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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026

[8]

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Tuesday, January 27, 2026.

Met at a quarter before twelve o'clock noon (Ms. Creem in the Chair).

The Chair (Ms. Creem), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Pledge of allegiance.

Communication.

The following communication was received and placed on file, to wit:— Senate session,-- Senate Rule 5.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 25, 2026

Michael D. Hurley
Clerk of the Senate
State House, Room 335
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Clerk Hurley,

With much of the Commonwealth under a winter storm warning through tomorrow evening, I am cancelling the Senate session scheduled for Monday, January 26th pursuant to Senate Rule 5A. The Senate will reconvene on Tuesday, January 27th at 11am.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Karen E. Spilka
President of the Senate.

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 the inspection report for North Central Correctional Center, the Plan of Correction (POC) from the facility and the POC acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) (received January 22, 2026); DPH,-- North Central CC Inspection report. SD3617

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for Middlesex County Jail and House of Corrections, the Plan of Correction (POC) from the facility and the POC acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) (received January 23, 2026); DPH,-- Middlesex County Jail Inspection report. SD3618

Report of the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to Section 6B(b) of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting its second quarter Federal Grants FY26 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received January 23, 2026); and

Comptroller,-- federal grants Q2 FY26 report. SD3619

Report of the Office of Climate Innovation and Resilience (pursuant to Section 73 of Chapter 7C of the General Laws) submitting its Embodied Carbon Reduction Plan report, by the Embodied Carbon Intergovernmental Coordinating Council (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight and the Joint Committee on the Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy) (received January 23, 2026).

OCIS,-- Embodied Carbon Reduction Plan report. SD3621

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Mark, for the committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets, that the Senate Bill to build resilience for Massachusetts communities (Senate, No. 2542),-- ought to pass;

Environmental bond bill.

Referred, under Senate Rule 27, to the committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Cronin, for the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security, on petition, a Bill relative to lawfully owed DNA (Senate, No. 1745);

Lawfully owed DNA.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to public safety on private and public college and university campuses (Senate, No. 1747);

Private campuses,-- public safety.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to emergency response in an active shooter or hostile event situation (Senate, No. 1749);

Active shooter,-- emergency response.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to disclosures and the prevention of domestic violence (Senate, No. 1750);

Domestic violence,-- prevention.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Resolve establishing a commission to study the Commonwealth's response to and resources for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault (Senate, No. 1751);

Domestic violence,-- commission.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to Massachusetts policy and procedures for missing and abducted children (Senate, No. 1755);

Missing children,-- procedures.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to remove medical and health service fees for incarcerated people (Senate, No. 1757);

Prisoners,- medical and healthcare fees.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to the diverse recruitment and reform of the Massachusetts State Police (Senate, No. 1759);

State police,-- recruitment.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to arson investigators (Senate, No. 1760);

Arson investigators.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to the internal benefits of public safety telecommunicators (Senate, No. 1761);

Internal benefits,-- first responders.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to drug recognition experts (Senate, No. 1764) [Senator Eldridge dissenting];

Drug recognition experts.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill to support police recruitment and retention (Senate, No. 1766);

Police,-- retention.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to the use of green lights for municipal emergency management vehicles (Senate, No. 1768);

Municipal,-- emergency vehicles.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill prohibiting soliciting acts of terrorism (Senate, No. 1769);

Terrorism,-- soliciting acts.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to implementing a blue alert system in the commonwealth (Senate, No. 1772);

Blue alert system.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill creating the ability of police officers to demand FID, LTC or proof of exempt status (Senate, No. 1773); Police discretion,-- possessing firearm.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to black powder for hunters and re-enactors (Senate, No. 1774) [Senator Eldridge dissenting]; Black powder,-- hunters and re-enactors.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to antique firearm detainment (Senate, No. 1775); Antique firearm,-- detainment.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to ATV vehicles owned and operated by police and fire departments (Senate, No. 1778); Police and fire,-- ATV's.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill concerning the arrest without a warrant of persons on probation (Senate, No. 1781) [Senator Eldridge dissenting]; Warrants,-- probation.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to the equality of wage and recruitment of the Massachusetts State Police (Senate, No. 1783); State police,-- wage and recruitment.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to the health of correctional employees (Senate, No. 1785); and Correctional employees,-- health.

