

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-Six.

Volume 153, No. 10

Thursday, February 5, 2026

Tenth Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Thursday, February 5, 2026, and is called to order at 4:10 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called, and a quorum is declared present with 69 members present and 6 members absent as follows:

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

ABSENT – 6: Representatives Abney, Baginski, Cruz, Knight, Lima, and Perez.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi presents Representative Brandon C. Potter, 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, February 3, 2026, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Cherie L. Cruz is unable to attend session today, Thursday, February 5, 2026.
Representative Ramon A. Perez is unable to attend session today, Thursday, February 5, 2026.

CALENDAR

From the Calendar are taken:

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026:

- 1. **2026-H 7007**
BY O'Brien
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman, Representatives Corvese, McNamara, Shallcross Smith, Fogarty, Ajello, Cortvriend, Biah, Speakman, Donovan, Spears, and Alzate.

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

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

FLOOR AMENDMENT
TO
2026 -- H 7007

AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS

Mr. Speaker:

I hereby move to amend 2026 -- H 7007, entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS", as follows:

- 1. On page 3, lines 24 through 27, by deleting all the language thereon, and by inserting in place thereof the following language:

"(h) For purposes of this section, "eligible disabled voter" means a person with disabilities eligible to vote who certifies, subject to the provisions of §§ 17-20-8(d) and 17-26-1, that they are incapacitated to such an extent that it would be an undue hardship to vote at the polls because of illness, mental or physical disability, blindness, or a serious impairment of mobility."

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Shanley

Chairman Shanley discusses the amendment.

The motion to amend prevails 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 Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

Read and passed, as amended, on a roll call vote, 61 members voting in the affirmative and 8 members voting in the negative, as follows:

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

NAYS - 8: Representatives Fascia, Nardone, Newberry, Paplauskas, Place, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

2. 2026-H 7049

BY Baginski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

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

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

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

FLOOR AMENDMENT
TO
2026 -- H 7049

AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Mr. Speaker:

I hereby move to amend 2026 -- H 7049, entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARY ELECTIONS", as follows:

1. On page 1, line 9, by deleting the language "17-9-7", and by inserting in place thereof the language "17-19-7".

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Shanley

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LC003210/2
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Chairman Shanley discusses the amendment.

The motion to amend prevails 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 Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

Read and passed, as amended, on a roll call vote, 57 members voting in the affirmative and 9 members voting in the negative, as follows:

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

NAYS - 9: Representatives Chippendale, Fascia, Hopkins, Nardone, Newberry, Place, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

3. 2026-H 7223

BY Boylan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Vice-Chairwoman Fogarty moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Boylan, Speakman, Solomon, Ajello, and Edwards.

Vice-Chairwoman Fogarty and Representative Boylan discuss 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, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

GUESTS

In honor of the life and legacy of the late Delores Melillo, Representative Paplauskas extends a warm welcome to her son, Anthony, and his wife, Elna Melillo, to the House. Delores spent many years as an assembler at Quil Pen before retiring. She was also known for her love of cooking and took great joy in hosting Sunday dinners and creating cherished memories. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends. Representative Paplauskas offers his heartfelt condolences to the entire Melillo family.

Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman proudly welcomes her son, Samuel, to the House.

Chairwoman Shallcross Smith warmly welcomes her intern, Robert Mark Livingston, who is a Senior at Providence College, to the House. Speaker Shekarchi also welcomes Robert to the House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In honor of Black History Month, Representative Biah shares a few remarks.

Chairman Corvese announces that the Committee on Labor will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 135 of the State House.

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

Representative McNamara requests that the House wish the New England Patriots the best of luck in the Super Bowl this weekend. Speaker Shekarchi welcomes Talia to the House.

GUESTS

Representative Potter warmly welcomes his intern, Talia Chester, a Junior at Providence College, to the House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice-Chairman Dawson announces that the Committee on Judiciary will meet today, at the rise of the House, in the House Lounge of the State House.

