

# State of Rhode Island

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# JOURNAL

-OF THE-

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**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.

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Volume 152, No. 16

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Sixteenth-Day

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The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Thursday, March 6, 2025, and is called to order at 4:12 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, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

**ABSENT** – 4: Representatives Chippendale, Furtado, Newberry and Spears.

## INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi presents Representative Mary Duffy Messier 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 Tuesday, March 4, 2025, is approved.

**APPOINTMENTS**

March 6, 2025

**Speaker Shekarchi has made the following appointments to the National Conference of State Legislatures' Standing Committees:**

**NCSL Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee:**

Representative Edith Ajello  
Representative Justine Caldwell  
Representative Katherine Kazarian  
Representative Jason Knight  
Representative Carol McEntee  
Representative William O'Brien  
Representative Evan Shanley

**NCSL Natural Resources, Energy and Environment Committee:**

Representative Jennifer Boylan  
Representative Lauren Carson  
Representative Rebecca Kislak  
Representative Tina Spears

**NCSL Technology and Communications Committee:**

Representative Lauren Carson  
Representative Jennifer Stewart

**NCSL Transportation Committee:**

Representative Leonela Felix

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Representative Jenni A. Furtado is unable to attend session today, Thursday, March 6, 2025.

**CALENDAR**

From the Calendar are taken:

**IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025:**

**1. 2025-H 5019**

**BY** Speakman

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- CONSUMER PFAS  
BAN ACT OF 2024

Committee on Environment and Natural Resources recommends passage.

Chairman Bennett moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Cortvriend, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz,

Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Noret, Phillips, Potter, Read, Santucci, Shallcross Smith, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

Chairman Bennett and Chairman Casey discuss 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, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**2. 2025-H 5083 SUB A**

**BY Fellela**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS REQUIRED AT PUBLIC PLACES AND HEALTHCARE FACILITIES -- DAVID CASEY ACT**

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

Chairwoman Donovan moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Phillips, Read, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Voas.

Chairwoman Donovan discusses the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, 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, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier,

Morales, Nardone, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

### **GUESTS**

Representative Fellela is pleased to welcome Elizabeth “Betsy” Casey to the House today. She is here to testify in support of House Bill 2025-H 5083A, The David Casey Act, which would require Automated External Defibrillators at public school locations, healthcare facilities, and public and private golf courses.

This legislation is named in memory of David Casey, a Johnston golfer who tragically suffered a fatal heart attack on the 18th hole of Cranston Country Club in 2023. His passing has inspired his widow, Betsy, to advocate for AED accessibility on all golf courses.

“David’s death was tragic, and has mobilized Betsy to advocate for AEDs on all golf courses,” said Representative Fellela. “She wants to ensure that David’s passing makes a difference, and if this law saves even one life, we will have reached that goal.”

Speaker Shekarchi also joins in welcoming Elizabeth “Betsy” Casey to the House today.

In celebration of International Women's Month 2025, Representative Alzate warmly welcomes and congratulates three exceptional female students for their outstanding academic achievements. These students have been selected as Legislators for the Day, Sahara Silwal from Shea High School, Nalian Dominguez from Tolman High School, and Jaelyn Batiz from Jacqueline M. Walsh High School. Their commitment to academic excellence and community involvement is truly inspiring. They are joined by their faculty advisors, Rosemary Gomes, Christina DiPrete, Laura Ciano, and Tiffany Reaves from the Pawtucket school system. Speaker Shekarchi welcomes them to the House.

Representative Messier is excited to welcome Mayor Frankie Keena and Patrick Griffen, who are visiting from Athlone, Ireland, to officially sign a Twinning Agreement with Athlone, Ireland and Providence, Rhode Island, to strengthen the cultural, educational, and economic ties between the two cities. Mayor Frankie Keena and Patrick Griffen will also be marching in the Providence St. Patrick’s Day Parade this Saturday, and all members are invited to attend this special celebration.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairwoman McEntee announces that the Committee on Small Business will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 135 of the State House.

