

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. 25

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

Twenty fifth-Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, and is called to order at 4:14 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 70 members present and 5 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 70: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

ABSENT – 5: Representatives Biah, Casimiro, Fogarty, Quattrocchi and Spears.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Representative Cherie Cruz, 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, April 3, 2025, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Tina Spears is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, April 8, 2025.
Representative Julie A. Casimiro is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, April 8, 2025.
Representative Kathleen A. Fogarty is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, April 8, 2025.
Representative Nathan W. Biah is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, April 8, 2025.

CALENDAR

From the Calendar are taken:

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025:**1. 2025-H 5796**

BY Knight

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Speakman, Knight, Carson and Tanzi.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

By unanimous consent, Chairman Casey, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Representative Knight, offers a written motion to amend.

FLOOR AMENDMENT**TO**

2025 -- H 5796

AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

Mr. Speaker:

I hereby move to amend 2025 -- H 5796, entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES", as follows:

1. On page 3, line 32, after the word "areas" by inserting the language "which have available public water and sewer capacity in municipalities in which at least part of the area is".

2. On page 3, line 34, by deleting the language, ", and which have available public water and sewer capacity".

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Casey

=====
LC002156/2
=====

Chairman Casey discusses the amendment.

The motion to amend prevails on a roll call vote 69 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 69: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Fellela, Finkelman, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

Representative Edwards and Chairman Casey discuss the act, as amended.

Read and passed, as amended, on a roll call vote, 57 members voting in the affirmative and 11 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 57: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 11: Representatives Chippendale, Costantino, Edwards, Fascia, McGaw, Nardone, Newberry, Paplauskas, Place, Roberts, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

2. 2025-H 5798 SUB A

BY Speakman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

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 Morales, Spears, Tanzi, Speakman and McEntee.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

By unanimous consent, Chairman Casey, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, offers a written motion to amend.

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

**FLOOR AMENDMENT
TO
2025 -- H 5798 SUBSTITUTE A**

AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

Mr. Speaker:

I hereby move to amend 2025 -- H 5798 SUBSTITUTE A, entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES", as follows:

1. On page 3, line 34, by deleting the word "designated".
2. On page 3, line 34, after the language "town", by inserting the language "as set forth in § 45-24-37(j)".

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Casey

=====
LC002158/2
=====

Chairman Casey and Minority Whip Place discuss the amendment.

The motion to amend prevails on a roll call vote, 59 members voting in the affirmative and 9 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 59: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 9: Representatives Chippendale, Costantino, Fascia, Nardone, Newberry, Paplauskas, Place, Roberts, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

Representative Edwards, Chairman Casey, Minority Whip Place, Representatives Fascia, and Morales discuss the act, as amended.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, as amended, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 59 members voting in the affirmative and 11 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 59: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 11: Representatives Chippendale, Costantino, Edwards, Fascia, Nardone, Newberry, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Roberts, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

FINALE 2025



State of Rhode Island

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST PURSUANT TO RIGL § 36-14-6

I, Alex Finkelstein, State Representative, District 24, hereby under oath depose and say:

1. (Matter requiring action: i.e. Bill number) I expect to be called upon, in my capacity as State Representative to participate in the consideration of, and/or to vote upon: 5892 Sub A

2. (Nature of the potential conflict) I have the following interest in the matter: _____

Wife in Judiciary

3. (Please select one of the following):

☐ A. In compliance with Section 36-14-6(1) of the General Laws I hereby state that, despite the potential conflict stated above, I am able to vote and otherwise participate fairly, objectively and in the public interest regarding the matter described in paragraph 1 above for the following reason(s). _____

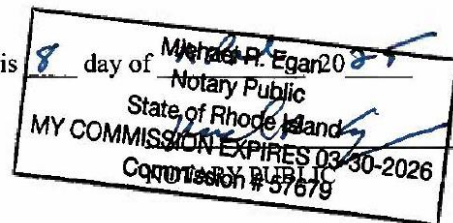
☒ B. In compliance with Section 36-14-6(1) & (2)A of the General Laws, I hereby request the Speaker of the House of Representatives to excuse me from voting on or participating in the consideration of the matter described in paragraph 1 above. _____

[Signature]
REPRESENTATIVE

State of Rhode Island

County of: Providence

Subscribed and sworn to under the penalties for perjury before me this 8 day of March 2025



Representative Finkelstein is excused from voting on or participating in the consideration of the matter described in paragraph 1 above.