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1743), relative to the Massachusetts Fire Training Council (Senate, No. 2856); Fire Training Council.

Severally read and, under Senate Rule 27, referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Cronin, for the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security, on petition, a Bill relative to safety of officers by requiring interior lights in automobiles to be on during stops (Senate, No. 1770) [Senator Eldridge dissenting]; Police officers,-- automobile stops.

I By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill pertaining to public fire safety and professionalism (Senate, No. 1777); and Public fire safety

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to private campus law enforcement officers (Senate, No. 1779); Campus police,-- weapon possession exemptions.

Severally read and, under Senate Rule 26, referred to the committee on Rules.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

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

Representative Howard of Lowell has been appointed to serve as his designee on the special commission established (under Section 74 of Chapter 3 of the General Laws) to the commission on the status of persons with disabilities. Status of persons with disabilities,-- appointment.

Bills

Directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for Pierre Charles Darius of Mattapan (House, No. 3925,-- on petition) [Local approval received]; Boston,-- Pierre Charles Darius.

Directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Keny Gateau (House, No. 3926,-- on petition) [Local approval received]; Keny Gateau,-- Boston police officer.

Directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Chris Glaropoulos (House, No. 4092,-- on petition) [Local approval received]; Boston,-- Chris Glaropoulos.

Directing the city of Boston police department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Jason DeLeon (House, No. 4142,-- on petition) [Local approval received]; and Boston,-- Jason DeLeon.

Directing the city of Boston Police Department to waive the maximum age requirement for police officers for Gissell Melo (House, No. 4246,-- on petition) [Local approval received]; Boston,-- Gissell Melo.

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 considered forthwith and adopted, as follows:-

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Creem, Ms. Rausch, Ms. Lovely, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. DiDomenico and Rush, Ms. Comerford, Messrs. Durant, Finegold, Keenan, Moore and Crighton, Ms. Friedman and Messrs. Tarr, Payano, Brownsberger, Oliveira, Fernandes and Collins, Mrs. Dooner and Ms. Edwards) "recognizing the eighty-first anniversary of the Liberation of the Auschwitz Concentration Camp and International Holocaust Remembrance Day." International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE

Engrossed Bill.

Mr. Collins in the Chair, an engrossed Bill authorizing the Town of Milford Select Board to appoint a highway surveyor (see House, No. 4663) (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. Collins) (having been appointed by the President, under authority conferred by Senate Rule 4, to perform the duties of the Chair) and laid before the Governor for her approbation.** Bill laid before the Governor.

Reports of Committees.

By Ms. Edwards, for the committee on the Judiciary, on petition, a Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Shannon Manning, an employee of the trial court (Senate, No. 2908); Shannon Manning,-- sick leave.

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

By Ms. Lovely, for the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the Senate petition of Lydia Edwards, Patricia D. Jehlen, Joanne M. Comerford, Rebecca L. Rausch and other members of the General Court for legislation to protect access to justice. Court hearings,-- security. SD3607

Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mrs. Dooner, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on The Judiciary.

Sent to the House for concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill amending the town charter of the town of Plainville (House, No. 4805,**--** on House, Nos. 4382, 4383, 4384, 4385 and 4386) [Local approval received on House, Nos. 4382, 4383, 4384, 4385 and 4386],-- was read. Plainville,-- charter.

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

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5012) of Michelle L. Badger and Joan B. Lovely relative to student access to food and nutritional information; Schools,-- nutritional information.

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Higher Education.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5013) of Michelle L. Badger and Joan B. Lovely for legislation to establish a celiac disease screening pilot program for certain children; Celiac screening,-- pilot program.

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Public Health.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5014) of Antonio F. D. Cabral for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Sonia Felix, an employee of the Department of Transitional Assistance; Sonia Felix,-- sick leave.

Under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Public Service.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mrs. Dooner,--

Ordered, that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in a full formal session with a calendar. Time of meeting.

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