In honor of International Women's Month, Chairwoman Donovan would like to recognize Alice Paul, a determined and outspoken leader in the women's suffrage movement, who played a vital role in passing the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which granted women the right to vote. Her unwavering advocacy, courage, and leadership helped shape the future of women's rights in America, leaving a lasting impact on future generations.

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

### **NOW PRESIDING**

At 4:35 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi yields the rostrum to the Honorable Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Representative Morales announces that on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 3:00 p.m., there will be a press conference in the Bell Room area for the Rhode Island Black, Latino, Indigenous, Asian American, and Pacific Islander Caucus. The purpose of the press conference is to announce their legislative priorities for 2025. All members are invited to attend.

Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman announces that AARP will host a legislative reception on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. All members are invited to attend.

Representative Tanzi announces that the Rhode Island Coalition for Children and Families is hosting a legislative and budget priority lobby day on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 2:45 p.m. in the State House Library. All members are encouraged to attend.

Chairwoman Fogarty announces a celebration for International Women's Day on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. in the House Lounge. All members are invited to attend.

Representative Fellela wishes her granddaughter Mia a Happy Birthday!

### **GUESTS**

Representative Fellela warmly welcomes her grandson, Elvis to the House. Speaker Pro Tempore welcomes Elvis to the House.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Abney announces that the Committee on Finance will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 35 of the State House.

Chairwoman Donovan announces that the Committee on Health & Human Services will meet today, at the rise of the House, in the House Lounge of the State House.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the next House session will be Tuesday, March 11, 2025, and Thursday, March 13, 2025, both at 4:00 p.m.

Majority Leader Blazejewski wishes Representative Kislak a Happy Birthday!

### IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

#### **House Resolution No. 6028**

**BY** Donovan, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Kennedy, Ajello, Fogarty, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Tanzi

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MARCH OF 2025, AS "BLEEDING DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC1813/1}

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 voice vote.

#### **House Resolution No. 6029**

**BY** Corvese, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Azzinaro, Dawson, Bennett, Casey, Hull, Lombardi, Place

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF JEANETTE RESTIVO {LC2330/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, on behalf of Speaker Shekarchi, Chairman Corvese requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Chairman Corvese and Chairman Craven discuss the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to Chairman Craven and his entire family on the passing of his mother-in-law, Jeanette Restivo.

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

#### **House Resolution No. 6030**

**BY** McEntee, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Place, Tanzi, Diaz, Shallcross Smith, Ajello, Fogarty, Serpa

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 27TH ANNUAL "WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION WEEK" ON MARCH 2-8, 2025, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC1969/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairwoman McEntee discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 6031**

**BY** Shallcross Smith, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Ajello, Fogarty, Handy, Tanzi, Potter, Messier

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING MARCH OF 2025, AS "NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC1822/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Shallcross Smith discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Shallcross Smith, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, and many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising/voice vote.

**RULE 7D**

**The following bills were received pursuant to Rule 7D:**

Representative Baginski-An Act relating to Motor and Other Vehicle-Motor Vehicle Appraisal  
An Act relating to Motor and Other Vehicles-Rental Vehicle Coverage  
An Act relating to Food and Drugs-Hemp-Infused Beverages

Representative Brien-An Act relating to Waters and Navigation-Personal Watercraft Safety Act

Representative Desimone-An Act relating to Alcoholic Beverages-Retail Licenses

Representative Giraldo-An Act relating to Labor and Labor Relations-Temporary Disability Insurance  
An Act relating to Health and Safety-The Rhode Island Family Home-Visiting Act

Representative Noret-An Act relating to Towns and Cities  
An Act relating to Towns and Cities  
An Act relating to Health and Safety

Representative O'Brien-An Act relating to Insurance

An Act relating to Education

Representative Potter-An Act relating to Commercial Law–General Regulatory Provisions–Interest and Usury

Representative Sanchez-An Act relating to Public Utilities and Carriers–Rhode Island Public Transit Authority

Representative Shanley-An Act relating to Public Officers and Employees–Insurance Benefits  
An Act relating to Human Services-Medical Assistance-Long Term Care Service and Finance Reform

