

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. 22

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

Twenty-Second Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, and is called to order at 4:08 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called, and a quorum is declared present with 65 members present and 10 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 65: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Quattrocchi, Read, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

ABSENT -10: Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Baginski, Batista, Brien, Craven, Felix, Furtado, Potter, and Roberts.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi invites Father Aaron Walker of St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church in Newport to lead the members in prayer, and Speaker Shekarchi delivers the Invocation and leads the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

(For Invocation, see Appendix, this Journal.)

GUESTS

Representative Newberry wants to recognize heroes and Good Samaritans who helped fellow citizens on February 16, 2026, when a mass shooting happened at the Dennis M. Lynch Arena, a tragic event during a high school ice hockey game. Representative Newberry warmly welcomes Michael Black, Robert Rattenni, Ryan Cordeiro, Head Coach Chris Librizzi, Glen Narodowy, Mary Ann Rattenni, Kinda Presley, Marcelle Boyes, April Lombardi, and Julian Riley. He also thanks them for their heroic efforts in helping those injured during the shooting.

Chairman McNamara extends a warm welcome to the members of St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church of Newport, Father Aaron Walker, Council member Brett Fox and his family, Marianne Pylotis, Olivia, Penelope, Theodore, and Sophia Fox.

Representative Newberry proudly welcomes to the House the winners of the 2026 Rhode Island Division II State Championship Boys Hockey Team, Blackstone Valley Schools Co-op Hockey Team.

In recognition:

Jacob Faria- Golie and Captain
Cam Governo-Forward and Captain
Declan St. Vincent-Forward and Captain
Colin Dorgan-Defenseman and Captain
Alex Pickering- Defenseman/Forward and Captain
Nick Rivard-Forward
Michael Mon-Defenseman
Drew Silva-Defenseman
Jax Boyes-Forward
Nick Bianchi-Forward
Preston Manning-Forward
Tommy Decataldo-Forward
Thomas Fornier-Defenseman
Brody Laliberte-Forward
Avery Hueston-Forward
Martin Ayo-Populus-Forward
Caden Rudek-Defenseman
Jameson Cordeiro-Forward
Alex Gosselin-Forward
Benjamin Brooks-Forward
Chloe Corey-Forward
Joey Palmer-Forward
Tyler Amore-Golie
Jason Scott-Golie
Logan Lang-Golie
Matt Palmer-Golie

Head Coach-Chris Librizzi
Asst. Coach-Chris Lambert

Asst. Coach-Nick Gustafson
Asst. Coach-Michael Cienava
Asst. Coach-Seth Pickering
Asst. & JV Coach- Steve Wowk

Representative Newberry praises defenseman Colin Dorgan after he lost three family members; he used his grief to help his hockey team win the state championship. Congratulations again to the Blackstone Valley Schools Co-op Hockey Team!

Speaker Shekarchi thanks the Blackstone Valley Schools Hockey Team and the heroes of that tragic night for their resilience and courage. He wishes the hockey team the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Speaker Shekarchi recognizes and welcomes Mayor Lombardi to the House.

ADDRESS

Chairman McNamara addresses House members in recognition of Greek Independence Day, a day honoring the courage and sacrifice of the Greek people in their fight for freedom in 1821. Inspired by the ideals of democracy, their struggle laid the foundation for the strong ties between Greece and the United States.

Chairman Joseph McNamara extends a warm welcome to members of St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church of Newport, Father Aaron Walker, and Telly and Liza Amaran. Joining them are Brett Fox, Saint Spyridon Church Council President, and his family, Marianne Pylotis, Olivia, Penelope, Theodore, and Sophia Fox, at the house in celebration of Greek Independence Day.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

APPROVAL OF RECORD

By unanimous consent, the House Journal of Thursday, March 26, 2026, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SPEAKER

March 31, 2026

Speaker Shekarchi has made the following nominations:

Reps. Jose Batista and Julie Casimiro to attend the National Conference of State Legislatures' meeting: "Time Served: Assessing Parole and Prison Release" in June 2026 in Burlington, Vermont.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative José F. Batista is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, March 31, 2026.
Representative Jon D. Brien is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, March 31, 2026.
Representative Brandon C. Potter is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, March 31, 2026.

