

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. 30

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Thirtieth-Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Thursday, May 1, 2025, and is called to order at 4:15 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 66 members present and 9 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 66: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Finkelman, Furtado, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, 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 – 9: Representatives Felix, Fellela, Fogarty, Giraldo, Kennedy, Lima, Newberry, Noret and Santucci.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi presents Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman, 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, April 29, 2025, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Kathleen A. Fogarty is unable to attend session today, Thursday, May 1, 2025.
Representative Thomas E. Noret is unable to attend session today, Thursday, May 1, 2025.
Representative Joshua J. Giraldo is unable to attend session today, Thursday, May 1, 2025.
Representative Leonela Felix is unable to attend session today, Thursday, May 1, 2025.
Representative Deborah A. Fellela is unable to attend session today, Thursday, May 1, 2025.

GUESTS

Deputy Whip Ackerman is honored to warmly welcome Benjamin Sharoni, the Consul General of Israel to New England, to the Rhode Island State House to commemorate the 77th anniversary of Israel's Independence Day. A celebration of the enduring friendship and shared democratic values between Israel and the United States, and grateful for his presence and the opportunity to recognize this important milestone.

ADDRESS

Benjamin Sharoni, Consul General of Israel to New England, addresses the members of the General Assembly in commemoration of the 77th anniversary of Israel's Independence Day, reflecting on the enduring partnership between Israel and the United States and celebrating the values of freedom, democracy, and resilience shared by both countries.

CALENDAR

From the Calendar are taken:

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025:

1. **2025-H 5602**
BY O'Brien
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS

Committee on Education recommends passage.

Majority Leader Blazejewski moves to recommit. There is no objection.

Read and recommitted to the Committee on Education.

2. **2025-H 5593**
BY Biah
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COOPERATIVE SERVICE AMONG SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Committee on Education recommends passage.

Chairman McNamara moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Cruz, and Biah.

Chairman McNamara and Representative Sanchez discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 66 members voting in the affirmative and 2 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 66: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 2: Representatives Lombardi, Sanchez.

RECUSED - 0:

3. 2025-H 5605

BY Messier

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION REINSTATING AND EXTENDING THE LIFE AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ANTI-LITTERING EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Committee on Education recommends passage.

Chairman McNamara moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Representative Bennett.

Chairman McNamara discusses the resolution.

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, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

4. 2025-H 5844 SUB A

BY Cortvriend

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- WATER POLLUTION

Committee on Environment and Natural Resources recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

Chairman Bennett moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ajello, Azzinaro, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Carson, Cortvriend, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Diaz, Donovan, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Morales, Phillips, Potter, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Voas.

Chairman Bennett 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, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

5. 2025-H 6125

BY Kislak

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, Diaz, Donovan, Furtado, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Morales, Potter, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Voas.

Chairman Shanley, Representatives Quattrocchi, Kislak, Ajello and McGaw discuss the resolution.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 61 members voting in the affirmative and 2 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 61: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 2: Representatives Perez, Quattrocchi.

RECUSED - 0:

6. 2025-H 5793 SUB A

BY Corvese

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES

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 Kislak, Corvese, Speakman and Stewart.

Chairman Casey, Minority Leader Chippendale, Representatives Speakman, Corvese, Minority Whip Place 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, 57 members voting in the affirmative and 10 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 57: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, O'Brien, Phillips, Potter, Read, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 10: Representatives Chippendale, Costantino, Fascia, Hopkins, Nardone, Paplauskas, Place, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Sanchez.

RECUSED - 0:

7. 2025-H 5794 SUB A**BY** Craven**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOCAL PLANNING BOARD OR COMMISSION

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 and Representative Speakman.

Chairman Craven discusses the act.

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

**FLOOR AMENDMENT
TO**

2025 -- H 5794 SUBSTITUTE A

AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOCAL PLANNING BOARD OR
COMMISSION

Mr. Speaker:

I hereby move to amend 2025 -- H 5794 SUBSTITUTE A, entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOCAL PLANNING BOARD OR COMMISSION", as follows:

1. On page 31, lines 10 and 11 by deleting the language "provisions that provide for or require some portion of the development to include affordable housing".

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Craven

=====
LC002154/2
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Chairman Craven and Representative Morales discuss the amendment.