PROXY VOTES

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces, pursuant to Rule 33(e), authorizing Proxy Votes, he has received a request from Chairman Abney to be recorded in the affirmative for items #1 through #6.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the House will hold its sessions next week on Tuesday, February 10, and Wednesday, February 11, at 4:00 p.m. There will be no session on Thursday. All members should watch for the Speaker's newsletter tomorrow for the scheduled committee hearings.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the deadline for submitting legislation is Thursday, February 12th, but Speaker Shekarchi has extended it to the end of the session, Tuesday, February 24th. Members must deliver their legislation to the Legislative Council office no later than Tuesday, February 17th, by the close of the business day. The Legislative Council needs time to prepare the bills for you. After Thursday, February 17th, any introductions of legislation will be subject to Rule 7(d) of the House Rules.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**House Resolution No. 7510**

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Kennedy, Ajello, Tanzi, Shallcross Smith, Fellela, Boylan

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF RUTH ANN DESMARAIS {LC4822/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Majority Whip Kazarian requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Majority Whip Kazarian discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 7511

BY Paplauskas, Chippendale, Blazejewski, Potter, Fascia, Quattrocchi, Solomon, Bennett, Handy, McNamara

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF DELORES (RAVO) MELILLO {LC4628/1}

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. Speaker Shekarchi extends his condolences to the entire Melillo family.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Paplauskas, seconded by many 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.

NEW BUSINESS

House Bill No. 7512**BY** Casey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS -- CONTRACTORS' REGISTRATION AND LICENSING BOARD (Expands various definitions relative to contractors, home inspectors, and claim adjusters to provide clarity regarding licensed and unlicensed vendors, consultants, or third-party representatives.) {LC3737/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7513**BY** Corvese, Brien, DeSimone, Read, Azzinaro, Shanley, Noret**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- REAL ESTATE SALES DISCLOSURES (Requires radon testing within one year of any residential real estate transaction and the installation of a radon mitigation system if unsafe radon levels are present, at the seller's expense.) {LC4923/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7514

(Lieutenant Governor)

BY Diaz, Slater, McEntee, Shallcross Smith, Edwards**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- PROTECTING RHODE ISLANDERS FROM COERCIVE ECONOMIC TACTICS AT GROCERY STORES (Creates a new chapter to protect Rhode Island consumers from coercive tactics at grocery stores.) {LC4786/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7515**BY** Casey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES (Strengthens consumer protections by including definitions related directly to deceptive trade practices inherent in the insurance claim process.) {LC3736/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7516**BY** Casey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURES -- PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS -- ARBITRATION (Strengthens consumer protections in insurance claims by improving the fairness and timeliness of arbitration and appraisal proceedings, and preventing insurers from delaying or obstructing the dispute resolution process.) {LC3738/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7517**BY** Casey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- CAUSES OF ACTION (Strengthens consumer protections in insurance claims by

expanding definitions of unfair claims settlement practices and clarifies an insured's right to pursue bad-faith remedies.) {LC3739/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7518

BY McGaw, Furtado, Carson, Boylan, Sanchez, Cotter, Kislak, Tanzi, Stewart, Fogarty
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- THE RHODE ISLAND KRATOM ACT (Provides that all kratom products for sale would be stored and kept in a locked case, until sold.) {LC4917/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7519

BY Craven, Casimiro, Azzinaro
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF STATE ROADS (Provides that roads located within the Quonset Business Park be under the control of the Quonset Development Corporation.) {LC4735/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7520

BY Corvese, Brien, DeSimone, Read, Azzinaro, Shanley, Noret
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- LIABILITY INSURANCE -- UNINSURED MOTORIST COVERAGE (Adds property damage to statutory underinsured motor coverage, rather than just uninsured motorist coverage, as it is presently.) {LC4854/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7521

BY Casey
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- FIRE INSURANCE POLICIES AND RESERVES (Amends Rhode Island's standard fire insurance policy by codifying uniform, transparent appraisal procedures and payment obligations that reflect contemporary claim-handling practices while preserving long-standing consumer protections.) {LC3735/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7522

BY Craven, Casimiro, Azzinaro
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- MUNICIPAL STREETLIGHT INVESTMENT ACT (Permits the Quonset Development Corporation to acquire, own, maintain, and control all streetlights located within the Quonset Business Park.) {LC4736/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7523