[Signature]
SPEAKER

3. 2025-H 5892 SUB A**BY** McEntee**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -
- COURT ADMINISTRATION

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

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

Chairman Craven and Minority Whip Place, Representatives Knight, Sanchez and Fascia discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 61 members voting in the affirmative and 6 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 61: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Potter, Read, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 6: Representatives Fascia, Hopkins, Nardone, Place, Roberts, Sanchez.

RECUSED - 1: Representative Finkelman.

4. 2025-H 5613 SUB A**BY** Donovan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- SEXUALLY
TRANSMITTED DISEASES

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 Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Cotter, Carson, Speakman, Boylan, Ajello, Morales, McEntee, McGaw, Cortvriend, Edwards and Kislak..

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, 68 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz,

Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

5. 2025-H 5871

BY Cortvriend

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- VITAL RECORDS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

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

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 69 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 69: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

6. 2025-H 5353 SUB A

BY Casimiro

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS --
PHARMACIES

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 Majority Leader Blazejewski.

Chairwoman Donovan, Minority Leader Chippendale and Representative McGaw discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 64 members voting in the affirmative and 5 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 64: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 5: Representatives Chippendale, Fascia, Newberry, Paplauskas, Roberts.

RECUSED - 0:

7. 2025-H 5569 SUB A

BY Solomon

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PET INSURANCE ACT

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

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives O'Brien, Phillips, McNamara, Casey and Bennett.

Chairman Solomon and Representative Sanchez discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 64 members voting in the affirmative and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 64: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Casey, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 1: Representative Place.

RECUSED - 0:

8. 2025-H 5846**BY** Cortvriend**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE

Committee on Environment and Natural Resources recommends passage.

Chairman Bennett moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives McGaw, Boylan, Speakman, Carson, Morales, Cortvriend, Kislak, Edwards and McEntee.

Chairman Bennett discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 68 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, 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

In recognition of National Community Development Month, Representative Speakman proudly celebrates the transformative impact of Rhode Island's Community Development Corporations and nonprofit housing developers, who, through the Housing Network of Rhode Island, are dedicated to creating affordable homes and building stronger, more equitable communities across the state. These mission-driven organizations do more than construct housing; they deliver critical resources and foster lasting change, expanding economic opportunities and addressing the urgent need for affordable housing.

Representative Speakman commends the leadership of Christian Belden Executive Director of Church Community Housing, Candace Harper Executive Director of West Elmwood Housing, Charlie Thomas-Davison Director of the Women's Development Corporation, Joe Garlick Executive Director of NeighborWorks Blackstone River Valley, Colin Penney Executive Director of South County Habitat for Humanity, and Melina Lodge, Executive Director of the Housing Network of Rhode Island, for their unwavering commitment to strengthening communities and improving lives

throughout Rhode Island. Speaker Shekarchi commends them for their efforts in affordable housing and welcomes them to the House.

In recognition of Rhode Island Crime Victims Awareness Month, Representative Tanzi is honored to welcome and acknowledge the recipients of the 2025 Crime Victim Service Award Michelle Brophy-Baermann of Miya's Voice, Detective Sergeant Kyle Draper of the Rhode Island State Police, and Liz Gledhill, Statewide Coordinator for the Crisis Intervention Teams of Rhode Island. Representative Tanzi also welcomes Margaret Holland McDuff, Chief Executive Officer of Family Services of Rhode Island, and expresses deep appreciation for her leadership and commitment to supporting victims across the state. Speaker Shekarchi extends his heartfelt gratitude to all the honorees for their dedication and hard work, and he offers a warm welcome to the House.

