

State of Rhode Island

JOURNAL

-OF THE-

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY SESSION of the General Assembly begun and held at the State House in the City of Providence on Tuesday, the Second Day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Four.

Volume 151, No. 3

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

Third-Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence, Tuesday, January 9, 2024, and is called to order at 4:08 o'clock P.M., by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 64 members present and 11 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 64: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Cruz, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Fogarty, Giraldo, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

ABSENT – 11: Representatives Casey, Cotter, Dawson, Finkelman, Handy, McEntee, McGaw, Morgan, Quattrocchi, Roberts and Vella-Wilkinson.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Representative Julie A. Casimiro who delivers the Invocation and leads the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

(For Invocation, see Appendix, this Journal.)

APPROVAL OF RECORD

By unanimous consent, the House Journal of Thursday, January 4, 2024, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Stephen M. Casey is unable to attend the session today, Tuesday, January 9, 2024.
Representative Carol Hagan McEntee is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 9, 2024.
Representative Alex Finkelman is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 9, 2024.
Representative Camille Vella-Wilkinson is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 9, 2024.
Representative Michelle E. McGaw is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 9, 2024.
Representative Matthew S. Dawson is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 9, 2024.
Representative Patricia L. Morgan is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 9, 2024.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Henries wishes her mom, Halona Mauricio-Woodson, a Happy Birthday! Speaker Shekarchi wishes Halona a Happy Birthday!

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the upcoming House session is scheduled for tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. Please note that there will be no House session this Thursday, January 11, 2024.

On Tuesday, January 16, 2024, the House will convene at 5:00 p.m. Governor McKee will deliver his State of the State Address at 7:00 p.m. in a joint session with the Senate, in this Chamber.

Additionally, tomorrow, Wednesday, January 10, 2024, Attorney Caroline Thibeault will provide Sexual Harassment Prevention Training for House members at 3:00 p.m. and at the Rise in the House Lounge. Speaker Shekarchi and Majority Leader Blazejewski encourage all members to attend one of these sessions.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**House Resolution No. 7076**

BY Hull, Noret, Lombardi J, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Voas, Chippendale, Bennett, Tanzi, Ajello
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING "NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY" ON JANUARY 9, 2024 {LC4036/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Deputy Speaker Hull requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Deputy Speaker Hull discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Deputy Speaker Hull, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 7077

BY Abney, McNamara, Chippendale, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Tanzi, Ajello, Boylan, Shallcross Smith, Fogarty

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF BROTHER MICHAEL REIS, FSC, LICSW, PH. D (H.C.), FOUNDER OF TIDES FAMILY SERVICES {LC3280/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Chairman Abney requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Chairman Abney discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to the Reis family.

Read and passed, on a motion of Chairman Abney, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

House Resolution No. 7078

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Kennedy, Chippendale, Azzinaro, Lima, Costantino, Diaz, Tanzi, Ajello

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF PATRICK D. CALLAHAN {LC3269/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy and Representative Lima discuss the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to the Callahan family.

Read and passed, on a motion of Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by Representative Lima, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

House Resolution No. 7079

BY Caldwell, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Shanley, Chippendale, Carson, Speakman, Fogarty, Tanzi, Boylan

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF OWEN RICHARD ZIMMER {LC3858/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Representative Caldwell requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Representative Caldwell discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to the Zimmer family.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Caldwell, seconded by Chairman Shanley, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

House Resolution No. 7080

BY Donovan, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Marszalkowski, Chippendale, Speakman, Fogarty, Tanzi, Ajello, Boylan

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF ARMAND A. TEIXEIRA, ESQ. {LC4009/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Chairwoman Donovan requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Donovan discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Chairwoman Donovan, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

TRANSMITTAL

By unanimous consent, all matters on the clerk's desk are ordered to be transmitted to His Excellency, the Governor, to the Honorable Senate and the Honorable Secretary of State forthwith.

(For Transmittals to Governor, see Appendix of this Journal.)

DESK HELD OPEN

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi announces that the desk will be held open.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:27 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Fellela, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Pasqualina Marcella and Angelina "Tina" aRusso; on motion of Representative Giraldo, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Edna Simonne Poulin and Oscar LaPlante; on motion of Representative Donovan, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Armand Teixeira; on motion of Representative Caldwell, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Owen Zimmer; on motion of Representative Abney, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Br. Michael Reis; on motion of Representative Kennedy, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Patrick Callahan; on motion of Representative Chippendale, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Robert M. Conley seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Minority Whip Place the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE JULIE A. CASIMIRO

Almighty God: We give You thanks for the gift of this day. Bless and guide our leaders through these difficult times and grant them the wisdom and patience best to serve the state and all its people.
Amen