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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.**



**THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025**

[37]

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, April 24, 2025.

Met at six 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.

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 March 2025 Casino and Sports Wager Revenue 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 Revenue) (received April 22, 2025);

MassGaming,-- Mar. 2025 Casino & Sports Revenue report. SD2842

Report of the Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission (pursuant to line item 0800-0000 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its General Appropriations Act (GAA) FY25 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received April 23, 2025);

POST Commission,-- FY25 GAA report. SD2843

Report of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (pursuant to Section 3 of Chapter 21I of the General Laws) submitting its Toxic Use Reduction Information 2023 report (received April 23, 2025);

EOEEA,-- MassDEP 2023 TURA report. SD2844

Report of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (pursuant to line item 2210-0106 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Toxic Use Reduction Act Staffing & Implementation 2024 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received April 23, 2025);

EOEEA,-- MassDEP TURA Staffing FY24 report. SD2845

Report of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (pursuant to line item 1595-2406 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its Fare Free Pilot 2024 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 24, 2025); and

MassDOT,-- Fare Free Pilot 2024 report. SD2847

Report of the Office of the Child Advocate (pursuant to Section 2A of Chapter 38 of the General Laws) submitting its Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) Child Fatality Review annual report (received April 24, 2025).

OCA,-- Child Fatality FY24 report. SD2851

Petition.

Ms. Lovely presented a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Joan B. Lovely for legislation to ban the use of DEHP, a plasticizer found in IV bags and tubing, due to concerns about its potential health risks,-- and the same was referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Toxic-free,-- medical devices. SD2846

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

The following petitions, having been timely filed by five o'clock P.M. on January 17, 2025, were referred in concurrence as follows:

**UNCORRECTED PROOF.**

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4037) of Adam J. Scanlon relative to problem gambling;	Problem gambling.
<b>To the committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.</b>	
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4038) of John Barrett, III relative to school transportation reimbursement;	School transportation,-- reimbursement.
<b>To the committee on Education.</b>	
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4039) of Michelle L. Badger that the Department of Aging and Independence provide universal breakfast and lunch at senior centers, centers for active living and councils on aging;	Senior centers,-- breakfast and lunch.
<b>To the committee on Elder Affairs.</b>	
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4040) of Michelle L. Badger, Vanna Howard and Lindsay N. Sadosa relative to the discharge of spent fuel pool water; and	Nuclear energy,-- waste water.
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4041) of Mike Connolly for legislation to establish an office of green zone administration within the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs;	Office of Green Zone Administration.
<b>Severally to the committee on Environment and Natural Resources.</b>	
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4042) of John Barrett, III relative to cancellations of homeowner insurance policies; and	Homeowner insurance policies.
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4043) of Manny Cruz relative to copay assistance for medications;	Medications,-- copay assistance.
<b>Severally to the committee on Financial Services.</b>	
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4044) of Rita A. Mendes relative to tuition and student loan reimbursement in gateway cities for certain physicians, dentists or nurses;	Gateway cities,-- student loans.
<b>To the committee on Higher Education.</b>	
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4045) of Adrienne Pusateri Ramos for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to improvements to the child support system; and	Child support study.
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4046) of Adrienne Pusateri Ramos for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the alimony system;	Alimony commission,-- establish.
<b>Severally to the committee on the Judiciary.</b>	
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4047) of John Barrett, III relative to special permits;	Special permits.
<b>To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.</b>	
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4048) of Shirley B. Arriaga relative to post surgery infection rates;	Reduce infection,-- post surgery.
<b>To the committee on Public Health.</b>	
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4049) of Russell E. Holmes for legislation to establish a prisoner donation program;	Prisoner donation program.
<b>To the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security.</b>	
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4050) of Patrick Joseph Kearney relative to adult use, support services, cultivation and taxation of psilocybin-containing fungi; and	Psilocybin-containing fungi.
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4051) of Rita A. Mendes for legislation to establish a municipal tax assessment increase limit;	Municipal tax assessment,-- limit.
<b>Severally to the committee on Revenue.</b>	
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4052) of Tommy Vitolo and others relative to a specialized stretch energy code;	Specialized stretch energy code.
<b>To the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.</b>	
Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4053) of Shirley B. Arriaga and Orlando Ramos for legislation to authorize the use of Kei vehicles; and	Kei vehicles.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4054) of Leigh Davis for legislation to establish a microtransit fund;

Microtransit fund.

**Severally to the committee on Transportation.**

Reports

Of the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, asking to be discharged from further consideration:

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 327) of Natalie M. Blais relative to regulating surgical assistants; and

Surgical assistants,-  
- regulating.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 453) of Edward R. Philips relative to the licensure of dietitians and nutritionists;

Dietitians and  
nutritionists.

And recommending that the same severally be referred to the committee on Public Health.

**Were severally considered forthwith, under Senate Rule 36, and accepted, in concurrence.**

*Report of Committees.*

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 John F. Keenan for legislation to authorize the State Board of Retirement to grant creditable service to Roberta Wollons.

Roberta Wollons,--  
creditable service.  
SD2768

**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 Public Service.**

**Sent to the House for concurrence.**

*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.

*Moment of Silence.*

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Oliveira), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Private First Class Joseph R. Travers.

Moment of silence.

*Adjournment in Memory of  
Private First Class Joseph R. Travers.*

The Senator from Third Bristol and Plymouth, Ms. Dooner, moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it does so in memory of Private First Class Joseph R. Travers, of Taunton.

Private First Class Joseph R. Travers was laid to rest on March 29, 2025. He served during the Korean War as a member of Dog Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division.

PFC Travers was declared missing in action in April 1951 after his unit engaged enemy forces, and his life was taken later that year as a prisoner of war at the age of 24. After more than 70 years, PFC Joseph R. Travers, a Korean War veteran and former POW, was finally given the hero's welcome he always deserved.

**UNCORRECTED PROOF.**

In June 2024, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency identified PFC Travers' remains, which were buried among many others at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Today, we honor and remember PFC Travers' sacrifice and service to our nation and extend condolences to his loved ones. It is our duty as a nation to honor our missing heroes, support their families, and ensure their sacrifices are never overlooked. His return reinforces our solemn promise: we will never forget, and we will never stop searching. The POW/MIA flag flies as a constant reminder that our mission is not complete until every one of our missing heroes is accounted for.

Let us honor their courage, remember their sacrifice, and reaffirm our commitment to never leaving a single hero behind.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Private First Class Joseph R. Travers, at ten 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.