Representative Slater-An Act relating to Businesses and Professions-Fantasy Sports Consumer Protection Act

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.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES COMMITTEE ON CORPORATIONS

Chairman Solomon, for the Committee on Corporations, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of passage:

#### **House Bill No. 5332**

**BY** Knight, Chippendale

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- THE RHODE ISLAND SPECIAL DEPOSITS ACT (Establishes the Rhode Island Special Deposits Act to be governed by an account agreement between the bank and the depositor or its beneficiary.) {LC1239/1}

03/07/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/13/2025)

#### **Senate Bill No. 157**

**BY** DiPalma

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF F.H.J. MOVING & STORAGE, INC. {LC469/1}

03/07/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/13/2025)



**COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION, INTERNET, AND TECHNOLOGY**

Chairwoman Baginski, for the Committee on Innovation, Internet, and Technology reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

**House Bill No. 5176 SUB A**

**BY** Speakman, Knight, Boylan, Ajello, Carson, Donovan, Cortvriend, Kislak, Potter, Cotter  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- STUDENT COMPUTER DEVICE  
PRIVACY (Prohibits an educational institution or school district from accessing or using location data for tracking a student's institutional device or personal device, except in limited circumstances.) {LC756/A/1}

03/07/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/11/2025)

**COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING**

Chairman Casey, for the Committee on Municipal Government and Housing, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of passage:

**House Bill No. 5030**

**BY** McEntee, Tanzi, Spears, Fogarty  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL  
TAXES (Grants the town council of the town of South Kingstown the authority to enact a homestead exemption ordinance.) {LC448/1}

03/07/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/11/2025)

**House Bill No. 5269**

**BY** Noret, Casimiro, Finkelman, Corvese, Shallcross Smith, Nardone, Place, Speakman, Costantino, Read

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL  
TAXES (Allows the waiver of interest on overdue taxes for commercial properties.) {LC929/1}

03/07/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/13/2025)

**COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS**

Chairman Shanley, for the Committee on State Government and Elections, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

**House Bill No. 5231**

**BY** Phillips, Bennett, Corvese, Newberry, Chippendale, Brien, Solomon, Read, Serpa, Fellela  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- RHODE ISLAND  
UNIFORM COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE ACT (Provides that commercial driver instruction would include industry-specific training on the recognition, prevention, and reporting of human trafficking.) {LC747/1}

03/07/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/13/2025)

**COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Chairman Azzinaro, for the Committee on Veterans Affairs, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

**House Bill No. 5278 SUB A**

**BY** Azzinaro, Fellela, Kennedy, Shallcross Smith, Abney, Donovan, Felix, Hull, Solomon, Hopkins  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- THE  
MILITARY CHILD ACT (Defines "military-connected student" and would provide advance  
enrollment and open enrollment school registration procedures to give the military connected student  
flexibility in choosing a school district.) {LC1112/A/1}

03/07/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/11/2025)

**NEW BUSINESS****House Bill No. 6032**

**BY** Voas, Casey, DeSimone

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- LIABILITY INSURANCE (Requires at  
fault insurance companies to provide to any claimant whose vehicle is damaged in an accident, to  
provide a vehicle that is comparable to the claimant's vehicle and that rental charges shall be based  
on local retail prices.) {LC2280/1}

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 6033**

**BY** Hull, Fellela, Azzinaro, DeSimone, Shallcross Smith, Sanchez, Bennett, Casey, Messier, Cotter  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION (Requires all public utilities to maintain a customer service facility  
within the state to perform services such as addressing customer inquiries and accepting bill  
payments.) {LC2306/1}

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 6034**

**BY** Messier, Alzate, Fogarty, Kislak, Donovan, Shallcross Smith, Ajello

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- ESTABLISHMENT OF CHARTER  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Provides that no new network charter school application shall be granted.)  
{LC2345/1}

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 6035**

**BY** Donovan, McGaw, Boylan, Carson, Cotter

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- HEALTHY KIDS ACT  
(Establishes the Healthy Kids Act whereby restaurants would be required to offer at least two (2)  
healthy versions of children's meals, or twenty-five percent (25%) of the children's meals on its  
menu, whichever is greater.) {LC2285/1}