The motion to amend prevails on a roll call vote 60 members voting in the affirmative and 5 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 60: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Finkelman, Furtado, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Nardone, O'Brien, Paplauskas,

Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 5: Representatives Ajello, Cruz, Morales, Sanchez, Stewart.

RECUSED - 0:

Minority Leader Chippendale, Representatives Edwards, Fascia, Sanchez, Morales, McNamara, Minority Whip Place and Representative Cotter 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, 56 members voting in the affirmative and 8 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 56: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McNamara, Messier, Morales, O'Brien, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 8: Representatives Chippendale, Costantino, Edwards, Fascia, Nardone, Paplauskas, Place, Quattrocchi.

RECUSED - 0:

8. 2025-H 5795

BY Spears

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

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Chairman Craven moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Spears and Speakman.

Chairman Craven discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 64 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 64: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

9. 2025-H 6269

BY Azzinaro

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A PLAN AND THE DESIGN OF A VIETNAM MEMORIAL TO BE LOCATED IN THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Committee on Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

Chairman Azzinaro moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Finkelman, Furtado, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McNamara, Messier, Morales, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

Chairman Azzinaro discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 63 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 63: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Edwards, Fascia, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

PROXY VOTES

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces, pursuant to Rule 33(e), authorizing Proxy Votes, he has received a request from Chairwoman Fogarty and Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy to be recorded in the affirmative for items #1 through #9.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

GUESTS

Representative Kislak is proud to welcome an accomplished group of advocates, Dr. Beth Cronin, Wendy Becker, Jocelyn Foye, and Ruth Horton from LGBTQIA+ Action Rhode Island; Jaye Watts

and Ryan Fontaine from Thundermist Health Center; Gem Harley and Julio Berroa from Haus of Codec; and Dr. Jodi Glass from Aldersbridge Communities to the House Chamber to support a House Resolution Expressing Support for the LGBTQIA+ Community, which is on today's calendar. She thanks them for their continued advocacy, leadership, and commitment to advancing equality and inclusion across Rhode Island.

NOW PRESIDING

At 5:45 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi yields the rostrum to the Honorable Deputy Speaker Hull.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairwoman Donovan announces that the Committee on Health & Human Services will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 101 of the State House.

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

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

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the next session will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, and Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

Rhode Island Independence Day will be celebrated this Sunday, May 4th. In honor of this momentous occasion, Secretary of State Gregg Amore has announced that the Rhode Island State House will be open to the public for tours on Saturday, May 3rd, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All are welcome to visit and participate in this celebration of Rhode Island's unique history and independence.

The Environment Council of Rhode Island will host its Earth Day event this Tuesday, May 6th, at 3:00 p.m. in the House Lounge. Originally scheduled for April 22nd, the event was postponed due to Senate President Dominick J. Ruggerio's passing. This program will bring together advocates and lawmakers to highlight environmental initiatives and celebrate Rhode Island's commitment to sustainability and climate action.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

House Resolution No. 6292

BY Ackerman, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Finkelman, Newberry, Hull, Read, Brien, Fellela

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 77TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL'S DAY OF INDEPENDENCE ON APRIL 30TH THROUGH MAY 1ST, 2025, AND REAFFIRMING THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN RHODE ISLAND, THE UNITED STATES, AND THE STATE OF ISRAEL {LC2497/1}

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. 6293

BY Diaz, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Paplauskas, Casimiro, Slater, Shallcross Smith, Caldwell, Donovan

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING AND CELEBRATING MAY 1, 2025, AS "CHILD CARE AWARENESS DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2493/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Diaz discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6294

BY Shanley, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Paplauskas, Kazarian, Batista, Phillips, O'Brien, Dawson

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF MAY OF 2025 TO BE "MYOSITIS AWARENESS MONTH IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND" {LC2482/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Shanley discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6295

BY McGaw, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Cotter, Craven, Boylan, Ajello, Tanzi, Read, Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MAY OF 2025 AS "RHODE ISLAND NATIVE PLANT MONTH" {LC2331/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative McGaw discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6296

BY Azzinaro, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Shallcross Smith, Abney, Read, Fellela, Fascia, Hopkins

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING MAY AS "NATIONAL MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2488/1}

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. 6297

BY Handy, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Ajello, Tanzi, Read, Shallcross Smith, Edwards, Cortvriend

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING APRIL 30, 2025, AS "NATIONAL THERAPY ANIMAL DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2480/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Handy discusses the resolution.