BY Fascia, Quattrocchi, Santucci, Chippendale, Hopkins
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS (Establishes a five (5) year moratorium from July 1, 2026, until June 30, 2031, on the RE growth program charge, renewable energy distribution charge and the energy efficiency programs public policy charges on electricity bills.) {LC3630/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Resolution No. 7524**BY** Fascia, Quattrocchi, Brien, Santucci, Chippendale, Hopkins**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY URGING THE GOVERNOR TO SUPPORT AND TAKE ACTION TO EXPAND THE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE CAPACITY INTO NEW ENGLAND {LC3631/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7525**BY** Place**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COOPERATIVE SERVICE AMONG SCHOOL DISTRICTS -- CHARTER SCHOOL REFORM (Allows charter schools to engage in nontraditional approaches to learning.) {LC4885/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7526**BY** Read, Place, Noret, Phillips, Casimiro, Paplauskas, O'Brien, Biah, Donovan, Bennett**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS -- STUDENT AND TEACHER CLASSROOM SAFETY (Establishes provisions for student and teacher classroom safety and provides the authority to remove students from classrooms. This act provides for student and educator protections from said removals.) {LC4763/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7527**BY** Casimiro, McNamara, Potter, Read, Hopkins, Shallcross Smith, Kazarian, Alzate, Diaz, Stewart**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- EDUCATION MENTORSHIP PROGRAM ACT (Requires that student mentors in public schools be certified support educators, ensuring mentors have professional training, established student relationships, and access to skills and information needed to support student success.) {LC4826/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7528**BY** Casimiro, Chippendale, Brien, Hopkins, Roberts, Place, Furtado, Cortvriend, Potter, Paplauskas**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF TEACHERS GENERALLY (Requires the department of elementary and secondary education to disclose whether a potential applicant's name appears on a list of teachers terminated for good cause.) {LC4824/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

(For Co-sponsorship removal requests, see Journal of 2-11-2026, pages 4-9.)**House Bill No. 7529****BY** O'Brien**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF TEACHERS GENERALLY (Broadens the definition of "teacher" and create a comprehensive bill of rights for school teachers.) {LC3868/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7530**BY** Quattrocchi, Fascia, Nardone, Santucci, Paplauskas, Perez, Place, Chippendale, Cotter, Hopkins**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE

(Exempts homes under two thousand (2,000) square feet from automatic statewide IECC energy mandates, allowing municipalities to decide whether to adopt climate-focused building code requirements for small and modest homes.) {LC3618/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7531

BY Quattrocchi, Roberts, Place, Newberry, Hopkins, Santucci, Nardone, Chippendale, Paplauskas
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- 2021 ACT ON CLIMATE (Repeals the 2021 Act on Climate which established a statewide greenhouse gas emission reduction mandate in its entirety.) {LC4694/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Resolution No. 7532

BY Cortvriend, Noret, Phillips

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY SLUDGE MANAGEMENT IN RHODE ISLAND (Creates a 19-member joint commission to study and provide recommendations for effective sludge management, and who would report back to the General Assembly by January 5, 2027, and would expire on March 5, 2027.) {LC4425/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Resolution No. 7533

BY Carson, McGaw, Fogarty, Boylan, Cortvriend, Speakman, Spears, Cotter

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT A RECYCLING/WASTE AUDIT BE CONDUCTED ON THE RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE WHICH PROVIDES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A WASTE REDUCTION STRATEGY {LC4883/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7534

BY Tanzi, Stewart, Giraldo, Edwards, Bennett, Diaz, Fogarty, Ajello, Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES (Sets conditions for pharmacists to prescribe tobacco cessation drug therapies, including education approved by the state board of pharmacy.) {LC4623/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7535

BY Donovan, Potter, Cotter, Fogarty, Ajello, Edwards, Spears, Boylan, Hopkins, Furtado

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- COMPASSIONATE ACCESS TO MEDICAL CANNABIS ACT (Requires certain health care facilities to allow a terminally ill patient's use of medicinal cannabis within the health care facility, subject to certain restrictions.) {LC4936/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7536