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 6036**

**BY** Edwards, Potter, Bennett, Kazarian, Stewart, Kislak, Tanzi, Caldwell, Shanley, Donovan  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE RHODE ISLAND CLINICIAN WELLNESS AND SUPPORT ACT (Mandates establishment of a support program for nurse practitioners similar to that which is offered for physicians. Additionally, it requires professional licensing and reporting reforms to protect clinicians who seek support.) {LC2322/1}  
03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 6037**

**BY** McEntee, Caldwell, Morales, Tanzi, Shallcross Smith, Fogarty, Serpa, Cotter, McGaw  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES (Amends the definition of the "practice of pharmacy" to include the administration of immunizations vaccines for persons three years of age and older.) {LC2274/1}  
03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 6038**

**BY** Ajello, McGaw, Alzate, Speakman, Boylan, Donovan, Cotter, Carson, Tanzi, Felix  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES (Amends current law so that initial contraceptive prescriptions would no longer be limited to a 3-month supply.) {LC2338/1}  
03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 6039**

**BY** Casimiro, Noret, Cotter, Shanley, Fellela, Serpa, Read, Alzate, Casey  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO DELINQUENT AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN -- PROCEEDINGS IN FAMILY COURT (Requires every school district to render assistance and cooperation within its jurisdictional power to further the objects of this chapter, to wit, providing the courts with any information concerning a child as the court may require.) {LC2340/1}  
03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 6040**

**BY** Dawson  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- JUDICIAL SELECTION (Requires individuals seeking a judicial nomination to reapply to JNC every 3 years and make those individuals selected as finalists, eligible only for the court in which they applied and were chosen during the five years following their selection.) {LC2224/1}  
03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 6041**

**BY** Batista, Felix, Lombardi, Potter, Cruz, Stewart, Alzate, Morales, Shanley, Solomon  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- SENTENCE AND EXECUTION (Requires the court to set reasonable bail for all those individuals who appear before it as probation violators and establish a presumption of personal recognizance unless the new alleged offense is a crime of violence as defined in the act.) {LC2335/1}  
03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 6042****BY** Hull, Casey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (Exempts certain U.S. employees from having to obtain state licenses to carry a visible or concealed pistol or revolver.) {LC2305/1}

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 6043****BY** Finkelman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Makes certain technical amendments /clarifications to the statutes relating to the assessment of real property and the timing and process to appeals thereof.) {LC2311/1}

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government &amp; Housing

**House Bill No. 6044****BY** Messier, Hull, Kazarian, Fogarty, Fellela, Serpa**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE ONWARD WE LEARN SCHOLARSHIP ACT (Requires any remaining funds in the enacted budget from the Rhode Island Promise Scholarship program or the Rhode Island Hope Scholarship program to be reimbursed to the onward we learn for any scholarships paid on behalf of Rhode Island College students.) {LC2262/1}

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 6045****BY** Shallcross Smith, Cotter, Ackerman, Kazarian, Hull, Fellela, Read, Morales, Tanzi, Potter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATIONAL EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Mandates public schools (K-12) have one full-time certified social worker for every 250 students and allocates \$2 million in the fiscal year 2025 budget for school districts and municipalities to hire additional social workers.) {LC2278/1}

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 6046****BY** Serpa, Fellela**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (Requires reimbursement for medical, dental, and behavioral health services provided at community health care centers to equal the lesser of the actual cost, based on Medicaid reports, or 125% of the median rate for all community health centers within RI.) {LC2257/1}

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 6047****BY** Alzate, Kazarian, Caldwell, Shanley, Speakman, Ajello, Felix, Tanzi, Casimiro, Giraldo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Mandates all health insurance contracts from January 1, 2026, to cover FDA-approved contraceptives, sterilization, contraception counseling, follow-up services, and a twelve-month supply for Medicaid recipients.) {LC2275/1}

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 6048****BY** Dawson, O'Brien, Slater, Corvese, Lima, Casey, Finkelman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- VIDEO

