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. 18

Thursday, March 13, 2025

Eighteenth-Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Thursday, March 13, 2025, and is called to order at 4:09 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 68 members present and 7 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

ABSENT – 7: Representatives Batista, Brien, Costantino, Donovan, Edwards, Handy and Messier.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi presents Representative Kathleen A. Fogarty, 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 11, 2025, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Susan R. Donovan is unable to attend session today, Thursday, March 13, 2025. Representative Jose F. Batista is unable to attend session today, Thursday, March 13, 2025. Representative Jon D. Brien is unable to attend session today, Thursday, March 13, 2025. Representative Mary Duffy Messier is unable to attend session today, Thursday, March 13, 2025. Representative John G. Edwards is unable to attend session today, Thursday, March 13, 2025.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES TRANSFER OF BILLS

Chairman Craven, for the Committee on Judiciary, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of transfer to the Committee on Municipal Government & Housing:

House Bill No. 5793

BY Corvese, Kislak

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Amends the provisions under which a city or town may exceed the maximum levy for the assessment of local taxes.) {LC2153/1}

03/13/2025 Committee transferred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 5665

BY Stewart, Craven, Lombardi, Donovan, Edwards, Tanzi, Alzate, Kazarian, Morales, Speakman **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS (Updates the Homeless Bill of Rights to add rules governing the interaction with encampments and include the right to access clean and sanitary conditions.) {LC2068/1}

03/13/2025 Committee transferred to House Municipal Government & Housing

CALENDAR

From the Calendar are taken:

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.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Felix and Corvese.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 67 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 67: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

2. 2025-H 5332

BY Knight

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- THE RHODE ISLAND SPECIAL DEPOSITS ACT

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Phillips, Knight, McEntee and Minority Leader Chippendale.

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, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

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 & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Abney, Ajello, Spears, Shallcross Smith, McEntee, Phillips, Corvese, Bennett, Kislak, McNamara, Cortvriend, Casey, Casimiro, Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman and Minority Leader Chippendale.

Chairman Shanley 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, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, DeSimone, Diaz, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

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.

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

Chairman Solomon discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 67 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 67: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

GUESTS

In celebration of Rhode Island Craft Beer Week, Representative Cotter welcomes Matt and Kara Richardson, the visionary founders and owners of Tilted Barn Brewery in Exeter, along with their children Violet, Libby, Milo, and Tate.

In celebration of the Town of North Kingstown's 350th anniversary, a community honors its historical roots while embracing modern advancements. Chairman Craven is honored to welcome distinguished guests from the Town of North Kingstown, Town Council President Gregory Mancini; Town Manager A. Ralph Mollis; Town Council Member Matt McCoy; Pastor Evan Howard who is known for his work in capturing the essence of North Kingstown through compelling visual storytelling, Wickford resident George Leo Silva, 99-Year-old veteran who bravely served during World War II and the many other community partners that participated in today's festivities that are seated in the gallery. Speaker Shekarchi welcomes everyone to the House.

Representative Casimiro, in celebration of the Town of North Kingstown's 350th Anniversary, a significant milestone in their community's rich history, is delighted to extend a warm welcome to North Kingstown School Committee Members Sheri Kennedy and Jennifer Lima, North Kingstown School Superintendent Ken Duva, North Kingstown Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Maria Masse, and State District 31 Committee member Melissa Devine.

ADDRESS

In honor of St. Patrick's Day, Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy addressed the chamber, recognizing the profound influence of Irish tradition and culture in our state and beyond. His remarks highlighted the Irish community's rich heritage and enduring contributions, reminding us of the values of resilience, family, and unity that continue to shape our society. Adding to the celebration, Chairman McNamara shared a heartfelt Irish poem titled "*Those People*," reflecting on the strength and spirit of the Irish people throughout history.

(For the St. Patrick's Poem, see Appendix, of this Journal.)