BY Casimiro, McGaw, Boylan, Kislak, Solomon, Brien, Hopkins, Furtado, Cortvriend, Potter
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS
INSURANCE POLICIES (Requires health insurance providers to provide insurance coverage for
pharmacists' services.) {LC4805/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7537

BY Alzate, Read, Dawson, Kazarian, Casimiro, Caldwell, Handy, Fogarty, Shallcross Smith, Ajello
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS
INSURANCE POLICIES (Mandates insurance coverage for scalp cooling treatments for cancer
patients undergoing chemotherapy to prevent hair loss during chemotherapy treatments.) {LC4761/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7538

BY Tanzi, McGaw, Felix, Hull, Lombardi, Stewart, Giraldo, Edwards, Bennett, Diaz
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- USE OF ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE BY HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS NOTIFICATION ACT (Requires healthcare
providers and healthcare facilities to inform patients of the use of artificial intelligence to
memorialize patient visits.) {LC4720/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7539

BY McGaw, Boylan, Speakman, Donovan, Caldwell, Carson, Potter, Dawson, DeSimone, Kislak
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- BENEFIT DETERMINATION AND
UTILIZATION REVIEW ACT (Limits the use by insurers of step therapy, a protocol that establishes
a specific sequence in which prescription drugs for a specified medical condition are covered by an
insurer, by allowing medical providers to request step therapy exceptions.) {LC4782/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7540

BY Tanzi, McGaw, Felix, Hull, Lombardi, Stewart, Giraldo, Edwards, Bennett, Donovan
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
(Require that routine childhood and adult immunization vaccine recommendations that are developed
from evidence based, medically sound scientific research by the department of health.) {LC4722/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7541

BY Boylan, Carson, McGaw, Potter, Cortvriend, Fogarty, Kislak, Donovan, Handy, Speakman
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- DETERMINATION OF NEED
FOR NEW HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT AND NEW INSTITUTIONAL HEALTH SERVICES
(Requires all major hospitals within the state constructed or substantially renovated or expanded on
or after 1/1/2028 to use renewable energy sources for power.) {LC4049/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7542

BY Casimiro, Shekarchi, Ackerman, McNamara, Shallcross Smith, Diaz, McEntee, Craven, Carson, Casey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RHODE ISLAND PROGRAM TO ADDRESS ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE (Creates the position of dementia services coordinator within the department of health to coordinate the departments' approach to Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.) {LC4976/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7543

BY Voas, Potter, O'Brien, Slater, Read

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- INTERNET ACCESS AND ADVERTISING BY FACSIMILE (Requires that video or photography generated by artificial intelligence or "AI" that is posted on a public platform contain a marking disclosing that it has been generated by AI.) {LC4085/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, & Technology

House Bill No. 7544

BY Casimiro, Brien, Hopkins, Furtado, Potter

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- STATE PURCHASES (Prohibits state agencies from entering into software contracts that limit the agency's ability to install or run the software of the agency's choosing on their hardware.) {LC4771/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, & Technology

House Bill No. 7545

BY Noret, Brien, Kazarian, O'Brien, Felix, Santucci, Dawson, Craven, Costantino, Serpa

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (Creates a cause of action for the intentional or negligent injury or death of a pet.) {LC3890/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7546

BY Dawson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- ARREST (Expands the definition of peace officers to include juvenile program workers and shift coordinators at the department of youth, children and families.) {LC5022/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7547

(General Treasurer)

BY Furtado, Stewart, McGaw, Dawson, Cotter, Potter, Donovan, Alzate, Messier, Kislak

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION (Permits victims of stalking to recover for expenses related to relocation or home modification under the crime victim compensation program.) {LC4643/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7548

BY Fogarty, Boylan, Casimiro, Carson, Shallcross Smith, Spears, Kazarian, Handy, Hull, Donovan
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.) {LC4744/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7549

BY Noret, Read, Shanley, Casey, Dawson, Biah, Cotter, Corvese, McNamara, O'Brien
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- ASSAULTS (Makes an assault
upon a sports official during and in the course of their official duties a felony.) {LC4718/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7550

