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Ways and Means;

Milton/Canton,--
memorial markers.

Under Senate Rule 36, the report was considered forthwith and accepted.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5521) of Carmine Lawrence Gentile (by vote of the town) for legislation to provide for recall elections in the town of Sudbury; and

Sudbury,-- recall
elections.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5539) of Sally P. Kerans (by vote of the town) relative to recall elections in the town of Danvers;

Danvers,-- recall
elections.

Severally to the committee on Election Laws.

Emergency Preambles Adopted.

An engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Shannon Manning, an employee of the trial court of the commonwealth (see Senate, No. 2908, 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.

Shannon Manning,--
sick leave.

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

An engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Stephanie Rivera, an employee of the Worcester county sheriff's office (see Senate, No. 3031, 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.

Stephanie Rivera,--
sick leave.

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

Message From Her Excellency the Governor.

Message from Her Excellency the Governor (pursuant to the provisions of Article II, Section 8, Paragraph 1, Clause (2) of the Amendments to the Constitution, as appearing in Article LXXXIX of said Amendments) recommending legislation relative to validating the 2026 annual elections in the town of Oakham (Senate, No. 3148) (received in the office of the Clerk of the Senate on June 23, 2026 at sixteen minutes past twelve o'clock noon);

Oakham annual election.

The message was read; and, under Senate Rule 20, with the accompanying bill, was referred to the committee on Election Laws.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Lovely and Mr. Tarr) "commending Essex National Heritage Commission, Inc. on the twenty-fifth anniversary of Trails & Sails"; and

Essex National Heritage Commission, Inc.
The Office of the Inspector General.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Spilka) "congratulating the Office of the Inspector General on the occasion of its forty-fifth anniversary."

Reports of a Committee.

By Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Senate Ways and Means, that the Senate Bill to improve outdoor lighting, conserve energy, and increase dark-sky visibility (Senate, No. 2243),-- ought to pass with an amendment substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 3145).

Energy efficient,-- outdoor lighting.

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

The bill (Senate, No. 3145) was then ordered to a third reading.

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 the Quabbin Watershed Advisory Committee (Senate, No. 652),-- was read a third time.

Quabbin Watershed,-- committee.

Mr. DiDomenico, for the committee on Bills in the Third Reading, reported, recommending that the bill be amended by substituting a new draft entitled "An Act amending the membership of the Quabbin watershed advisory committee" (Senate, No. 3133), and that, when doing so, it will be correctly drawn.

The report was accepted.

The bill (Senate, No. 3133) was then passed to be engrossed.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

The House Bill directing the city of Boston police department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Keny Gateau (House, No. 3926) (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.**

Keny Gateau,-- Boston police officer.

The House Bill directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Jean E. Roseney (House, No. 3927) (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.**

Jean E. Roseney,--
Boston police
officer.

The House Bill authorizing the city known as the town of Bridgewater to amend its charter to include gender neutral language (House, No. 4781) (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.**

Bridgewater,--
charter.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Engrossed Bills.

The following engrossed bills (all 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 (Ms. Rausch) and laid before the Governor for her approbation, to wit:

Authorizing the town of Wayland to establish a millennium fund of the Wayland Free Public Library (see Senate, No. 4137, amended);

Bills laid before the
Governor.

Providing for the election of candidates in the city of Haverhill (see House, No. 4203);

Providing for the election of candidates in the city of Haverhill (see House, No. 4204);and

Extending the timeframe within which the town of Southbridge may grant additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (see House, No. 5096).

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mrs. Dooner,--

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.

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