

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. 24

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Twenty fourth-Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, and is called to order at 4:10 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 71 members present and 4 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 71: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson and Voas.

ABSENT – 4: Representatives Costantino, Diaz, Fellela and Morgan.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Minority Leader Michael W. Chippendale 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, March 28, 2024, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Deborah A. Fellela is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, April 2, 2024.
Representative Grace Diaz is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, April 2, 2024.

CALENDAR

From the Calendar are taken:

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024:

- 1. 2024-H 7073**
BY Azzinaro
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- RHODE ISLAND VETERANS' HOME

Committee on Veterans` Affairs recommends passage.

Chairman Azzinaro moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives McEntee, Spears, Cardillo, Morales, Finkelman, Noret, Baptista, Shanley, Shallcross Smith, Lima, Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy, Representatives Bennett, Vella-Wilkinson, Minority Leader Chippendale and Representative Donovan.

Chairman Azzinaro discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 71 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 71: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

- 2. 2024-H 7606**
BY Handy
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- CASUALTY INSURANCE RATING

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Caldwell, Carson, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fogarty, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Lombardi, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Morales, Noret, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

Chairman Solomon discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 66 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 66: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Cardillo, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

3. 2024-H 7569

BY Finkelman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROBATE PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE --
UNCLAIMED INTANGIBLE AND TANGIBLE PROPERTY

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Chairman Craven moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives McEntee, Finkelman, Morales, Noret, Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman, and Majority Whip Kazarian.

Chairman Craven discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 70 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 70: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi,

Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

4. 2024-H 7654 SUB A

BY Shanley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- HOUSING MAINTENANCE AND OCCUPANCY CODE

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Cruz, Tanzi, Cortvriend, Carson, Bennett and Potter.

Chairman Casey, Representatives Nardone and Shanley discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 71 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 71: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

5. 2024-H 7666

BY Cortvriend

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION -- THE RHODE ISLAND MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Cortvriend, Carson, McEntee, Vella-Wilkinson, Floor Manager Edwards, and Representative Tanzi.

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 71 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 71: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

6. 2024-H 7757

BY Caldwell

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- SCENIC HIGHWAYS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski.

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 71 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 71: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

7. 2024-S 2246**BY** Gallo

ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CRANSTON TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE AND/OR ACQUISITION OF LAND AND BUILDINGS, CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, LANDSCAPING, FURNISHING AND/OR EQUIPPING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE CITY, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF STATE HOUSING AID AT A REIMBURSEMENT RATE OR STATE SHARE RATIO OF NOT LESS THAN 50% AT THE TIME OF ISSUANCE

Committee on Finance recommends passage in concurrence.

Chairman Abney moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Marszalkowski, Handy, Cardillo, McNamara, Potter, Fenton-Fung, Majority Whip Kazarian, Representatives McEntee and Bennett.

Chairman Abney discusses the act.

Read and passed, in concurrence, on a roll call vote, 71 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 71: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

TRANSMITTAL

By unanimous consent, (24-S 2246), on the clerk's desk is ordered to be transmitted to His Excellency, the Governor, to the Honorable Secretary of State, and the Honorable Senate forthwith.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

GUESTS

Representative Batista is honored to welcome esteemed guests to the House Chamber from Roger Williams University School of Law, Greg Bowman, the Dean of the Roger Williams University School of Law; Colleen A. Brown, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; Bernard Freemon, a Professor of Law; and Lorraine N. Lalli, the Associate Dean of Student Life and Operations. Today's visit marks a significant milestone to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Roger Williams University School of Law. Speaker Shekarchi welcomes all guests and acknowledges Dean Greg Bowman for his hard work and dedication in carrying on the esteemed legacy of the School of Law and is grateful for the contributions of each guest.

Chairwoman Speakman is pleased to extend a warm welcome to the House Chamber in recognizing Rhode Island Community Development Day, Melina Lodge, Executive Director of Housing Network of Rhode Island; Jennifer Hawkins, President and CEO of One Neighborhood Builders; and Joseph Garlick, Executive Director of NeighborWorks Blackstone River Valley. Their dedication and hard work in community development are commendable and she is grateful for their presence today. Speaker Shekarchi also extends his welcome to them in the House Chamber.

Representative Henries welcomes distinguished members of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority who represent Theta Psi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated to the House Chamber, Ann Clanton, Roxanne Johnson Nance, Susan Pires, and Beverly Ledbetter for their dedication to excellence, community upliftment, sisterhood, and scholarships nationally and in the State of Rhode Island.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On behalf of the House of Representatives, Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman and Speaker Shekarchi extend their deepest sympathies to Alan Rudolph and his entire family on the passing of his mother, Lydia Rudolph.

NOW PRESIDING

At 4:39 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi yields the rostrum to the Honorable Deputy Speaker Hull.

Chairman Casey announces that the Committee on Municipal Government & Housing will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 101 of the State House.

Chairman Solomon announces that the Committee on Corporations will meet today, at the rise of the House, in the House Lounge of the State House.