GUESTS

Representative Giraldo is pleased to introduce Sara Greco and Shaylen Savoie-Amaral, students from Roger Williams University School of Law to the House. Both are currently gaining valuable experience as interns with the City of Central Falls Law Department.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice-Chair Giraldo announces that the Committee on Health & Human Services will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 135 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.

Speaker Shekarchi proudly recognized Laurie White, President of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, for her outstanding leadership and dedication to Rhode Island's business community.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the next House session will be held next Tuesday, March 18, 2025, and Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

House Resolution No. 6080

BY Cotter, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Solomon, Chippendale, Casimiro, McEntee, Stewart, Alzate, Kennedy

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 4TH ANNUAL "RI CRAFT BEER WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND ON MARCH 7TH THROUGH MARCH 16TH OF 2025 {LC2222/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Cotter and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6081

BY Kennedy, McNamara, Dawson, Craven, Edwards, Shanley, Casey, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING ST. PATRICK'S DAY AND HONORS IRELAND'S ROLE IN THE UNITED STATES WAR OF INDEPENDENCE {LC2167/1}

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 discusses 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. 6082

BY Azzinaro, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Fellela, Shallcross Smith, Casimiro, Ackerman, Abney, Donovan

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION JOYOUSLY CELEBRATING THE 106TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION ON MARCH 15, 2025 {LC1829/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Azzinaro discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6083

BY Chippendale, Bennett, Solomon, Quattrocchi, Paplauskas, Brien, Santucci, Casey, Roberts, Nardone

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SPORT FISH RESTORATION PROGRAM AS PART OF THE AMERICAN SYSTEM OF CONSERVATION FUNDING {LC2428/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Minority Leader Chippendale requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Minority Leader Chippendale discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Minority Leader Chippendale, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 6084

BY Craven, Casimiro, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, McGaw, Kennedy, Ajello, Phillips, Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION JOYOUSLY CELEBRATING "NORTH KINGSTOWN DAY" ON MARCH 13, 2025 {LC1987/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Craven discusses the resolution.

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

RULE 7D

The following bills were received pursuant to Rule 7D:

Representative Biah-An Act relating to Education–Pilot Program for Virtual Reality Learning Platform

Representative Casimiro-An Act relating to State Affairs and Government-Child Advocate Office

Representative Fellela-An Act relating to Insurance—Tenant Act

Representative McNamara-An Act relating to Civil Rights of People with Disabilities

Representative Sanchez-An Act relating to State Affairs and Government–Eminent Domain

Representative Solomon-An Act relating to Health and Safety An Act relating to Agriculture and Forestry

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 measure, with recommendation of passage:/

House Bill No. 5017

BY Diaz, Kislak, Bennett, Edwards, Giraldo, Shallcross Smith, Ajello, Fogarty **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- CONSUMER ENFORCEMENT OF ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY DEVICE WARRANTIES (Requires manufacturers of assisting technology devices to make available to independent repair providers/the owner of the device, any documentation/parts, software/other items intended for use with the equipment/parts, including updates to software.) {LC432/1} 03/14/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/18/2025)

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Chairman Bennett, for the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of passage:

House Resolution No. 5344

BY Cortvriend, Spears

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES AND AMENDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT AND SOLUTIONS (Increases the membership of the commission from 17 to 18, and extends the reporting and expiration dates of the special house commission on climate change from May 14, 2025, to May 14, 2026, and expires on June 18, 2026.) {LC1295/1}

03/14/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/18/2025)

House Bill No. 5293

BY Hull, Sanchez, Lombardi, DeSimone, O'Brien, Fogarty, Diaz **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY (Creates a public education program on methods to recycle textiles.) {LC1127/1} 03/14/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/20/2025)

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Chairman Craven, for the Committee on Judiciary, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 5185 SUB A

BY Donovan, Potter, Carson, Fogarty, Spears, McGaw, Speakman, Shallcross Smith, Ajello, Handy **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- PROHIBITION OF UNFAIR SERVICE AGREEMENTS (Prohibits the use of service agreements that are unfair to an owner of residential real estate who enters into such an agreement or to persons who may become owners of that real estate in the future.) {LC749/A/1}

