

# State of Rhode Island

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# JOURNAL

-OF THE-

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**JANUARY SESSION** of the General Assembly begun and held at the State House in the City of Providence on Tuesday, the Seventh Day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

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Volume 153, No. 3

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Third Day

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The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, and is called to order at 5:08 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, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, 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, Spears, Stewart, and Tanzi.

**ABSENT** – 9: Representatives Baginski, Batista, Casey, Costantino, Dawson, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, Quattrocchi, Voas.

## INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi presents Representative Samuel A. Azzinaro, who delivers the Invocation and leads the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

(For Invocation, see Appendix, this Journal.)

## APPROVAL OF RECORD

By unanimous consent, the House Journal of Thursday, January 8, 2026, is approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Representative Jose F. Batista is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 13, 2026.  
Representative Matthew S. Dawson is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 13, 2026.  
Representative Stephen M. Casey is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 13, 2026.  
Representative John J. Lombardi is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 13, 2026.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Representative Fellela offers her deepest sympathies to Chairwoman Patricia A. Serpa and her family on the passing of her beloved mother, Constance Petrarca.

Chairwoman Serpa offers a few remarks about her mother. She expresses her deepest gratitude to all who came to her mother's service.

Speaker Shekarchi announces that the flu epidemic is at its peak. He suggests that anyone who is sick, whether with a high fever, a cough, or simply not feeling well, please stay home and take an extra day to recover.

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

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the next House session will be held on Thursday, January 15, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. A photoshoot for House members will take place in the House Lounge on Tuesday, January 15, from 3:30 p.m. until the start of the session, then resume immediately at the Rise. These updated photos will be used for the official website and other official purposes.

Majority Leader Blazejewski wishes Representative Cherie Cruz and Chairman Arthur J. Corvese a Happy Birthday!

**IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION****House Resolution No. 7060**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Serpa, Fellela, Chippendale, Kennedy, Ajello, Ackerman, Solomon, Boylan

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF CONSTANCE PETRARCA {LC3115/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Fellela and Chairman Corvese discuss the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi extends his deepest condolences to Chairwoman Serpa and her entire family.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Fellela seconded by several others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

**House Resolution No. 7061**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Bennett, Chippendale, Paplauskas, Kazarian, Casimiro, Solomon, Shanley, Dawson

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF ARTHUR ARMAND COIA {LC3119/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Bennett and Chairman Corvese discuss the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi extends his deepest sympathies to the entire Coia family.

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

**House Resolution No. 7062**

**BY** Fogarty, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Hull, Tanzi, Kazarian, Azzinaro, Spears, McEntee

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF JOSEPHINE B. FINNEGAN {LC3954/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Fogarty discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi extends his deepest condolences to Kevin and his entire family.

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

**House Resolution No. 7063**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, McEntee, Chippendale, Fogarty, Ajello, Solomon, Boylan, Tanzi, Slater

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF DR. WILLIAM R. HOLLAND {LC3122/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, on behalf of Speaker Shekarchi and the entire House of Representatives, Chairwoman McEntee requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Chairwoman McEntee discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi extends his deepest condolences to the entire Holland family.

Read and passed, on a motion of Chairwoman McEntee, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, several others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote. By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

### **TRANSMITTAL**

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

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

### **DESK HELD OPEN**

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

### **RECESS**

At 5:28 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi declares the House to be in recess.

### **ORDER**

At 6:38 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi calls the House to order.

### **ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT – 50:** The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Boylan, Brien, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hull, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, McEntee, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, and Tanzi.

**By unanimous consent, the House returns to:**

### **APPOINTMENTS**

The Honorable Speaker, K. Joseph Shekarchi, appoints the following members to escort the Honorable President of the Senate and the members of the Senate to the House Chamber for a Joint Session to hear the Governor's State of the State Address. Representative Azzinaro, Representative Bennett, Representative Corvese, Representative Diaz, Representative Donovan, Representative Fellela, Representative Giraldo, Representative Hopkins, Representative Hull, and Representative Spears.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES  
TRANSFER OF BILL**

Representative Casey, for the Committee on Municipal Government and Housing, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of transfer to the Committee on House Finance.

**House Bill No. 7006**

**BY** Corvese

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Expands the definition of "book or other writing" to sales up to one thousand five hundred (1,500) copies and deny the sales tax exemption for third-party sales.)

