

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.**



**THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2025**

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Thursday, June 12, 2025.

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

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger), 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. O'Connor) introduced in the rear of the Chamber, the Hingham Girls Crew Team. The team was recognized as the 2025 Massachusetts Public School Rowing Associations (MPSRA) Spring State Champions. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Hingham Girls Crew Team.

Communication.

Communication from the Honorable Karen E. Spilka, President of the Senate, announcing the appointment of Lisa Jenike and Nicole Nyberg (pursuant to Section 260 of the Acts of 2020) to the Rare Disease Advisory Council (received June 9, 2025),-- placed on file.

Rare Disease Advisory Council.

Reports.

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

Report of MassHealth (pursuant to Section 2SSSS of Chapter 29 of the Massachusetts General Laws) submitting its Fiscal Year 2024 Quarter 4 Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Trust Fund report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received June 9, 2025);

MassHealth,-- DSRIP Trust Fund FY24 Q4 report. SD2965

Report of the Department of Mental Health (pursuant to line item 5042-5000 of Section 2 of Chapter 28 of Acts of 2023) submitting its Strengthening Public Access to Mental Health Services for Children and Youth FY24 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received June 9, 2025);

Mental Health Services for Children and Youth FY24 report. SD2966

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 June 10, 2025);

DPH,-- MCI Norfolk Inspection report. SD2967

Report of the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds (pursuant to Section 2KKK(a) of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting its plan for expenditure from the Norfolk County Registers Technological Fund report (copies having been forwarded to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Ways and Means and Post Audit and Oversight) (received June 10, 2025); and

Norfolk ROD Technological Fund report. SD2968

Report of Massachusetts Capital Resource Company (pursuant to Section 2(e) of Chapter 259 of the Acts of 1998) submitting its 2024 annual report and statement of financial condition of the Life Insurance Community Initiative (copies having been forwarded to Commissioner of the Division of Insurance, the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Revenue) (received June 10, 2025).

MLICII,-- annual report. SD2969

*Reports of a Committee.*

By Ms. Edwards, for the committee on the Judiciary, on petition, a Bill relative to archaic laws (Senate, No. 1034);

**Read and, under Joint Rule 29, referred to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.**

By Ms. Edwards, for the committee on the Judiciary, on petition, a Bill relative to adoptions (Senate, No. 1046); and

By the same Senator, for the same committee, on petition, a Bill relative to the uniform child custody jurisdiction and enforcement act (Senate, No. 1052);

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

Archaic laws.

Adoptions,-- out of state.

Child custody,-- jurisdiction.

*Committees Discharged.*

Mr. Lewis, for the committee on Education, reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 395) promoting racially and culturally inclusive K-12 curriculum,-- and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on the Environment and Natural Resources; and

K-12 curriculum,-- inclusive.

Ms. Comerford, for the committee on Higher Education, reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 922) relative to the Bean New Deal,-- and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on the Public Health.

Plant-based protein,-- education and options.

**Severally, under Senate Rule 36, the reports were considered forthwith and accepted.**

**Severally sent to the House for concurrence.**

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

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

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4209) of Natalie M. Blais and Joanne M. Comerford (by vote of the town) that the town of Sunderland be authorized to provide legal voting rights in municipal elections for residents of said town aged 16 and 17 years old;

Sunderland,-- voting rights.

**To the committee on Election Laws.**

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3899) of Marcus S. Vaughn (by vote of the town) relative to reserved capacity billing in the town of Norfolk;

Norfolk,-- billing.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4210) of Leigh Davis (by vote of the town) relative to the town resident requirement for the town manager of the town of Dalton;

Dalton,-- town manager.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4211) of Kimberly N. Ferguson (by vote of the town) relative to changing the term of the elected office of moderator in the town of Holden; and

Holden,-- town moderator.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4212) of Meghan K. Kilcoyne and John J. Cronin (by vote of the town) that the town of Lancaster be authorized to dissolve the animal control commission of said town;

Lancaster,-- animal control commission.

**Severally to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.**

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4213) of Leigh Davis (by vote of the town) relative to the continued employment of firefighters in the town of Egremont, notwithstanding the maximum age requirement;

Egremont,-- firefighters.

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4214) of Carole A. Fiola (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the appointment of the police chief in the city of Fall River; and

Fall River,-- police chief.

**UNCORRECTED PROOF.**

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4215) of Donald H. Wong (by vote of the town) that the Saugus retirement board be authorized to increase the accidental disability retirement allowance payable to Christopher Taylor, a retired officer of the police department of the town of Saugus;

Saugus,--  
Christopher Taylor.

**To the committee on Public Service.**

*Resolutions.*

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

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Friedman) “congratulating Thomas Dahill on the occasion of his one hundredth birthday”; and

Thomas Dahill.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Lovely) “congratulating Gracelyn Skilling on her elevation to the rank of Eagle Scout.”

Gracelyn Skilling.

*Reports 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 Barry R. Finegold for legislation to promote the safety of dogs in the custody of kennels.

Kennels,-- dog  
safety.  
SD2945

**Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mr. Durant, and the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.**

**Sent to the House for concurrence.**

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

A Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Steven Forget, an employee of the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office (House, No. 4103,-- on petition),-- was read.

Steven Forget,--  
sick leave.

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

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4221) of Carole A. Fiola for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Esther Odufuwa, an employee of the Department of Mental Health,-- **was referred in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, to the committee on Public Service.**

Esther Odufuwa,--  
sick leave.

*Recess.*

There being no objection, at seventeen minutes past eleven o’clock A.M., the Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair; and, at seventeen minutes before one o’clock P.M., the Senate reassembled, Mr. DiDomenico in the Chair.

Recess.

*Report of a Committee.*

By Mr. Rodrigues, for the committee on Ways and Means, on House, No. 4151, reported, in part, a “Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2025 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects” (Senate, No. 2529) (Direct appropriation: \$532,563,008),-- was read.

Supplemental  
appropriations.

*Order Adopted.*

Mr. Rodrigues offered the following order, to wit:

*Ordered*, That notwithstanding Senate Rule 7 or any other rule to the contrary, the Senate Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2025 to provide for supplementing

Procedural order.

certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (Senate, No. 2529) reported from the committee on Ways and Means, shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for a second reading on Wednesday, June 18, 2025.

All amendments shall be filed electronically in the office of the Clerk of the Senate by 2:30 P.M., on Monday, June 16, 2025. All such amendments shall be second reading-amendments. The Clerk shall further specify the procedure and format for filing all amendments, consistent with this order.

After the bill, as amended, is ordered to a third reading, it shall immediately be read a third time and the question shall then immediately be on passing it to be engrossed, and no amendments shall be in order at the third reading of the bill unless recommended by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

**The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Collins, and the order was considered forthwith and adopted.**

**The bill (Senate, No. 2529) was placed in the Orders of the Day for Wednesday, June 18, 2025.**

*Resolutions.*

The following resolutions (having been filed with the Clerk by Mr. Gómez) were considered forthwith, as follows:-

Resolutions “designating August 9 and 10, 2025 as the sales tax holiday.”

Sales tax holiday.

**The resolutions (Senate, No. 2530) were adopted.**

*Reports 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 Nick Collins and Daniel J. Hunt for legislation to provide accidental death benefits for the surviving spouse of Mathew M. Troy, a former firefighter of the City of Boston.

Firefighter Troy,--  
accidental death  
benefits.  
SD2857

**Senate Rule 36 was suspended, on motion of Mr. Durant, and the report was considered forthwith. After remarks, 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 Mr. Collins,--

*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 Mr. Durant, at ten minutes before one o'clock P.M., the Senate adjourned to meet again on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.