BY Casey, Lima, Chippendale, Phillips, Read, Costantino, Brien, Hopkins, Edwards, Fascia
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- DISORDERLY CONDUCT
(Criminalizes and sets mandatory minimum sentences for the unlawful interference with traffic upon
the federal and state highways of this state.) {LC4504/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7551

BY Kennedy, Solomon, Kazarian, Azzinaro, Edwards, Corvese, Ackerman, McEntee, Serpa, Cotter
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- FRAUD AND FALSE
DEALING (Establishes the criminal offense of real estate title fraud. Allows municipalities to refuse
to record "suspicious documents" from persons who are not trusted submitters. Also creates penalties
for real estate title fraud.) {LC4273/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7552

BY Noret, Cortvriend, Speakman, Messier, Casey, Phillips, McNamara, McEntee, Shallcross Smith,
Brien
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- THREATS AND EXTORTION
(Adds school superintendents, central office officials, school principals, and all other school
employees, to the definition of a "public official" for purposes of the criminal prohibition against
making threats to public officials.) {LC4374/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7553

BY Noret, Place, Corvese, Chippendale, Dawson, Phillips, Bennett, Brien, Casey, Read
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS {LC3892/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7554

BY Fogarty, Kazarian, Handy, Ajello, Lombardi, Carson, Shallcross Smith, Spears, Alzate
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- PUBLIC UTILITIES (Expands meaning of bomb threats and false reports to include any warning or threat of the existence of an explosive device and allows judge to impose conditions of bail to include extreme risk protection orders, no trespass orders and counseling.) {LC4404/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7555

BY Felix, McEntee, Knight, Craven, Ajello, Batista, Cruz, Dawson, Lombardi, Sanchez
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURES -- IDENTIFICATION AND APPREHENSION OF CRIMINALS (Provides that individual counts of a district court criminal complaint dismissed pursuant to Rule 48(a) would be sealed administratively by the court clerk upon the defendant's request.) {LC4431/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7556

BY O'Brien, Dawson, Noret, Hull, Read, Solomon, Casey, Phillips
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- MAINTENANCE OF ORDER ON CAMPUS (Requires that all campus police officers be equipped with ballistic body armor.) {LC3872/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7557

BY Donovan, Boylan, Speakman, Carson, Tanzi, Potter, Fogarty, Ajello, McGaw, Casimiro
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY --THE RHODE ISLAND FIREARM INDUSTRY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2026 (Establishes the Rhode Island firearm industry accountability act of 2026.) {LC4651/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7558

BY Potter, Ajello, Dawson, Batista, Felix, Stewart, Lombardi
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSES -- VIOLATIONS (Repeals the section of law relating to suspension of operator licenses for failure to pay fines.) {LC4601/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7559

BY Casey, Lima, Brien, Phillips, Chippendale, Corvese, Costantino, Noret, Read
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Requires landlords to register certain information for residential properties constructed prior to 1978 with the department of health on a statewide registry and defines which information may be viewed on a public database.) {LC4684/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7560

BY Casey, Lima, Brien, Chippendale, Phillips, Corvese, Costantino, Noret, Read
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- LEAD HAZARD MITIGATION (Substitutes "housing resources commission" with "department of health" for lead hazard mitigation purposes. It also makes it easier for a property owner to release funds put into an escrow account, if needed to make required repairs or improvements.) {LC4696/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7561

BY Voas, Stewart, Potter, Dawson, McNamara, O'Brien, Boylan, Fogarty, Hull, Lombardi
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- TEMPORARY DISABILITY INSURANCE -- BENEFITS (Enables employees to no longer have to utilize sick leave, vacation leave, personal leave or other paid time off as a condition to their maternity leave.) {LC4083/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 7562

BY Dawson, O'Brien
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (Allows animal control officers in the cities and towns to lawfully take charge of and provide adequate care to any animal found abandoned or neglected or hazardously accumulated and includes them as agents authorized to enforce the provisions of this law.) {LC5009/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7563

BY Quattrocchi, Fascia, Nardone, Santucci, Perez, Place, Chippendale, Cotter, Hopkins
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- THE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW EFFICIENCY ACT (Provides property owners to hire licensed third-party to review development documents and performs building inspections.) {LC3617/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7564