{LC3561/1}

01/13/2026 Committee transferred to House Finance

**NEW BUSINESS****House Bill No. 7064**

**BY** Shallcross Smith, Bennett, Fogarty, McNamara, Perez, Carson, Casimiro, Azzinaro, Donovan, Fellela

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS -- MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS (Changes the direct client contact hour requirements for applicants for licensure of marriage and family therapist associate and applicants for licensure of marriage and family therapist.) {LC3825/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7065**

**BY** Perez, Fellela, Corvese, Ackerman, Sanchez, Felix, Hull, Chippendale, Hopkins, Fascia

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- TRUTH IN FOOD DISCLOSURE LAW (Requires 50% reduction in the amount of added sugars in all liquid beverages sold in Rhode Island on and after January 1, 2030.) {LC3941/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7066**

**BY** Azzinaro, Kennedy, Lima, O'Brien

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- CASUALTY INSURANCE GENERALLY -- LIMITATIONS ON POLICY CANCELLATIONS AND RENEWALS (Requires homeowner's insurance providers to provide two months' notice before increasing any policy renewal premium more than 20% and a violation constitutes a deceptive trade practice punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.) {LC4096/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7067**

**BY** McGaw, Carson, Boylan, Speakman, Kislak, Tanzi, Handy, Cotter, Cortvriend, Spears  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- REAL ESTATE SALES DISCLOSURES (Modifies the real estate sales disclosure form to include the disclosure of “blower door diagnostic air leakage testing” and advises that air leakage testing is recommended prior to purchasing a residential unit.) {LC3547/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7068**

**BY** Solomon, Casey, Carson, Speakman, Boylan  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- ENERGY FACILITY SITING ACT (Expands the review and oversight of regional transmission spending by the energy facilities siting board.) {LC3444/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7069**

**BY** McGaw, Speakman, Boylan, Spears, Handy, Fogarty, Stewart, Carson, Cortvriend, Kislak  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- ENERGY FACILITY SITING ACT (Removes clean coal as a renewable fuel given priority as an energy generation project.) {LC3549/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7070**

**BY** McGaw, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Kislak, McNamara, Tanzi, Speakman, Boylan, Stewart, Cotter  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- FUNERAL DIRECTOR/EMBALMER AND FUNERAL SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS (Provides for the operation and duties of natural organic reduction for the contained, accelerated conversion of human remains to soil. Disposition facilities would be used for either cremation or natural organic reduction.) {LC3543/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7071**

**BY** Boylan, Bennett, Kislak, Santucci, McGaw, Carson, Speakman, Spears, Donovan, Cortvriend  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY -- PROTECTION OF TREES AND PLANTS GENERALLY -- RHODE ISLAND INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT ACT (Prohibits the importation, transportation, disbursement, distribution, sale, purchase, or possession of any species of non-native (exotic) invasive plants.) {LC3172/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

**House Bill No. 7072**

**BY** Cotter, Spears, Place, Chippendale, Santucci, Tanzi, Fogarty, McGaw, Noret, Cortvriend  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY -- AGRICULTURAL FUNCTIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (Amends the definition of farm and agricultural land to include land on which agricultural operations are being conducted or is suitable for agriculture operations, and further expand the definition of a farmer.) {LC3924/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

**House Bill No. 7073**

**BY** Donovan, Fogarty, Carson, Boylan, Speakman, Tanzi, Potter, Furtado, Kislak, Casimiro  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PROHIBITED RELEASE OF  
BALLOONS (Authorizes the DEM, in conjunction with state and local law enforcement, to enforce  
the prohibition on the intentional simultaneous release of ten or more balloons.) {LC3923/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

**House Bill No. 7074**

**BY** McGaw, Speakman, Boylan, Carson, Kislak, Cortvriend, Fogarty, Donovan, Alzate, Spears  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE  
OF STATE ROADS (Requires the department of transportation to plant pollinator friendly native  
species of trees, shrubs, grasses and plants within limits of a roadway, including state highways)  
{LC3544/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