03/14/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/18/2025)

House Bill No. 5442

BY Fogarty, Carson, Cotter, Noret, Hull, Tanzi, Bennett, Dawson, Cortvriend, Shallcross Smith **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- PUBLIC UTILITIES (Expands meaning of bomb threats and false reports to include any warning or threat of the existence of an explosive device and allows judge to impose conditions of bail to include extreme risk protection orders, no trespass orders and counseling.) {LC1560/1} 03/14/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/20/2025)

COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING

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

House Bill No. 5703

BY Fogarty, McEntee, Tanzi, Shallcross Smith, Carson, Donovan, Spears, Cotter, Caldwell, Cortvriend

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE KINGSTON WATER DISTRICT -- BONDS (Increases the maximum amount of the Kingston water district bonding authority from four million dollars (\$4,000,000) to fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000).) {LC1706/1} 03/14/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/18/2025)

House Bill No. 5270

BY McGaw

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Exempts from taxation the real and tangible personal property of the Friends of Little Compton Wellness Center, Inc.) {LC1023/1} 03/14/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/20/2025)

House Bill No. 5369

BY Ajello, Morales, Lombardi, Hull, Slater, DeSimone, Diaz, Kislak **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Exempts from property taxation, the real and tangible personal property of the Providence Preservation Society.) {LC594/1} 03/14/2025 Placed on House Calendar (03/20/2025)

NEW BUSINESS

House Bill No. 6085

BY Speakman, Kennedy

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- NET METERING (Allows preferred sites to be developed without being subject to the cap or rate reduction in the net metering statute.) {LC2243/1} 03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 6086

BY Cruz, Alzate, Stewart

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE KANE-BARRENGOS FOUNDATION {LC2353/1} 03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 6087

BY Shanley, Craven, Caldwell

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HEALTHCARE WORKER PLATFORM ACT (Creates the healthcare worker platform act, requiring platforms offering healthcare shifts to register with the Rhode Island department of health by June 1, 2026, while exempting them from being classified as nursing service agencies.) {LC2365/1} 03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 6088

BY Boylan, Cotter, Fogarty, Hopkins, Stewart, Potter, McGaw, Carson, Speakman, Spears **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PODIATRISTS (Permits a certified foot care nurse or a certified foot care specialist, to provide certain at-home foot care, including routine foot and nail care including nail clipping.) {LC2394/1} 03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 6089

BY O'Brien, Dawson, Slater, Solomon, Casimiro, Kazarian, Alzate, Stewart, Baginski, Biah **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (Increases imprisonment penalties and adds mandatory community service for violations of § 4-1-9.) {LC2380/1}

03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 6090

BY Spears

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Allows the town council of New Shoreham to adopt a tax classification plan in accordance with the provisions of this section, to be applicable to taxes on or after the assessment date of December 31, 2025.) {LC2446/1}

03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 6091

BY Giraldo, Alzate, Voas

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES-CENTRAL FALLS (Allows Central Falls to exempt the property located at 913-915 Dexter Street, AP 7, Lot 156 from the law that prohibits any proposed retailers' license of any class located within two hundred feet (200') of the premises of a school or place of worship.) {LC2433/1} 03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 6092

(Secretary of State)

BY Voas, Potter, Kazarian, Alzate, Stewart

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- NOMINATION OF PARTY AND INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES (Makes several amendments to provide for an online nomination paper portal for election nomination papers.) {LC2308/1}

03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 6093

BY Cortvriend, Carson, Speakman, Spears, Boylan, McGaw, Dawson, Edwards, Tanzi **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (Provides a procedure for parking modifications near shoreline rights of way.) {LC2183/1}