BY Spears, Speakman, Carson, McEntee, Azzinaro, Kennedy, Stewart, Cotter, Donovan, Boylan
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- HOME-FIT DWELLING UNITS (Creates the home-fit dwelling units act to apply to all new construction of covered dwelling units to incorporate design features that provide safe and convenient use of to the greatest extent feasible, regardless of age or physical ability.) {LC4676/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7565

BY Fellela, Fascia, Costantino, Serpa
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING (Changes the residential limit for any substantial multi-family housing project not to exceed forty thousand (40,000) residents according to the United States Census Bureau.) {LC4658/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7566

BY Casey, Serpa, O'Brien, Edwards, Shanley, Messier, Spears, Read, Casimiro

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES (Authorizes retired police officers and firefighters to earn income in addition to their earnable compensation; provided that, the amount would not exceed 5 times the rate of earnable compensation currently in force.) {LC3896/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7567

BY Cotter, Chippendale, Speakman, Spears, Santucci, Casimiro, Kazarian, Caldwell, Kislak, Read

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES -- TAX DEFERRAL PROGRAM (Establishes a property tax deferral program for senior citizens, disabled persons or veterans.) {LC4647/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7568

BY Noret, Cortvriend, Shallcross Smith, Nardone, Place, Speakman, Costantino, Read, Solomon, Santucci

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Allows the waiver of interest on overdue taxes for commercial properties.) {LC3888/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Resolution No. 7569

BY Tanzi, Ajello

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION AMENDING THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE YEARS 2025 AND 2026 (Amends the House Rules to enable any member to have up to three (3) bills that are held for further study either substituted in committee or allowed to have a committee vote for placement on the floor calendar exclusively at the discretion of the Speaker.) {LC4383/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Rules Committee

House Bill No. 7570

(Lieutenant Governor)

BY Diaz, McEntee, Shallcross Smith, Edwards

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE ISLAND CENTER FOR EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP (Establishes the Rhode Island center for employee ownership to facilitate businesses in transitioning to an employee-owned business model.) {LC4776/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Small Business

House Bill No. 7571

BY Tanzi, McEntee

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Creates a special motor vehicle registration plate for the Friends of the Historic Narragansett Towers.) {LC4681/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

House Bill No. 7572

BY Ackerman, McNamara, Edwards, Kazarian, Kennedy, Dawson, Serpa, Chippendale, Place, Potter
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES (This act would add early voting to the 50 feet buffer prohibitions against politicking during election day voting.) {LC4411/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7573

BY McNamara, Hopkins, Solomon, Read, Shanley
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF STATE ROADS (Permits municipalities to enter into contracts with the department of transportation for the municipality to perform minor and routine maintenance work on state highways, roadways, and shoulders located within the municipality.) {LC4697/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7574

BY Voas, Potter, Giraldo, Slater, Casey, Noret, Shanley, Read, McEntee, McGaw
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Car rental company not subject to registration penalties resulting from out-of-state toll violations from operators using their rental vehicles but are responsible for any outstanding toll amounts due.) {LC4894/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7575

BY Dawson, Boylan
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- PARKING FACILITIES AND PRIVILEGES (Allows persons with disabilities to receive up to two (2) motor vehicle disability parking privilege placards.) {LC5011/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7576

BY Kislak, Potter, Serpa, Cortvriend, McGaw, Boylan, Caldwell, Cotter, Spears, Carson
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS (Makes traffic accident data a public record, subject to federal law.) {LC4897/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7577

BY Voas, Potter, Slater, Casey, Noret, Read, McEntee, McGaw, Brien
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Allows any city, town, state and/or agency of a municipality or the state to report unpaid fines of two hundred dollars (\$200) or more to the division of motor vehicles as grounds for refusal of registration.) {LC4895/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7578

BY McGaw, Boylan, Furtado, Sanchez, Carson, Kislak, Potter, Tanzi, Stewart, Fogarty
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- MOTOR VEHICLES OWNED BY A GOVERNMENTAL BODY (Requires as part of the director of

administration's report to the general assembly to include information on the number of hybrid, combustion engine, plug-in hybrid, and ZEV vehicles in the light duty fleet. This act would take effect upon passage.) {LC4477/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Resolution No. 7579