In recognition of Bilingual and Multilingual Learner Month, Representative Morales warmly welcomes Larissa Guido Swenson and Oriabel Mora to the House.

Representative Paplauskas, in recognition of National Library Week, is proud to celebrate the vital role that libraries, librarians, and library workers play in transforming lives and strengthening our communities. This annual celebration highlights the invaluable contributions of our local libraries as centers of learning, connection, and opportunity. He is pleased to welcome the Rhode Island Library Association, along with Ed Garcia, Director of the Cranston Public Library, and Aaron Coutu, Director of the Warwick Public Library, in honor of their leadership and dedication to fostering accessible, inclusive spaces for education and community engagement. Their commitment exemplifies the enduring impact of libraries in enriching the lives of Rhode Islanders every day. Speaker Shekarchi welcomes them to the House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Solomon announces that the Committee on Corporations will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 101 of the State House.

Chairwoman Diaz asks all members to pray for the families of the victims who lost their lives and the more than 150 individuals who were injured when a roof collapsed at a nightclub in Santo Domingo, the capital of the Dominican Republic.

Representative Phillips invites all members to attend the Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce Annual Legislative Reception that will be held at the Rise until 6:30 p.m. in the Bell Area of the State House.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the next House session will be held on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. There are four committees being held tomorrow, all at 4:00 p.m.

Majority Leader Blazejewski wishes Chairman David A. Bennett a Happy Birthday!

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**House Resolution No. 6192**

BY Speakman, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Kennedy, Cortvriend, Boylan, Handy, McGaw, Tanzi

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2025, TO BE "COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2354/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Speakman discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6193

BY Tanzi, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Hull, Lombardi, Handy, McNamara, McEntee, Kennedy

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2025, TO BE "CRIME VICTIMS AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC1795/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Tanzi discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6194

BY Morales, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Batista, Kennedy, Cortvriend, Boylan, Handy, McGaw

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2025 TO BE "BILINGUAL AND MULTILINGUAL LEARNER MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2387/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Morales discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6195

BY Ackerman, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, McNamara, Corvese, Chippendale, Place, Brien, Edwards, Marszalkowski

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2025, TO BE "FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2393/1}

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. 6196

BY Paplauskas, Quattrocchi, Chippendale, Blazejewski, Morales, Read, Newberry, Solomon, Kazarian, Noret

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL 6-12, 2025, TO BE "NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2435/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Paplauskas discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6197

BY Boylan, Knight, Kazarian, Kislak, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Ackerman, Chippendale, Finkelman, Kennedy

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL TO BE "HOLOCAUST & GENOCIDE AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2402/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Boylan discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6198

BY Casey, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Casimiro, Edwards, Voas, Giraldo, Noret, Read
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2025, TO BE "ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2383/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Casey discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6199

BY Roberts, Nardone, Chippendale, Santucci, Hopkins, Paplauskas, Fascia, Place, Newberry, Brien
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING APRIL OF 2025, AS "CHILD SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC478/1}

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

There is no objection.

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. 6200

BY Roberts, Santucci, Chippendale, Hopkins, Nardone, Paplauskas, Fascia, Place, Newberry, Brien
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2025 TO BE "NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2385/1}

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

There is no objection.

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.