Representative Noret announces that the Community College of Rhode Island will host Community College of Rhode Island Day on Thursday, April 4, 2024, highlighting the importance of Community College of Rhode Island, its community impact, workforce development, and access to education. Speaker Shekarchi will be a guest speaker during the speaking program, which will take place in the Rotunda at 3:00 p.m.

Chairman O'Brien announces that the House Finance Subcommittee on Environment and Transportation will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 35 of the State House.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces the next House session will be held this Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

House Resolution No. 8120

BY Batista, Kazarian, Potter, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Marszalkowski, Vella-Wilkinson, Chippendale, Shanley, Kennedy

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION JOYOUSLY CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW {LC5875/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Batista and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Batista, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 8121

BY McGaw, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, DeSimone, Spears, Cotter, Carson, Alzate, Casimiro

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2024, AS "AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC5818/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative McGaw discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative McGaw, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 8122

BY Newberry, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Serpa, Chippendale, Fenton-Fung, Nardone, Kennedy, Ajello, Ackerman

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2024, TO BE "PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC5764/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Newberry discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Newberry, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 8123

BY Roberts, Chippendale, Quattrocchi, Rea, Nardone, Craven, Morgan P, Casimiro, Fenton-Fung, Edwards

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING APRIL OF 2024, AS "CHILD SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC5768/1}

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

Representative Roberts discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Roberts, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 8124

BY Ackerman, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, McNamara, Potter, Cruz, Boylan, Alzate, Stewart

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2024, TO BE "FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC5716/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 8125

BY Kennedy, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Abney, Edwards, Azzinaro, Ackerman, Ajello

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2025 {LC3619/1}

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 Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 8126

BY Speakman, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Kennedy, Ajello, Ackerman, Tanzi, Lombardi J, Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING APRIL OF 2024, AS "NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND CELEBRATING THE IMPORTANT AND IMPACTFUL WORK DONE ON A DAILY BASIS BY THE HOUSING NETWORK OF RHODE ISLAND {LC5882/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Speakman and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Speakman, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

RULE 7D

The following bills were received pursuant to Rule 7D:

Representative Cortvriend-An Act relating to Water and Navigation-Coastal Resources Management Council

Representative Edwards-An Act relating to Pension Reform

Representative Kislak-An Act relating to Businesses and Professions-Pharmacies

Representative Morales-An Act relating to Domestic Relations

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 Deputy Speaker Hull announces that the desk will be held open.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Honorable Senate transmits with announcement of passage, of the following measures:

Senate Bill No. 2633

BY Sosnowski, Valverde, Gu

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO IN AMENDMENT OF AND IN ADDITION TO THE ACT, PASSED AT THE JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 1883, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE UNION FIRE DISTRICT OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN", AS AMENDED (Amends charter of the Union Fire District of South Kingstown by renaming 'Reserve Capital Expenditures' to 'Capital Projects Fund' and allows the board of wardens to grant tax exemptions to current and retired volunteer firefighters and their spouses.) {LC5260/1}

04/03/2024 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 2878

BY Pearson, Picard

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS (Authorizes the town of Cumberland to require the registration of certain business entities not registered with the secretary of state that are situated in Cumberland.) {LC5689/1}

04/03/2024 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 2881

BY Pearson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- DOGS (Increases the fines for dog ordinance violations in the town of Cumberland.) {LC5688/1}

04/03/2024 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 2126

BY Felag, Lombardi F, Britto, Raptakis, Ujifusa, Gallo, Lombardo, Tikoian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE -- DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE (Provides that the fifth day in April in each year be designated as "Rhode Island Gold Star Spouses Day" with appropriate exercises in public places and with flags flown at half-staff over the state house.) {LC3881/1}

04/03/2024 Referred to House Veterans Affairs

Senate Bill No. 2043 SUB A

BY Lauria, DiMario, Valverde, Miller, Cano, Murray, Lawson, Euer, Bissaillon, Britto

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- LONG-TERM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Adds climate change, sea-level rise and coastal resiliency to the analysis of data of the strategic plan for economic development policy.) {LC3773/A/1}

04/03/2024 Referred to House State Government & Elections

NEW BUSINESS

House Bill No. 8127

BY Alzate, Batista, Carson, Spears, Cotter, McGaw, Donovan, DeSimone, Speakman, Morales
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACT (Establishes requirements which would have to be met by an
applicant prior to the issuing of permits for an activity that would have an environmental impact on or
would increase the cumulative impacts on an environmental justice area.) {LC3907/1}
04/03/2024 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 8128

(Lieutenant Governor)

BY Speakman, Giraldo, Potter, Cruz, Morales, Stewart, Sanchez, Alzate, Kislak
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- FAIR CHANCE IN HOUSING ACT
(Limits the use of certain criminal records and credit history reports in denying housing to
prospective applicants, provides fines for failure to comply and requires notice of denials be sent to
the prospective tenants.) {LC5799/1}
04/03/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 8129