BY Solomon, Biah, Hull, Shekarchi, Felix, Lombardi, Sanchez, Diaz, O'Brien, Giraldo, Casimiro
ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION REPEALING RHODE ISLAND'S RATIFICATION OF THE CORWIN AMENDMENT (This Joint Resolution would repeal the General Assembly's previous ratification of the Corwin Amendment.) {LC4802/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7580

BY Casey, Solomon, Phillips, Brien, Hull

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS (Allows that public records stored in a computer system, upon request, be provided at no charge.) {LC3895/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7581

BY Speakman, Ajello, McNamara, Biah, Messier, Stewart, Spears, Phillips, Donovan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Establishes a new categorical funding category for civics education.) {LC4784/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7582

BY Cotter, Read, Chippendale, Casimiro, Fogarty, Donovan, Shallcross Smith, Potter, Furtado, Noret

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Requires inspections and evaluations of the indoor air quality of each school building, including heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems.) {LC4775/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7583

BY Dawson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- FEES (Increases fees paid to jurors to fifty dollars (\$50.00) per day.) {LC5002/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7584

(General Treasurer)

BY Hull, Felix, Tanzi, Kennedy, Alzate, Shallcross Smith, Fogarty, Boylan, Lombardi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION (Funds the state crime victim compensation program through an additional one dollar (\$1.00) fine on traffic violations, exclusive of violations related to the parking of vehicles.) {LC4640/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7585

(General Treasurer)

BY Voas, Giraldo, Solomon, Potter, Dawson, Read, O'Brien, McNamara, Boylan, Fogarty
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- CRIMINAL INJURIES
COMPENSATION (Permits hit and run victims suffering serious bodily injury to recover under the
crime victim compensation program.) {LC4639/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7586

BY Cotter, Read, Chippendale, Casimiro, Fogarty, Donovan, Shallcross Smith, Potter, Furtado,
McGaw

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- MATERNAL AND CHILD
HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS (Updates the
description of the early intervention program and the agency responsible for the program under Part
C of the federal Individuals with disabilities education act.) {LC4774/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7587

BY Casey, Potter, Chippendale, Hopkins, Paplauskas, Santucci, Speakman, Serpa, McGaw
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE --
PRESCRIPTION DRUGS (Prohibits the Rhode Island medical assistance program from requiring
prior authorization or a step therapy protocol for the coverage of a medication classified as an
anticonvulsant or antipsychotic.) {LC4281/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7588

BY Fogarty, Carson, Kazarian, Handy, Hull, Donovan, Voas, Tanzi, Speakman, Alzate
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- THUNDERMIST FAMILY
MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM (Appropriates the sum of five hundred thousand dollars
(\$500,000) to fund the Thundermist family medicine residency program during fiscal year 2027 and
every fiscal year thereafter.) {LC4405/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7589

BY Cortvriend, McGaw

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT (Provides the general assembly make an annual appropriation of not less than
eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000) to the Rhode Island emergency management agency to assist with
emergency communications during major or multiple emergency incidents.) {LC3194/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7590