03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 6094

BY Corvese, Kislak, Chippendale

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- PARKING FACILITIES AND PRIVILEGES (Includes the governor's commission on disabilities in the decision making process for the disability parking enforcement enhancement program and requires an annual report be submitted to the governor's commission.) {LC308/1}

03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 6095

BY Bennett, Edwards, Hull, Chippendale, Corvese, Azzinaro, Diaz, Casimiro, Kazarian, Fellela **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LICENSING OF HEALTHCARE FACILITIES (Imposes a hospital licensing fee for fiscal year 2026 against net patient-services revenue of every non-government owned hospital for the hospital's first fiscal year ending on or after January 1, 2024.) {LC2404/1} 03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 6096

BY Sanchez, Cruz, Lombardi, Hull, Ajello

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY (Prohibits RIPTA from using state funds or the proceeds of any bond(s) to pay for any work performed after 9/1/25, pursuant to the "transit center joint development project" RFP and/or pursuant to related the preliminary services agreement.) {LC2310/1}

03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 6097

BY Finkelman, Baginski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RHODE ISLAND COMMERCE CORPORATION -- QUALIFIED DATA CENTERS LOCATION INCENTIVE (Creates qualified data centers and tax exemptions.) {LC2350/1} 03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 6098

BY Shallcross Smith, Fogarty, Ajello, Handy, Fellela, Spears, Casimiro, Dawson, McNamara, Serpa **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM (Creates the Rhode Island Student Loan repayment program which would allow eligible individuals who have unpaid student loans, provided said individuals meet specified criteria.) {LC2390/1}

03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 6099

BY Spears

ENTITLED, AN ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS SECTION 16-7-44 APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF \$10,400,000 BONDS BY THE TOWN OF NEW SHOREHAM TO FINANCE ADDITIONS, RENOVATIONS, IMPROVEMENTS, ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS TO SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES IN THE TOWN INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, BONDS AND NOTES ISSUED PURSUANT TO FINANCING AGREEMENTS WITH THE RHODE ISLAND HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION (Serves as the enabling act required by Rhode Island General Laws§ 16-7-44 in order for the principal and interest on bonds issued in support of school housing projects to be eligible for state housing aid reimbursement.) {LC2445/1} 03/14/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SENATE

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

Senate Bill No. 351

BY DiPalma

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Allows the town of Middletown to adopt a tax classification plan for residential real estate which divides the class into non-owner and owner-occupied properties with separate tax rates.) {LC603/1}

03/12/2025 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 201

BY Felag, DiPalma

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF TIVERTON (Validates and ratifies the amendments to the Tiverton Home Rule Charter which were approved by the electors of the town of Tiverton on November 5, 2024.) {LC1045/1}

03/12/2025 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 57

BY Rogers, Ciccone, LaMountain, DiPalma, Tikoian, Burke, Pearson, McKenney, de la Cruz, Paolino

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- SIDEWALKS (Requires that all maintenance of sidewalks along state highways, with the exception of snow and ice removal, be the responsibility of the state.) {LC393/1} 03/12/2025 Referred to House Finance

Senate Bill No. 199

BY Lauria

ENTITLED, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF BARRINGTON (Validates and ratifies the amendments to the Barrington Home Rule Charter which were approved by the electors of the town of Barrington on November 5, 2024.) {LC1103/1}

03/12/2025 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 242

BY McKenney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- WARWICK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUDGET COMMISSION (Creates the Warwick public schools budget commission consisting of 5 members to oversee the operations of Warwick public schools and to present a preliminary analysis of the school district's financial situation.) {LC955/1} 03/14/2025 Referred to House Education

Senate Bill No. 443

BY Sosnowski, Bissaillon

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE KINGSTON WATER DISTRICT -- BONDS (Increases the maximum amount of the Kingston water district bonding authority from four million dollars (\$4,000,000) to fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000).) {LC2021/1} 03/14/2025 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 422