RULE 7D

The following bills were received pursuant to Rule 7D:

Representative Casey-An Act relating to Taxation- Rhode Island Tax Amnesty Act

Representative Cortvriend-An Act relating to Education- The Education Equity and Property Tax Relief Act

Representative Cruz-An Act relating to Businesses and Professions- Dentists and Dental Hygienists

Representative Kazarian-An Act relating to Elections

Representative Serpa-An Act relating to General Assembly-Committees and Staff
An Act relating to Public Officers and Employees-Retirement System-Contributions and Benefits

Representative Stewart-An Act relating to Education--Student Cultural Exchange Program
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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SENATE

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

Senate Resolution No. 177

BY Acosta, Gallo, Lawson, Valverde, Euer, Zurier, Appollonio, Murray, Bissaillon, Quezada
ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE, PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION -- RIGHT TO AN ADEQUATE EDUCATION (Amends the constitution to guarantee Rhode Island residents with equal opportunity to receive an education that is adequate, equitable and meaningful and provides judicial enforcement of this provision.) {LC708/1}
04/09/2025 Referred to House State Government & Elections

Senate Bill No. 394

BY Gallo, Lawson, LaMountain, Pearson, Zurier, Valverde, Kallman, Lauria, Vargas, Urso
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RHODE ISLAND PREKINDERGARTEN
EDUCATION ACT (Establishes guidelines for the expansion of high-quality public prekindergarten
education programs for children ages three (3) and four (4) to increase children's school readiness.)
{LC719/1}

04/09/2025 Referred to House Finance

NEW BUSINESS**House Bill No. 6201**

BY Chippendale, Brien, Casey, Solomon, Paplauskas, Quattrocchi, Santucci, Newberry, Place, Fascia
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- RENEWABLE
ENERGY STANDARD (Adds nuclear energy sources to the list of renewable energy resources.)
{LC2548/1}

04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 6202

BY Chippendale, Brien, Casey, Paplauskas, Quattrocchi, Santucci, Newberry, Place, Fascia, Nardone
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- NET
METERING -- LONG-TERM CONTRACTS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY -- MORATORIUM
(Places a moratorium on net metering contracts, subsidies for heat pumps and long-term contracts for
the purchasing of solar or wind energy.) {LC2549/1}

04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 6203

BY Chippendale, Brien, Paplauskas, Quattrocchi, Santucci, Newberry, Place, Fascia, Nardone,
Hopkins

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- THE
RENEWABLE ENERGY GROWTH PROGRAM (Repeals the Renewable Energy Growth
Program.) {LC2551/1}

04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 6204

BY Paplauskas, Quattrocchi, Santucci, Nardone, Hopkins, Fascia, Place

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF
UTILITIES AND CARRIER (Repeals the energy efficiency charge.) {LC2547/1}

04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 6205

BY Bennett, Voas, McEntee, Potter, Cruz, Morales, Cortvriend, Edwards, Speakman, Carson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- EXTENDED PRODUCER
RESPONSIBILITY FOR PACKAGING AND PAPER ACT (Creates the extended producer
responsibility for packaging and paper program for the recycling of packaging and paper products.)
{LC2552/1}

04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 6206

BY Spears, McEntee, Bennett, Carson, Boylan, McGaw, Cortvriend, Donovan, Handy, Kazarian
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- BEVERAGE CONTAINERS RECYCLING ACT (Establishes the Beverage Container Recycling Act) {LC2621/1}
04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 6207

BY McEntee, Knight, Bennett, Boylan, Carson, McGaw, Cortvriend, Donovan, Handy, Kazarian
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY (Provides extended producer responsibility for packaging and paper, recycling of beverage containers, and provides general provisions for oversight of single-stage producer organizations.) {LC2622/1}
04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 6208

BY Cortvriend
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT (Strikes the words "which is naturally occurring" with regard to any promulgated rules and regulations of the department of environmental management (DEM) relating to the remediation of arsenic.) {LC1197/1}
04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 6209

BY Furtado, Kazarian, Stewart, Voas, Handy, Dawson, Boylan, Speakman, Bennett, Messier
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS (Includes any costs paid by an enrollee or on behalf of the enrollee by a third party when calculating an enrollee's overall contribution to any out-of-pocket maximum or cost sharing requirement under a health plan as of January 1, 2026.) {LC2656/1}
04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 6210

BY Tanzi, Felix, Sanchez, Alzate, Stewart, Kislak
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- EVIDENCE (Provides that statements by a health care provider regarding the unanticipated outcome of a patient's medical care and treatment shall be inadmissible as evidence of an admission of liability or as evidence of an admission.) {LC2652/1}
04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 6211