BY Nardone, Cotter, Tanzi, Edwards, Noret, Perez, Fascia, Paplauskas, Newberry, Shanley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- INSPECTOR
GENERAL (Establishes the office of inspector general as an independent administrative agency
charged with the responsibility to investigate, detect, and prevent fraud, waste, abuse, and
mismanagement in the expenditure of public funds.) {LC4536/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7591**BY** Hopkins, Casimiro, Hull, Lombardi, Nardone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- LICENSING AND MONITORING OF CHILD PLACING AGENCIES, CHILD CARING AGENCIES, FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE HOMES, AND CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS (Requires all out-of-state foster care placement facilities be registered with Medicaid as a Medicaid provider.) {LC4879/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7592**BY** Noret, Dawson, Bennett, Craven, DeSimone, Phillips, Shanley, Costantino, Brien, Corvese**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- CIGARETTE, OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS, AND ELECTRONIC NICOTINE-DELIVERY SYSTEM PRODUCTS (Permits dealers without a distributor's license to resell cigars, and ultra premium pipe tobacco, excluding pipe tobacco intended for cigarettes, to other dealers.) {LC4716/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7593**BY** Fascia, Brien, Quattrocchi, Santucci, Chippendale, Read, Hopkins**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts from the sales tax firearm safety equipment, storage devices, gun safes, gun cabinets, gun vaults, gun cases, strong boxes, cable locks, trigger locks and biometric locks.) {LC3628/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7594**BY** O'Brien, Slater, Furtado, Solomon, Messier, Corvese, Diaz, McEntee, Bennett, Serpa**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Raises the earned-income tax credit to thirty percent (30%) for the tax years 2027 and beyond.) {LC4902/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7595**BY** Potter, Alzate, McGaw, Tanzi, Felix, Giraldo, Voas, Kislak, Sanchez, Batista**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- WEALTH TAX (Imposes a wealth tax on Rhode Island individuals and entities at a rate of one percent (1%) of worldwide wealth.) {LC4605/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7596**BY** Hopkins, Casimiro, Solomon, McNamara, Phillips, Shanley, Nardone, Roberts**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts from the sales tax eligible school supplies, costing less than \$50.00, purchased within one week prior to the commencement of the academic year.) {LC4878/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Resolution No. 7597

BY Morales, Stewart, Biah, Hull, Lombardi, Felix, Giraldo, Alzate, Sanchez, Ajello
ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$200,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND BLACK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$200,000 to the Rhode Island Black Business Association.) {LC4849/1}
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Chairman Abney, for the Committee on Finance, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 7408 SUB A

(Governor/Attorney General)

BY Abney, Slater, O'Brien, Brien, Shekarchi, Corvese, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Cortvriend, Hull
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MAKING REVISED APPROPRIATIONS IN SUPPORT OF FY 2026 RELATING TO ROGER WILLIAMS MEDICAL CENTER AND OUR LADY OF FATIMA HOSPITAL {LC4723/A/1}
02/06/2026 Placed on House Calendar

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 Resolution No. 7301

BY Carson

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION REINSTATING THE LIFE OF AND EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO REVIEW AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICIES THAT DEAL WITH NUMEROUS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SHORT-TERM RENTALS ISSUES {LC3205/1}
02/06/2026 Placed on House Calendar

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. 7407

(Governor/Attorney General)

BY Baginski, Fogarty, Hull, Cortvriend, Biah, Hopkins, Serpa, Corvese, Fellela, Slater
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE HOSPITAL CONVERSIONS ACT (Hospital Conversions act amended to authorize AG and DOH to permit expedited review application for hospital insolvency proceedings. Sunsets in one year.) {LC4673/1}
02/10/2026 Placed on House Calendar (02/11/2026)

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:41 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Paplauskas, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Delores (Ravo) Melillo; on motion of Representative Kazarian, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Ruth Desmarais; on motion of Representative Shallcross Smith and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Robert Armand Provost; on motion of Representative Chippendale, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Rony Alonso; seconded by Leader Blazejewski and Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE BRANDON C. POTTER

Dear God, Honoring Black History reminds us that their history in this country is different from that of any other immigrant group. Forced to come here as slaves, they overcame incredible challenges, eventually persevering to become an integral part of the very fabric of American history. Amen.

APPENDIX

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026:

1. 2026-H 7408 SUB A

BY Abney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MAKING REVISED APPROPRIATIONS IN SUPPORT OF FY 2026 RELATING TO ROGER WILLIAMS MEDICAL CENTER AND OUR LADY OF FATIMA HOSPITAL

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

IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026:

1. 2026-H 7301

BY Carson

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION REINSTATING THE LIFE OF AND EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO REVIEW AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICIES THAT DEAL WITH NUMEROUS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SHORT-TERM RENTALS ISSUES

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

2. 2026-H 7407

BY Baginski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE HOSPITAL CONVERSIONS ACT

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Friday, February 6, 2026

Updated: Tuesday, February 10, 2026