BY Edwards, Craven, Roberts, McEntee, Kazarian, Alzate, Potter, Cruz, Solomon, Diaz
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- ELECTRONIC IMAGING
DEVICES (Includes visual images that are created or manipulated by digitization, or without the
consent of the person, within the purview of the crime of unauthorized dissemination of indecent
material and expands jurisdiction of the crime.) {LC5835/1}
04/03/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 8130

BY Carson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROBATE PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE -- UNIFORM
REAL PROPERTY TRANSFER ON DEATH ACT (Allows an owner or owners of real property to
execute a deed that names one or more beneficiaries who will obtain title to the property at the
owner's death without the necessity of probate.) {LC5845/1}
04/03/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 8131

BY Speakman, Donovan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION
(Provides a tax exemption to residents of the Town of Bristol who are over the age of sixty-five (65)
years and who have continuously owned and resided in their primary residence in the town for at
least twenty (20) years.) {LC5878/1}
04/03/2024 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 8132**BY** Carson, Abney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS (Enables the city of Newport to impose a nine percent (9%) amusement tax on the sale of certain amusement ticket sales.) {LC5774/1}

04/03/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 8133**BY** Carson, Abney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Imposes an additional local hotel tax in the city of Newport, at a rate of two and one-half percent (2.5%) to be retained and used for its public infrastructure and resiliency purposes.) {LC5773/1}

04/03/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Resolution No. 8134**BY** Carson**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$250,000 TO ENSURE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE AND ACTIONABLE PLAN THAT ADDRESSES THE NEEDS OF RHODE ISLAND'S AGING POPULATION (This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$250,000 consisting of \$200,000 for a strategic planning consultant, and \$25,000 each for the Rhode Island Office on Healthy Aging, and the State Division on Planning.) {LC5775/1}

04/03/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
TRANSFER OF BILLS****COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES****Chairwoman Donovan, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of transfer to the Committee on Corporations:****House Bill No. 7947****BY** Morales, Potter, Cruz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- THE EDWARD O. HAWKINS AND THOMAS C. SLATER MEDICAL MARIJUANA ACT (Extends the registry identification card renewal for medical marijuana cards from one year to three (3) years; removes the renewal requirement for terminally ill patients.) {LC4985/1}

04/03/2024 Committee transferred to House Corporations

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Chairman Craven, for the Committee on Judiciary, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of transfer to the Committee on State Government and Elections:

House Bill No. 7638

BY Morales, Cruz, Lombardi J, Place, Chippendale, Ajello, Biah, Henries, McEntee, Batista **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINALS -- CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS -- STATE COMMISSION ON PARDONS (Establishes a nine (9) member commission on pardons to provide recommendations to the governor as to who should receive executive pardons per the state constitution.) {LC4879/1}

04/03/2024 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7968

BY Giraldo, Morales, Stewart, Henries, Alzate **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DETENTION FOR FEDERAL CIVIL IMMIGRATION VIOLATIONS (Prohibits state or municipality from contracts to detain individuals for civil immigration violations, and if such contract exists, it must end by July 1, 2025 and prohibits using public resources to detain those individuals.) {LC5436/1}

04/03/2024 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:48 o'clock P.M. on behalf of Speaker Shekarchi, on motion of Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Lydia Rudolph; on motion of Representative Handy, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the 7 World Central Kitchen aid workers killed in Gaza; on motion of Representative Cortvriend, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Owen Cameron seconded by Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL W. CHIPPENDALE

Gracious God: Today, we ask you to guide our decisions with your wisdom and compassion. Remind us all that good decisions are rarely made through anger and discord but rather through real listening and honest debate. Amen

APPENDIX

TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR

Senate Bill No. 2246

BY Gallo, Miller, Lombardi F, LaMountain

ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CRANSTON TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE AND/OR ACQUISITION OF LAND AND BUILDINGS, CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, LANDSCAPING, FURNISHING AND/OR EQUIPPING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE CITY, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF STATE HOUSING AID AT A REIMBURSEMENT RATE OR STATE SHARE RATIO OF NOT LESS THAN 50% AT THE TIME OF ISSUANCE (Authorizes the City of Cranston to issue not to exceed \$40,000,000 general obligation bonds.) {LC4265/1}

04/02/2024 Transmitted to Governor

APPENDIX**CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024:****1. 2024-H 7734 SUB A****BY** Kislak**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- DENSE BREAST NOTIFICATION AND EDUCATION

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

2. 2024-H 7297**BY** Finkelman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- OPTICIANS -- QUALIFICATIONS

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

3. 2024-H 7437**BY** Tanzi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INCORPORATING THE RHODE ISLAND COMMISSION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Committee on Education recommends passage.

4. 2024-H 7522**BY** Baginski**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO EXTEND FUNDING FOR THE AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

Committee on Innovation, Internet, & Technology recommends passage.

5. 2024-H 7384**BY** Slater**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS

Committee on Special Legislation recommends passage.

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Friday, March 29, 2024