

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025.

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.

Thursday, April 10, 2025.

Met at fourteen minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Oliveira in the Chair).

The Chair (Mr. Oliveira) members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of allegiance.

Distinguished Guests.

There being no objection, the Chair (Mr. Oliveira) handed the gavel to Ms. Dooner for the purpose of an introduction. Ms. Dooner then introduced guests of the Minority Leader, in the rear of the Chamber, a group of Greek dignitaries that were visiting the State House in recognition of George Demeter Day and Parliamentary Law Month. George Demeter was recognized for his contributions to the parliamentary process and his dedication to the protection of the rights of individuals by insuring an orderly process. Among the group were: organizer and past President of the Hellenic Bar Association, Order of AHEPA and the George Demeter Unit of the National Association of Parliamentarians, Peter Senopolous, President of the George Demeter Unit of the National Association of Parliamentarians, Peter Klapes, President of the Order of the AHEPA Boston Chapter, Chris Tsiotos, President of Past Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles, Dimitrius Vidalis, Consular General of Greece Symeon Tegos and President of the Boston Chapter of the daughters of Penelope, Mary Kazis. The Senate welcomed them with applause, Mr. Senopolous was presented with two Governors Proclamations recognizing George Demeter Day and Parliamentary Law Month and the group withdrew from the Chamber.

Greek dignitaries.

Communications.

The following communications were severally received and placed on file, to wit: Communication from the Honorable Karen E. Spilka, President of the Senate, announcing the appointment of Jessica Roscio (pursuant to Section 20 of Chapter 6 of the General Laws) to the permanent Art Commission (received April 9, 2025); and

Art Commission,-- appointment. SD2816

Communication from the Honorable Karen E. Spilka, President of the Senate, announcing the appointment of Senator Cynthia Stone Creem (pursuant to Section 213 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) to the special commission to conduct a comprehensive study relative to current law and practice around the collection of delinquent property tax revenue by cities and towns (received April 9, 2025);

Delinquent property tax,-- special commission. SD2817

Reports.

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

Report of the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (pursuant to Section 6 of Chapter 7C of the General Laws) submitting its Supplier Diversity Affirmative Marketing Program for Design and Construction FY24 annual report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and

DCAMM,-- affirmative marketing program FY24 report. SD2809

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight) (received April 8, 2025);

Report of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (pursuant to line item 1595-6369 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its MBTA Fare Free Bus FY25 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 Transportation) (received April 8, 2025);

MBTA Fare Free
Bus FY25 report.
SD2810

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for the MCI Norfolk, the Plan of Correction (POC) from the facility and the POC acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) (received April 9, 2025);

DPH,-- MCI
Norfolk Inspection
report.
SD2811

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023 and Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Emergency Housing Assistance Program bi-weekly report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received April 7, 2025);

A&F,-- EA
Housing bi-weekly
report.
SD2812

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to line item 4003-0123 of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its March Resettlement Agency report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received April 7, 2025);

A&F,--
Resettlement
Agency report.
SD2813

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to Section 22 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its monthly approved and authorized training programs report as of April 3, 2025 (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received April 7, 2025); and

A&F,-- Monthly
Work Training for
EA Residents
report.
SD2814

Report of the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (pursuant to line item 1107-2501 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its DPPC third quarterly FY25 report for the period of January to March 2025 (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received April 10, 2025).

DPPC,-- 3rd Qtr
FY25 report.
SD2815

Petition.

By Ms. Edwards, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 584) (subject to Joint Rule 9) of Lydia Edwards for legislation to modernize the governance of Port Authority parks in East Boston,-- **having been deposited in the office of the Clerk of the Senate prior to five o'clock P.M., on Friday, January 17, 2025) a copy was transmitted to the Secretary of State (under the provisions of Section 5 of Chapter 3 of the General Laws).**

East Boston,-- Port
Authority parks.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

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

Gail Ryan, PharmD of Canton and Dr. Ross Zafonte of Massachusetts General Hospital have been re-appointed to serve as his designees (under Section 241 of Chapter 111 of the General Laws) to the Rare Disease Advisory Council.

Rare Disease
Advisory Council,-
- appointments.

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3906) of Justin Thurber and Michael J. Rodrigues (by vote of the town) that the town of Somerset be authorized to grant one additional license for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk off the premises;

Somerset,-- liquor
licenses.