(Attorney General)

BY Noret, Read, Serpa, Hull, Casimiro, Dawson, Craven
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES (Requires persons convicted of driving under influence or refusal to submit to chemical test, have an ignition interlock system installed in vehicle as part of sentence and to pay an assessment to pay for the interlock systems.) {LC1895/1}
04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 6212**BY** Baginski, Brien**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- GIFT CARD FRAUD (Makes offenses against gift card holders subject to the penalties for larceny.) {LC2662/1}

04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 6213

(Tiverton)

BY Edwards, McGaw**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RHODE ISLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND LAND USE ACT--COMPREHENSIVE PERMITS PROHIBITED IN WATERSHED OVERLAY PROTECTION (Prohibits applications for a comprehensive permit under the Rhode Island comprehensive planning and land use regulation act in any watershed overlay protection district located in the town of Tiverton.) {LC2697/1}

04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 6214

(Tiverton)

BY Edwards**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RHODE ISLAND HOUSING RESOURCES ACT OF 1998 (Allows the town of Tiverton to allow a half (1/2) credit for affordable housing for manufactured homes in age restricted communities in conformance with all zoning laws and/or ordinance of the town.) {LC2699/1}

04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 6215

(Tiverton)

BY Edwards, McGaw**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING (Requires the town of Tiverton to require a minimum number of affordable housing units if there is less than ten percent (10%) of affordable housing in the town.) {LC2690/1}

04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 6216

(Jamestown Town Council)

BY Finkelman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES-MAXIMUM LEVY (Grants an exemption from the four percent (4%) property tax levy cap to the town of Jamestown.) {LC2738/1}

04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 6217

(by request)

BY Carson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OFFICE OF HEALTHY AGING (Would establish within the office of healthy aging a community grant program for older adult services.) {LC2591/1}

04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Resolution No. 6218

BY Finkelman, Cortvriend

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$991,000 FOR THE TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN (Authorizes the appropriation of the sum of \$991,000 for the town of Middletown to upgrade the gymnasium at the new Middletown middle high school to serve as a regional emergency shelter.) {LC2600/1}

04/09/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:21 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Diaz, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the victims who were killed and more than 150 that were injured after a roof collapsed at a nightclub in the Dominican Republic's capital, Santo Domingo seconded by Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX**INVOCATION****REPRESENTATIVE CHERIE CRUZ**

Gracious God: You have given us the responsibility to protect our communities. May we not take lightly the responsibility we have in representing our constituents, and help us enhance the lives of those we serve. Amen

APPENDIX**CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025:****1. 2025-H 5121 SUB A****BY** Casimiro**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- CURRENCY TRANSMISSIONS

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

2. 2025-H 5218**BY** McEntee**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

3. 2025-H 5619**BY** Ackerman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RHODE ISLAND PROGRAM TO ADDRESS ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

4. 2025-H 5558**BY** Shallcross Smith**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- CONTRACTORS' REGISTRATION AND LICENSING BOARD

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

5. 2025-H 5811**BY** Voas**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- AN ACT ADOPTING THE FEDERAL SECURE AND FAIR ENFORCEMENT FOR MORTGAGE LICENSING ACT OF 2009

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

6. 2025-H 5695**BY** Voas**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

7. 2025-H 5633**BY** McGaw**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

8. 2025-H 5625**BY** Dawson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

9. 2025-H 5051 SUB A**BY** Azzinaro**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO RENAMING THE NEW SAKONNET RIVER BRIDGE, AQUIDNECK ISLAND

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

10. 2025-S 591 SUB A**BY** Felag**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO RENAMING THE NEW SAKONNET RIVER BRIDGE, AQUIDNECK ISLAND

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

11. 2025-S 44**BY** Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage in concurrence.

12. 2025-S 443

BY Sosnowski

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

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage in concurrence.

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Friday, April 4, 2025