BY DiMario

ENTITLED, AN ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS SECTION 16-7-44 APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF \$10,400,000 BONDS BY THE TOWN OF NEW SHOREHAM TO FINANCE ADDITIONS, RENOVATIONS, IMPROVEMENTS, ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS TO SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES IN THE TOWN INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, BONDS AND NOTES ISSUED PURSUANT TO FINANCING AGREEMENTS WITH THE RHODE ISLAND HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION (Serves as the enabling act required by Rhode Island General Laws§ 16-7-44 in order for the principal and interest on bonds issued in support of school housing projects to be eligible for state housing aid reimbursement.) {LC978/1} 03/14/2025 Referred to House Finance

Senate Bill No. 68 SUB A

BY Ciccone, Tikoian, Burke, Kallman, de la Cruz, Dimitri **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- STATE
LOTTERY (Reduces the number of times the director of the lottery has to confer with the permanent joint committee on state lottery from nine (9) times per year to four (4) times per year or at the call of

the chair and vice chair of the committee.) {LC471/A/1} 03/14/2025 Referred to House State Government & Elections

Senate Bill No. 72

BY Felag, Raptakis, Ciccone, Tikoian, Britto **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - REGISTRATION FEES (Disabled veteran license plate may be transferred to veterans' spouse or issued to veteran or veterans spouse.) {LC236/1} 03/14/2025 Referred to House Veterans Affairs

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:45 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Hull, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Ret. Providence Fire Lt. John McKenna, seconded by Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE KATHLEEN A. FOGARTY

IRISH INVOCATION

May God be with you and bless you,
May you see your children's children.
May you be poor in misfortune, rich in blessings.
May you know nothing but happiness.
From this day forward. Amen

APPENDIX

REPRESENTATIVE MCNAMARA, ST. PATRICK'S DAY POEM

Those People

Most of our personal histories have a common theme;

Our parents or grandparents have letters describing the American dream.

It starts with a text or letter from foreign shores

Stating this is a land of hopes and dreams where hard work can open doors.

I looked at the census the other day —

Immigrants with strong backs were building the country we love today.

We hear them called "Those People" by both you and me

But we are all part of that "huddled mass yearning to breathe free."

Let's take a closer look at the wretched refuse from a foreign shore;

I know the census will tell us more.

They settle in our cities where housing is sometimes lean,

They are all determined to work for that American dream;

Their children are told education is the key

To unlock the road to success in this land of liberty.

The 1920 Providence census lists 258 Charles Street —

Who is living in this home? Who will we meet?

Seventeen newcomers in a one-family home; a family of five with an expectant wife

And twelve Irish boarders to add to their strife.

The Irish newcomers are renting a bed

And in a local diner they are fed.

This census doesn't show that a baby girl was delivered the next day,

Delivered by a Russian neighbor who refused any pay.

The year 1920 was like no other —

That baby born, was my mother.

We are all part of that huddled mass, yearning to breathe free.

We should remember that "Those People" are really you and me.

Happy St Patrick's Day

APPENDIX

TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR

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}

03/13/2025 Transmitted to Governor

APPENDIX

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025:

1. 2025-H 5185 SUB A

BY Donovan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- PROHIBITION OF UNFAIR SERVICE AGREEMENTS

Committee on Judiciary recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

2. 2025-H 5017

BY Diaz

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- CONSUMER ENFORCEMENT OF ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY DEVICE WARRANTIES

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

3. 2025-H 5703

BY Fogarty

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE KINGSTON WATER DISTRICT -- BONDS

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

4. 2025-H 5344

BY Cortvriend

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES AND AMENDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT AND SOLUTIONS

Committee on Environment and Natural Resources recommends passage.

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025:

1. 2025-H 5442

BY Fogarty

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- PUBLIC UTILITIES

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

2. 2025-H 5293

BY Hull

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY

Committee on Environment and Natural Resources recommends passage.

3. 2025-H 5270

BY McGaw

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

4. 2025-H 5369

BY Ajello

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Francis McCabeClerk of the House

Friday, March 14, 2025