<p>To the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure. Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3896) of Meghan K. Kilcoyne and Robyn K. Kennedy (by vote of the town) relative to recall elections in the town of Berlin; and</p>	<p>Berlin,-- recall elections.</p>
<p>Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3908) of Leigh Davis (by vote of the town) for legislation to establish a recall procedure for elective town offices in the town of Monterey;</p>	<p>Monterey,-- recall elections.</p>
<p>Severally to the committee on Election Laws. Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3933) (subject to Joint Rule 9) of Daniel Cahill relative to the Massachusetts Credit Union Share Insurance Corporation;</p>	<p>MA Credit Union Share Insurance Corp.</p>
<p>To the committee on Financial Services. Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3909) of Hadley Luddy and Julian Cyr (by vote of the town) relative to year-round housing occupancy restriction in the town of Provincetown);</p>	<p>Provincetown,-- year-round housing.</p>
<p>Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3910) of Erika Uyterhoeven and Patricia D. Jehlen (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Somerville be authorized to establish a program to provide certain tenants and entities the right to purchase the residential property in which the tenants reside when that residential property is being offered for sale;</p>	<p>Somerville,-- residential property.</p>
<p>Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3921) of Christine P. Barber (with approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to further regulate the affordable housing trust in the city of Somerville; and</p>	<p>Somerville,-- affordable housing.</p>
<p>Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3934) (subject to Joint Rule 9) of Michelle L. Badger (by vote of the town) for legislation to establish a Plymouth land bank in the town of Plymouth;</p>	<p>Plymouth land bank.</p>
<p>Severally to the committee on Housing. Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3912) of Jennifer Balinsky Armini and Brendan P. Crighton (by vote of the town) that the town of Marblehead be authorized to increase the membership of the board of health in said town from three members to five;</p>	<p>Marblehead,-- board of health.</p>
<p>Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3913) of Steven S. Howitt (by vote of the town) that the town of Seekonk be authorized to its charter; and</p>	<p>Seekonk,-- charter.</p>
<p>Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3923) of Christine P. Barber (with the approval of the mayor and board of aldermen) that the city of Somerville be authorized to impose municipal reviews on institutional master plans of certain institutional facilities;</p>	<p>Somerville,-- municipal plans.</p>
<p>Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government. Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3902) of Edward R. Philips, William C. Galvin and William J. Driscoll, Jr. (by vote of the town) that the town of Stoughton be authorized to exempt police officers from the civil service law; and</p>	<p>Stoughton,-- police officers.</p>
<p>Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3914) of Bruce J. Ayers, Richard G. Wells, Jr. and William J. Driscoll, Jr. (with the approval of the town council) relative to the disability retirement of Casey L'Italien, a police officer in the city known as the town of Randolph;</p>	<p>Randolph,-- Casey L'Italien.</p>
<p>Severally to the committee on Public Service. Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3903) of Thomas W. Moakley and Julian Cyr (by vote of the town) that the town of Nantucket be authorized to impose a real estate transfer fee for affordable and workforce housing and related capital improvements;</p>	<p>Nantucket,-- real estate transfer fee.</p>

UNCORRECTED PROOF.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3917) of Jennifer Balinsky Armini and Brendan P. Crighton (by vote of the town) relative to the assessment of certain lands in the town of Swampscott; and

Swampscott,--
land tax.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3930) of Mike Connolly and Erika Uyterhoeven (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Somerville be authorized to establish a real estate transfer fee on certain real estate transactions in said city;

Somerville,-- real
estate transfer fee.

Severally to the committee on Revenue.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3932) of Christopher J. Worrell (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the procurement and award of contracts for construction of a certain subsidized affordable housing project, including space for a branch library to be procured by the Boston Public Library, in the city of Boston;

Dorchester,--
library space.

To the committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3905) of Manny Cruz (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Salem be authorized to employ automated enforcement of speed limit violations in designated school zones;

Salem,-- school
zone speed limit
violations.

To the committee on Transportation.

A Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2025 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (House, No. 4010,-- on House, No. 55, in part),-- **was read and, under Senate Rule 27, referred to the committee on Ways and Means.**

Supplemental
appropriations.

Resolutions.

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

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Lovely) “commending six lifetime members of the Beverly Rotary Club for more than 300 collective years of public service”;

Beverly Rotary
Club.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. O’Connor) “congratulating Nicholas Anderson on his elevation to the rank of Eagle Scout”; and

Nicholas
Anderson.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Oliveira) “commemorating the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the American Revolutionary War and honoring the memory of the revolutionary war veterans from the town of East Longmeadow.”

American
Revolutionary
War.

The Chair (Mr. Oliveira) then recognized Senator Moore who read the following resolutions, as follows:

COMMENDING THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL INC.
FOR ITS RECOGNITION OF APRIL 2025 AS
DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

National Safety
Council Inc.