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

RULE 7D

The following bills were received pursuant to Rule 7D:

Representative Fascia -An Act relating to Motor and Other Vehicles- Registration Plates

Representative O'Brien -An Act relating to Health and Safety

Representative Phillips -An Act relating to Health and Safety-- Lead Poisoning Prevention

Representative Tanzi -An Act relating to Medicaid Waiver

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

TRANSMITTAL

By unanimous consent, all matters on the clerk's desk are ordered to be transmitted to His Excellency, the Governor, to the Honorable Senate and the Honorable Secretary of State forthwith.

(For Transmittals to Governor, see Appendix of this Journal.)

DESK HELD OPEN

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SENATE

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

Senate Bill No. 618

(Dept. of Corrections)

BY Mack, Acosta, Zurier, Ujifusa, Euer, McKenney, LaMountain, Bissaillon, Dimitri

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- VITAL RECORDS (Provides an exemption for certain incarcerated persons from the payment of fees for a first request for vital statistics from the department of health.) {LC1366/1}

05/02/2025 Referred to House Judiciary

Senate Bill No. 720

BY Ciccone, Bissaillon, Felag, Mack, Quezada, Vargas

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

(Authorizes the Providence city council to set the veterans tax exemption limit to an amount determined by the city council via ordinance or resolution.) {LC1618/1}

05/02/2025 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Chairwoman Donovan, for the Committee on Health, and Human Services, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 5635

BY Spears, Azzinaro, Fogarty, Cotter, Caldwell, Donovan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- LICENSING OF APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS (Changes the name of "applied behavior assistant analyst" to "assistant applied behavior analyst" and makes several changes to provide consistency in the certification language for behavioral analysts.) {LC1804/1}
05/02/2025 Placed on House Calendar (05/06/2025)

House Bill No. 5852 SUB A

BY Solomon, McGaw, Casimiro, Shanley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- COLLABORATIVE PHARMACY PRACTICE (Expands the existing law regarding collaborative practice agreements between pharmacists and physicians to allow other healthcare providers to enter into such agreements and removes the definition of "collaborative practice committee.") {LC1836/A/1}
05/02/2025 Placed on House Calendar (05/06/2025)

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

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

House Bill No. 5639

(Attorney General)

BY Caldwell

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- KIDNAPPING (Establishes the crime of attempted kidnapping of a minor.) {LC2191/1}
05/02/2025 Placed on House Calendar (05/08/2025)

House Bill No. 6063

BY Brien, Baginski, Place, Cruz, Casey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- PERSONAL WATERCRAFT SAFETY ACT (Makes certain personal watercraft violations a misdemeanor.) {LC2379/1}
05/02/2025 Placed on House Calendar (05/08/2025)

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. 5801 SUB A

BY Speakman, Tanzi, Alzate, Kislak, Spears, Dawson, Furtado, Casey, Boylan, Donovan
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING (Amends several definitions relating to low- or moderate-income housing as well as the procedure for the approval of low- or moderate-income housing.) {LC2161/A/1}
05/02/2025 Placed on House Calendar (05/06/2025)

House Bill No. 5802 SUB A

BY Noret, Slater, Tanzi, Casey, Speakman, Cotter, Dawson, Stewart, Finkelman, Hull
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RHODE ISLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND LAND USE ACT (Provides amendments to enable the development of state-owned vacant, abandoned or underutilized land for housing and the process therefore.) {LC2162/A/1}
05/02/2025 Placed on House Calendar (05/06/2025)

House Bill No. 5803 SUB A

BY Shekarchi, Casey, Tanzi, Blazejewski, Speakman, Cotter, Dawson, Stewart, Finkelman, Hull
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE (Provides for the establishment and operation of an electronic permitting platform for all state and local permitting.) {LC2163/A/1}
05/02/2025 Placed on House Calendar (05/06/2025)

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. 5084

BY Ackerman, Fellela, Serpa, Newberry, Paplauskas, Donovan, McNamara
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES (Adds early voting to the fifty (50) foot buffer prohibitions against politicking on election day voting.) {LC636/1}
05/02/2025 Placed on House Calendar (05/08/2025)