**House Bill No. 7075**

**BY** McGaw, Shekarchi, Hull, Craven, Corvese, Lombardi, Diaz, Donovan, Kazarian  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS  
INSURANCE POLICIES -- THE MATTHEW FEDERICO DIABETIC SAFETY ACT (Requires  
health plans that provide prescription benefits to cover at least one type of glucagon auto-injector,  
nasal spray, or formulation that does not require reconstitution to treat hypoglycemia. No copayment  
or deductible would be required.) {LC3546/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 7076**

**BY** Bennett, Shallcross Smith, Corvese, Fogarty, Carson, Potter, Cortvriend, Donovan, Fellela, Read  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- CERTIFIED  
SURGICAL FIRST ASSISTANTS ACT (Allows for the licensing of certified surgical first assistants  
to assist in surgeries through the department of health and a 7 member board of licensure.)  
{LC3178/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Resolution No. 7077**

**BY** Knight, Speakman, Caldwell, Felix, Potter, Shanley, Donovan, Boylan, Batista, Cortvriend  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONDEMNING UNCONSTITUTIONAL TACTICS BY  
U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
AND BEYOND {LC3201/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7078**

**BY** Azzinaro, Shallcross Smith, Corvese, McNamara, Fellela, Solomon, Kennedy  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- NATIONAL  
GUARD (Raises the amount of life insurance the state provides at no charge to Rhode Island  
National Guard members called up for federal duty to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).)  
{LC3373/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7079****BY** Craven, Biah, Cortvriend, Shanley, O'Brien**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- EXPUNGEMENT OF CRIMINAL RECORDS (Permits those individuals convicted of multiple felonies and misdemeanors to have their records expunged and provide criteria for the court to consider in determining whether the person is of good moral character.) {LC3887/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7080****BY** Finkelman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- THIRD-PARTY LITIGATION FINANCING CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT (Provides for "litigation financing" regulation by DBR.) {LC3902/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7081****BY** Boylan, Kislak, McGaw, Handy, Fogarty, Spears, Speakman, Cortvriend, Carson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- NEXT GENERATION PUBLIC BUILDINGS ACT (Prohibits the use of heating systems utilizing fossil fuels as well as air or water heating systems in any state or municipal building open to the public constructed, altered or renovated on or after January 1, 2028.) {LC3135/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government &amp; Housing

**House Bill No. 7082****BY** Bennett, Corvese, Potter, DeSimone, Casimiro, Shanley, Noret, Dawson, Read, Handy**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' ARBITRATION (Recognizes that municipal employees have the opportunity to utilize binding arbitration and establishes new factors for the arbitrators to consider. These factors include comparisons of wages/hourly conditions of employment in similarly skilled jobs.) {LC3176/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

**House Bill No. 7083****BY** Lima, Potter, Cruz, Slater, Diaz, Sanchez, Handy, Bennett, McNamara**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS (Authorizes the city of Cranston to establish a housing division within its municipal court.) {LC3945/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government &amp; Housing

**House Bill No. 7084****BY** Finkelman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Authorizes a municipality to adopt by local ordinance, a veterans' property tax exemption to any veteran, who was honorably discharged, or discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, regardless of dates or periods of service.) {LC4075/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government &amp; Housing



**House Bill No. 7085****BY** Newberry, Noret**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Repeals the authorization for issuance of special registration plate for Mr. Potato Head. Currently issued plates, as long as continuously registered to the current vehicle would remain valid.) {LC3920/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

**House Bill No. 7086****BY** Bennett, Fogarty, Cortvriend, Donovan, Fellela, McNamara, Azzinaro, Speakman, Boylan, Read**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- STATE EMBLEMS (Designates as the state music, the genre of rhythm and blues which contain elements of pop, soul, funk, hip-hop, and electronic music.) {LC3179/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

**House Bill No. 7087****BY** Bennett, Shallcross Smith, Fogarty, Potter, Cortvriend, Fellela, Read, McNamara, Azzinaro, Boylan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Establishes a motor vehicle license plate to honor Governor Roger Williams.) {LC3177/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

**House Bill No. 7088****BY** Azzinaro, Shallcross Smith, Corvese, McNamara, Fellela, Solomon, Kennedy**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Creates special motor vehicle registration plates for vehicles based on the not-for-profit entity Rhode Island Fire Chiefs Honor Flight Hub.) {LC3377/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

**House Bill No. 7089**

(Secretary of State)

