

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.**



**MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026**

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## JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Monday, October 19, 2026.

Met at eight 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 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 September 2026 (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Housing and the Joint Committee on the Judiciary) (received October 15, 2026);

EOTC,-- rental  
protections  
September 2026  
report.  
SD4304

Report of the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to line-item 1595-1069 Section 2E of Chapter 137 of the Acts of 2026) submitting its fiscal year 2027 Health Information Technology Trust Fund Schedule (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Healthcare Financing) (received October 15, 2026); and

Comptroller,-- HIT  
trust fund schedule  
report.  
SD4305

Report of the Department of Economic Research (pursuant to Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) submitting its October 2026 Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund 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 Labor and Workforce Development) (received October 15, 2026).

DER,-- UI trust  
fund 2026 annual  
report.  
SD4307

### *Petition.*

Mr. Montigny presented a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Mark C. Montigny and Christopher Hendricks for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Thomas Ryan, an employee of the Department of Correction,-- **and the same was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.**

Thomas Ryan,--  
sick leave bank.

### *Committees Discharged.*

Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the Senate Order relative to authorizing the joint committee on Public Service to make an investigation and study of a certain current Senate document relative to retirement benefits for Alec Ciminello (Senate, No. 3285),-- and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Rules.

Public Service,--  
study.

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

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

Joseph B. Fuller of Newton has been appointed to serve as his designee (under Section 2B of Chapter 115 of the General Laws) on the commission on veterans employment opportunities.

Veterans  
employment  
opportunities  
commission,-- appt..

*Engrossed Bill Returned with Recommendation of Amendment.*

A message from Her Excellency the Governor, returning with recommendation of amendment the engrossed Bill amending the charter of the city of Pittsfield (see House, No. 4716, amended) [for message, see House, No. 5683],— came from the House with endorsement that the House adopted the amendment recommended by the Governor (as approved by committee on Bills in the Third Reading), as follows:

Pittsfield,-- charter.

By adding the following section:

“SECTION 4. If sections 1 and 2 are accepted by the voters of the city of Pittsfield pursuant to section 3, the first election of city councilors and school committee members for 4-year terms shall take place during the November 2031 city election.”

The message was read; and, under the provisions of Article LVI of the Amendments to the Constitution, the bill was before the Senate subject to amendment and re-enactment.

**The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Durant, and the Governor’s amendment was considered forthwith.**

**On motion of the same Senator, the Governor’s amendment was adopted, in concurrence.**

**Sent to the House for re-enactment.**

*Reports of a Committee.*

Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, reported that the following matter be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session:

The House Bill further defining a quorum of the Worcester Regional Retirement System Board Advisory Council (House, No. 2926).

Worcester,--RRS  
Board Council.

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

Ms. Lovely, for the committee on Rules, reported that the following matter be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session:

The House Bill relative to the board of water commissioners of the Dalton fire district (House, No. 4721).

Dalton fire district.

**There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Durant, and the bill was read a second time, ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, it’s title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to read as follows:- “An Act increasing the membership of the board of water commissioners of the Dalton fire district”.**

*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 the city of Greenfield to grant an additional liquor license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises (Senate, No. 3261),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed.**

Greenfield,-- liquor license.

**Sent to the House for concurrence.**

The House Bill authorizing the town of South Hadley to grant 6 additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages (House, No. 5343) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading),-- was read a third time.

South Hadley,-- liquor license.

Pending the question on passing the bill to be engrossed, Mr. Oliveira presented an amendment in section 1, by striking out, in line 5, the figure “4”, and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “5”;

In said section 1, by striking out, in line 9, the words “; or ‘Newton Street/Lyman Street’” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “‘Newton Street/Lyman Street’ or ‘New Ludlow Road’”;

In said section 1, by striking out, in line 13, the words “; or (iv) ‘Newton Street/Lyman Street’ district” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “(iv) “‘Newton Street/Lyman Street’ district or (v) ‘New Ludlow Road’””;

In said section 1, by striking out, in line 15, the words “; February 19, 2026” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “October 8, 2026”; and

In said section 1, by striking out, in line 21, the words “or (iv)” and inserting the following words:-“(iv) or (v)””.

**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 establishing a sick leave bank for Carry Shulock-Sexton, an employee of the department of agricultural resources (House, No. 5685),-- **was read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.**

Carry Shulock-Sexton,-- sick leave.

## 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:

Authorizing the town of Medfield to continue the employment of David O'Toole as deputy fire chief (see Senate, No. 3139);

Bills laid before the Governor.

Establishing a board of election commissioners in the city of Salem (see House, No. 3907);

Further regulating the Ayer Library (see House, No. 4174, amended);

Authorizing the town of Auburn to offer expanded senior property tax abatements (see House, No. 4585); and

Relative to the transportation of vessels in the villages of Marston Mills and Osterville in the city known as the town of Barnstable (see House, No. 5421); and

Designating the Hyannis Transportation Center in the town of Hyannis as the Thomas S. Cahir Cape Cod Transportation Center (see House, No. 5430).

An engrossed Bill exempting George Patrinos from the maximum age requirement age for the position of firefighter in the town of Dudley (see House Bill, printed in House, No.

Bill laid before the Governor.

5520) (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, two-thirds of the members present having voted in the affirmative, and signed by the Acting President (Ms. Jehlen) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.**

*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.

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