LOTTERY GAMES, TABLE GAMES AND SPORTS WAGERING (Effective 7/1/2026, the state lottery division of gaming stops renewing any existing sports wagering vendor contract. Prior to the expiration of any existing contracts the division shall issue an open invitation for applicants for sports wagering vendors.) {LC2263/1}

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 6049****BY** Dawson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE

GENERALLY -- FEES (Increases fees paid to jurors to fifty dollars (\$50.00) per day.) {LC2223/1}

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES  
TRANSFER OF BILLS****Chairman Solomon, for the Committee on Corporations, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of transfer to the Committee on Innovation, Internet, & Technology:****House Bill No. 5830****BY** Cotter, Spears, McGaw, Carson, Chippendale, Tanzi, Caldwell, Kislak, McNamara, Hopkins**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY

PROVISIONS -- AGE-APPROPRIATE DESIGN CODE (Requires that any covered entity that develops/provides online services, products, or features that children are reasonably likely to access shall consider the best interest of children when designing/developing such online service, product, or feature.) {LC1708/1}

03/07/2025 Committee transferred to House Innovation, Internet, &amp; Technology

**House Bill No. 5832****BY** Tanzi, Fogarty, McEntee, Spears, Morales, Read, Hopkins, Alzate, Boylan, Furtado**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE

ISLAND HEALTH CARE REFORM ACT OF 2004 -- HEALTH INSURANCE OVERSIGHT

(Amends powers/duties of the office of the health insurance commissioner to increase total cost of care for services reimbursed under contracts after risk adjustment that exceeds the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers percentage increase.) {LC1754/1}

03/07/2025 Committee transferred to House Health &amp; Human Services

**House Bill No. 5554****BY** McEntee, Voas, Cortvriend, Dawson, Shallcross Smith, Caldwell, Spears, Phillips, Lima, Cotter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY

PROVISIONS -- INTERCHANGE FEES (Prohibits the charging of interchange fees on taxes and gratuities.) {LC1580/1}

03/07/2025 Committee transferred to House Small Business

**House Bill No. 5582****BY** Serpa

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- INTERCHANGE FEE RESTRICTION ACT (Creates the interchange fee restriction act restricting interchange fees on sales and use tax or excise tax when payment is made with a credit or debit card.) {LC1605/1}

03/07/2025 Committee transferred to House Small Business

**Chairman Casey, for the Committee on Municipal Government and Housing, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of transfer to the Committee on Corporations:**

**House Resolution No. 5969****BY** Speakman, Cotter, Tanzi, Alzate, Donovan, Boylan, Kislak, Dawson, Furtado, Noret

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS TAKE ACTION TO ADDRESS HIGH UTILITY BILLS FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES IN RHODE ISLAND {LC2301/1}

03/07/2025 Committee transferred to House Corporations

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4:43 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Corvese, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Jeanette Restivo 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 MARY DUFFY MESSIER**

Holy Lord: We give thanks this day for your creation of this earth and all its peoples. Let us together strive to remain truthful to our country's founding values, defending human dignity, liberty, and justice for all. Amen.

**APPENDIX****CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025:****1. 2025-H 5278 SUB A****BY** Azzinaro**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- THE MILITARY CHILD ACT

Committee on Veterans` Affairs recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

**2. 2025-H 5176 SUB A****BY** Speakman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- STUDENT COMPUTER DEVICE PRIVACY

Committee on Innovation, Internet, & Technology recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

**3. 2025-H 5030****BY** McEntee**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

**IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025:****1. 2025-H 5269****BY** Noret**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

**2. 2025-H 5332****BY** Knight**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- THE RHODE ISLAND SPECIAL DEPOSITS ACT

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.



**3. 2025-H 5231****BY** Phillips**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- RHODE ISLAND UNIFORM COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE ACT

Committee on State Government &amp; Elections recommends passage.

**4. 2025-S 157****BY** DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF F.H.J. MOVING & STORAGE, INC.

Committee on Corporations recommends passage in concurrence.

**Francis McCabe**  
Clerk of the House**Friday, March 7, 2025**