**BY** Speakman, Donovan, Spears, Boylan, Carson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- NOMINATION OF PARTY AND INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES (Amends several statutes relating to elections and the dates for primaries and dates within which to file nomination papers and object to nomination papers.) {LC3129/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government &amp; Elections

**House Bill No. 7090****BY** McNamara, Corvese, Shekarchi, Diaz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARIES FOR ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND FOR PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE (Changes the date for the election of delegates to the conventions from the fourth Tuesday in April to the first Tuesday in March 2028.+) {LC3947/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government &amp; Elections

**House Bill No. 7091**

**BY** Felix, Cruz, McNamara, Kislak, Diaz, Giraldo, Stewart, Donovan, Morales, Furtado  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL PROVISIONS (Allows citizens of a city or town who are at least sixteen (16) years of age to register to vote and to vote in school committee elections in municipalities where school committees are elected entities.) {LC3855/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 7092**

**BY** Perez, Fellela, Slater, Corvese, Shallcross Smith, Felix, Hull, Hopkins, Fascia, Brien  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARIES FOR ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND FOR PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE (Amends certain signature requirements and deadlines regarding primaries for election of delegates to national conventions for presidential preference.) {LC3930/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 7093**

**BY** Perez, Fellela, Hull, Hopkins, Fascia, Brien, O'Brien, Lima, Noret, Shanley  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1990 (Defines "anti-Semitism" for the state human affairs commission to use while investigating and working to resolve complaints of discrimination and for the commission against prejudice and bias to use in defining hate crimes.) {LC3936/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 7094**

**BY** Azzinaro, Shallcross Smith, Corvese, McNamara, Fellela, Solomon, Kennedy  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- DECORATIONS (Establishes the Rhode Island orange heart medal to formally recognize Rhode Island veterans whose service exposed them to toxic herbicides, burn pits, or other hazardous agents.) {LC3134/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Veterans Affairs

**House Bill No. 7095**

**BY** Azzinaro, Corvese, Shallcross Smith, McNamara, Fellela, Solomon, Kennedy  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- BURIAL OF VETERANS (Provides that certain Hmong or Lao veterans who served honorably in military operations in support of the United States as special guerrilla units be granted burial rights at the Rhode Island Veterans Memorial Cemetery.) {LC3133/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Veterans Affairs

**House Bill No. 7096**

**BY** Furtado, Boylan, Dawson, Kazarian  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION FEES (Includes veterans 75 years or older with a combined service connected disability rating of 70% as eligible for disabled veterans license plates.) {LC3847/1}  
01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7097****BY** Azzinaro, Corvese, Shallcross Smith, McNamara, Fellela, Solomon, Kennedy**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Removes the fee for registration and plate transfer for a Distinguished Service Cross registration plate.) {LC3374/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7098****BY** Azzinaro, Shallcross Smith, Corvese, McNamara, Fellela, Solomon, Kennedy**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Eliminates the registration and service charge fees for National Guard plates.)

{LC3375/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7099****BY** Azzinaro, Shallcross Smith, Corvese, McNamara, Fellela, Solomon, Kennedy**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PARKS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS -- GENERAL PROVISIONS -- PREFERENCE FOR RESIDENTS (Provides Rhode Island residents over nonresidents with priority when making reservations to secure a campsite and other recreational facilities.) {LC3379/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7100****BY** Bennett, Corvese, Potter, DeSimone, Solomon, Casimiro, Shanley, Noret, Dawson, Read**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES --

RETIREMENT SYSTEM--CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS (Increases the yearly amount of money that retired teachers, who had been certified driver education teachers, could earn from fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000), without a reduction in their retirement benefits.) {LC3858/1}

01/14/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:41 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative McNamara, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Sandra "Sandy" Cuddy; on motion of Representative Fellela, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Constance Petrarca; on motion of Representative Bennett and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Arthur A. Coia; on motion of Representative McEntee, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Dr. William R. Holland; on motion of Representative Fogarty, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Josephine Finnegan; seconded by Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

**Diane M. DePina**  
**Recording Clerk**

**APPENDIX****INVOCATION****REPRESENTATIVE SAMUEL A. AZZINARO**

Dear God, as we start the real work of the 2026 session, we pray that you will guide our decisions and help us all work together, respecting our differences, but always striving to improve the lives of those we serve. Amen.