WHEREAS, MORE THAN 3,000 AMERICANS ARE KILLED IN DISTRACTED DRIVING CRASHES EACH YEAR AND THE ECONOMIC TOLL OF ALL MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES IN THE UNITED STATES EXCEEDS \$480 BILLION ANNUALLY; AND

WHEREAS, TALKING ON A MOBILE PHONE, EVEN IN HANDS-FREE MODE, TEXTING OR PROGRAMMING A DASHBOARD INFOTAINMENT SYSTEM OR GPS DEVICE CAN DIVERT ATTENTION AWAY FROM DRIVING AND RESULT IN VISUAL, MANUAL OR COGNITIVE DISTRACTION; AND

WHEREAS, PREVENTING DISTRACTED DRIVING INJURIES AND DEATHS REQUIRES THE COOPERATION OF ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, EMPLOYERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC; AND

WHEREAS, THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL, INC. AND THE COMMONWEALTH WORK TO PROMOTE POLICIES, PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES TO INCREASE SAFETY ON ROADS AND HIGHWAYS; AND

WHEREAS, THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL, INC. IS ENGAGING IN A MONTH-LONG DISTRACTED DRIVING PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN; AND

WHEREAS, SPRING IS A TIME WHEN PEOPLE BEGIN TO LOG MORE MILES ON THE ROAD AND IT IS IMPORTANT TO RAISE AWARENESS OF MOTOR VEHICLE INJURY RISKS AND PREVENTION; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, THAT THE MASSACHUSETTS SENATE HEREBY COMMENDS THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL INC. FOR ITS RECOGNITION OF APRIL 2025 AS DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH AND STRONGLY URGES RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES IN THE COMMONWEALTH TO PRACTICE SAFE DRIVING BEHAVIORS; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THESE RESOLUTIONS BE TRANSMITTED FORTHWITH BY THE CLERK OF THE SENATE TO THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL INC.

The resolutions were then adopted.

Reports of Committees.

By Ms. Lovely, for the committees of Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the Senate petition of Joanne M. Comerford for legislation to educate the public on the importance of wearing a seatbelt while riding in a vehicle carrying many passengers.

Motorcoaches,-- passenger safety.

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

Sent to the House for concurrence.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE.

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4009) of Edward R. Philips and Michael F. Rush for legislation to authorize the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority to provide sewer services to a certain parcel of land in the town of Sharon, - - **was referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Environment and Natural Resources.**

Sharon,-- MWRA services.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Ms. Dooner,--

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

Time of meeting.

Adjournment in Memory of Antonio "Tony" Goncalves.

The Senator from Hampden, Hampshire, and Worcester, Mr. Oliveira, moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it does so in memory of Antonio "Tony" Goncalves.

Antonio "Tony" Goncalves of Ludlow, passed away peacefully on April 6, 2025, at the age of 65, with his loving family by his side.

Tony was an active community leader, mentor, and business icon in Ludlow and within the Portuguese community. His love for Ludlow showed every day, not only through his various town roles but also on his license plate, which said, "Ludlow."

Born in New Bedford, Massachusetts, Tony was the beloved son of Custodio and Joaquina (Dias) Goncalves. A proud graduate of Ludlow High School and Springfield Technical Community College and the co-founder of Ideal Insurance Agency with his longtime friend Joe Chaves. He later expanded his efforts into real estate, helping establish Ideal Real Estate alongside partners Joe, Suzie Ice, and John Bettencourt. Together with David and Lena Lavoie, their work led to the development of Ideal Lane and Pondview Manor, projects that left a meaningful mark on Ludlow's growth and economy.

Tony's passion for community service was evident in everything he did. At his passing, he was actively serving on the Ludlow Board of Selectmen and had previously served on the Ludlow Planning Board. He was a proud member of the Gremio Lusitano Club, the Ludlow CARES Coalition, and the Night in Portugal Scholarship Committee.

A passionate golfer, Tony was a longtime member of the Ludlow Country Club. He was deeply involved in community golf tournaments, including the St. John the Baptist School Golf Tournament to benefit the school his twins attended and the Luso Open Golf Scholarship Tournament supporting the Luso-American Credit Association, where he had been since 1990. He especially looked forward to his annual Myrtle Beach golf trips with close friends.

But beyond his roles as a public servant, entrepreneur, and community leader, Tony was a family man above all else. He is survived by his loving wife, Rosa (Dias) Goncalves; his beloved children, Jessica Goncalves and her husband Austin Rattet, Christina Brach and her husband John, Antonio Goncalves and his wife Nia Maya James, and twin sons Jonathan and Christopher Goncalves. He was the proud grandfather of Olivia, Camryn, Antonio III, and Quincy. He also leaves behind his parents, Custodio and Joaquina, and many loving extended family members and dear friends.

Tony Goncalves was a staple of the Ludlow community. His integrity, generosity, and unwavering commitment to others made him a trusted voice and a true leader. His passing is a tremendous loss for Ludlow and everyone who had the privilege to know him.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Antonio "Tony" Goncalves, at twenty-eight minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Ms. Dooner, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.
