

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 Seventh Day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.

Volume 152, No. 3

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

Third-Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, and is called to order at 5:12 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 65 members present and 10 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 65: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Carson, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart and Tanzi.

ABSENT – 10: Representatives Baginski, Batista, Caldwell, Casey, Felix, Lombardi, Potter, Quattrocchi, Shallcross Smith and Voas.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Representative Teresa A. Tanzi, 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 9, 2025, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Jacquelyn M. Baginski is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 14, 2025.
Representative Jose F. Batista is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 14, 2025.
Representative Brandon C. Potter is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 14, 2025.
Representative Mary Ann Shallcross Smith is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 14, 2025.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Morales wishes Representative Cruz a Happy Birthday!

Representative Tanzi encourages everyone to donate essential goods to support those experiencing homelessness. Collections will continue through Thursday, following the legislative session.

Majority Leader Blazejewski has announced that the House will stand at recess. Members must return to their seats no later than 6:30 p.m. to welcome dignitaries, the Senators, Governor Dan McKee, and other distinguished guests. The State of the State address will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m.

The House will convene on Wednesday, January 15, at 4:00 p.m. There will be no session on Thursday, January 16. A photoshoot for House members will take place in the House Lounge on Tuesday, January 14, from 3:00 p.m. until the start of the session and will resume immediately at the Rise. These updated photos will be used for the official website and other official purpose.

Members are encouraged to participate in one of three Sexual Harassment Prevention Training sessions by Attorney Caroline Thibeault. The first two sessions will be tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. and again at the Rise, both in Room 135. The final session will be in the House Lounge next Thursday, January 23, at 3:00 p.m.

Majority Leader Blazejewski wishes Chairman Corvese and Representative Cruz a Happy Birthday!

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**House Resolution No. 5037**

BY Casimiro, Casey, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Kazarian, Solomon, Kennedy, Ackerman, Ajello

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING JANUARY OF 2025, TO BE
"FIREFIGHTER CANCER AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
{LC205/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Casimiro discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 5038

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Craven, Chippendale, O'Brien, Dawson, Lombardi, Batista, Shanley, McEntee

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE EDWARD CLARK PARKER, A HIGHLY RESPECTED JUDGE ON THE RHODE ISLAND TRAFFIC TRIBUNAL FOR THREE DECADES {LC13/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Craven and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to the family of Edward Parker.

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

House Resolution No. 5039

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Finkelman, Chippendale, Tanzi, Cotter, Kennedy, Solomon, Ackerman, Ajello

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF ANTHONY M. ZAINYEH {LC154/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Finkelman and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to the family of Anthony Zainyeh.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Finkelman, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, Majority Leader Blazejewski, and many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

House Resolution No. 5040

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Slater, Chippendale, Solomon, Ackerman, Azzinaro, Ajello, Boylan, Fellela

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF SAYSOMBOUN PHIVILAY {LC573/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Slater discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his deepest condolences to Alan Rudolph and his family.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Slater, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, Majority Leader Blazejewski, and the entire House of Representatives, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

House Resolution No. 5041

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Ajello, Chippendale, Kislak, Kennedy, Solomon, Ackerman, Azzinaro, Boylan

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF MELVIN L. ZURIER {LC16/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Ajello discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to the family of Melvin Zurier.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Ajello, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi and 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.

RECESS

At 5:31 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi declares the House to be in recess.

ORDER

At 6:40 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi recognizes a quorum and calls the House to order.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT –55 The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Marszalkowski, McGaw, Messier, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Read, Roberts, Santucci, Serpa, Shanley, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart.

APPOINTMENTS

The Honorable Speaker, K. Joseph Shekarchi, has appointed the following members to escort the Honorable President of the Senate and the members of the Senate to the House Chamber for a Joint Session to hear the Governor's State of the State Address. Representative Brien, Representative Caldwell, Representative Cotter, Representative DeSimone, Representative Fellela, Representative Hull, Representative McGaw, Representative Read, Representative Santucci and Representative Spears.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:42 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Finkelman, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Anthony Zainyeh; on motion of Representative Craven, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Hon. Edward Parker; on motion of Representative Ajello, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Melvin Zurier; on motion of Representative McNamara, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Michael C. Kearns; seconded by Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX**INVOCATION****REPRESENTATIVE TERESA A. TANZI**

Almighty God: As we begin this session, let us pray for all our Representatives. They have been granted the great privilege and tremendous responsibility of conducting the people's business. Be with them this day and every day as they serve the needs of their communities. Amen