House Bill No. 5312

BY Carson, Shanley
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- LOCAL CANVASSING AUTHORITIES (Establishes a process by which vacancies in a municipal election office and local canvassing board are filled.) {LC1204/1}
05/02/2025 Placed on House Calendar (05/08/2025)

House Bill No. 5517**BY** Baginski, Paplauskas, Lima**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTION -- VOTING DISTRICTS AND OFFICIALS

(Increases the maximum number of voters that a polling place can accommodate 3,000 to 3,500 and provide for existing polling places that exceed the maximum number of voters, not be required to be changed until the next decennial redistricting.) {LC1025/1}

05/02/2025 Placed on House Calendar (05/08/2025)

House Bill No. 5709**BY** Serpa, Fellela**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS (Modernizes and

{LC1962/1}

05/02/2025 Placed on House Calendar (05/08/2025)

House Bill No. 5872 SUB A

(Secretary of State)

BY Baginski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- DECEPTIVE AND FRAUDULENT

SYNTHETIC MEDIA IN ELECTION COMMUNICATIONS (Creates the deceptive and fraudulent synthetic media in election communications chapter to regulate the use of synthetic media in elections.) {LC2286/A/2}

05/02/2025 Placed on House Calendar (05/08/2025)

NEW BUSINESS**House Bill No. 6298****BY** McNamara, Shekarchi, Shanley, Read, Hopkins**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF THE

WARWICK CITY CHARTER TO ALLOW FOR ELECTRONIC NOTICE OF SPECIAL

COUNCIL MEETINGS, RAISING THE SMALL PROCUREMENT DOLLAR THRESHOLD BY

ORDINANCE, AND ESTABLISHING MINORITY REPRESENTATION APPOINTMENTS TO

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS VIA ORDINANCE (Proposes amendments to the Warwick City Charter.) {LC2803/1}

05/02/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 6299**BY** McNamara, Shekarchi, Bennett, Shanley, Read, Hopkins

ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WARWICK TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, LANDSCAPING, DEMOLITION, ARCHITECTURAL COSTS, ENGINEERING, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF (I) TWO NEW HIGH SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES TO REPLACE PILGRIM HIGH SCHOOL AND TOLLGATE HIGH SCHOOL AND ON-SITE ATHLETIC FIELDS, AND (II) RECREATION AND ATHLETIC FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE CITY (Authorizes the city of Warwick to issue not more than \$50,000,000 general obligation bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness to finance two new high schools and school facilities.) {LC2810/1}
05/02/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:50 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative McEntee, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Robert Beagle seconded by Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX**INVOCATION****REPRESENTATIVE MIA A. ACKERMAN**

Today, we dedicate this session in honor of Israeli Independence. Conceived from the horrors of the Holocaust, the modern Nation of Israel was born and gained full independence in 1948. Let us pray that peace will come soon to Israel and all her neighbors.

APPENDIX

TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR

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}

05/01/2025 Transmitted to Governor

APPENDIX**CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025:****1. 2025-H 5635****BY** Spears**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS --
LICENSING OF APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

2. 2025-H 5852 SUB A**BY** Solomon**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS --
COLLABORATIVE PHARMACY PRACTICE

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

3. 2025-H 5801 SUB A**BY** Speakman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOW AND MODERATE
INCOME HOUSING

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

4. 2025-H 5802 SUB A**BY** Noret**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RHODE ISLAND
COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND LAND USE ACT

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

5. 2025-H 5803 SUB A**BY** Shekarchi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING
CODE

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

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025:

1. **2025-H 5084**
 BY Ackerman
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

2. **2025-H 5517**
 BY Baginski
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTION -- VOTING DISTRICTS AND OFFICIALS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

3. **2025-H 5312**
 BY Carson
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- LOCAL CANVASSING AUTHORITIES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

4. **2025-H 5709**
 BY Serpa
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

5. **2025-H 5872 SUB A**
 BY Baginski
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- DECEPTIVE AND FRAUDULENT SYNTHETIC MEDIA IN ELECTION COMMUNICATIONS

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

6. **2025-H 5639**
 BY Caldwell
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- KIDNAPPING

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

7. **2025-H 6063**
 BY J. Brien
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- PERSONAL WATERCRAFT SAFETY ACT

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Friday, May 2, 2025