Representative Leonela Felixi is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, March 31, 2026.
Representative Jenni A. Furtado is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, March 31 2026.

CALENDAR

From the Calendar are taken:

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026:

1. 2026-H 7568

BY Noret

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

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Representative Biah.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 60 members voting in the affirmative and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 60: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Fellela, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Quattrocchi, Read, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 1: Representative Casimiro.

RECUSED - 0:

2. 2026-H 7227

BY J. Lombardi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

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

Chairman Casey and Minority Leader Chippendale discuss 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 Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Quattrocchi, Read, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

3. 2026-H 7064

BY Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS -- MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Fogarty, and Biah.

Chairman Solomon 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 Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Quattrocchi, Read, 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

Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy is honored to welcome many distinguished guests to the House in celebration of the 172nd Anniversary of the signing of the Japan-United States Treaty of Peace and Amity, known as Japan Day. He is pleased to welcome Seiichiro Takahashi, Consul General of Japan in Boston; Keisuke Kawamura, Consul; Chieko Yoshida, Consul; Steve Aveson, Honorary Consul; and Vice Consul Hideo Takahashi, Political Affairs Assistant; Hon. Gregg Amore, Secretary of State; Steven Contente, Town Administrator of Bristol; Dr. Matthew Perry, Captain Rob A.H. Dahlin, President of JASNE; Mimi Morimura, Vice President of JASNE; Maryanne Brandmeier, President of Japan-Society and Black Ships Festival of Rhode Island, Inc.; Deb Miller, JASRI Board; Hiroshi Furuya, Senior Vice President of Toray Plastics America Inc.; Alexandria Monet Evers, faculty from Brown University and the University of Rhode Island; faculty from the U.S. Naval War College; and Roger Nozaki, Senior Advisor of the United States-Japan Foundation, in the House Chamber.

ADDRESS

Consul General of Japan in Boston, Seiichiro Takahashi, addresses the members in recognition of Japan Day.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

GUESTS

In recognition of Alzheimer's Advocacy Day, Representative Casimiro welcomes Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association, Rhode Island Chapter, Laura Hoffman; Territory Government Relations Director of the Alzheimer's Association, Bruce Sisler; Government Relations Director of the Rhode Island Chapter, Meredith, Abby, Liam, and former Senator James Sheehan, to the House. Speaker Shekarchi welcomes them to the House.

Chairwoman Shallcross Smith warmly welcomes to the House Chamber United Way President & CEO Cortney Nicolato, Director of the Nonprofit Alliance Nancy Wolanski, Program & Communications Manager, Alliance for Nonprofit Impact Robin Xiong, and Resource Navigator, Alliance for Nonprofit Impact. Eli Pajo, in celebration of United Way's 5th anniversary of 401 Gives, a statewide day of giving. Speaker Shekarchi recognizes Cortney for her hard work and welcomes them to the House Chamber.

Representative Biah proudly welcomes the Honorable Senator Edwin Melvin Snowe of the Liberian Senate for Bomi, who is visiting the United States, to the House Chamber. Speaker Shekarchi welcomes Senator Snowe to the House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Tanzi, on behalf of the House of Representatives, wishes Deputy Head Page Anaaya Deshpande a very happy 18th birthday.

Chairwoman Diaz invites all female members to attend the Women in Government event, a nonpartisan national organization that collaborates with state legislatures to empower women. The event features a lunch and speaking program at the State House on Tuesday, April 7, at 1:00 p.m., in the Senate Lounge.

Chairman Casey announces that the Committee on Municipal Government & Housing will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 101 of the State House.

GUESTS

Chairman Azzinaro proudly welcomes his granddaughter, Samantha Azzinaro, to the House Chamber.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice-Chairman Phillips announces that the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 135 of the State House.

PROXY VOTES

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces, pursuant to Rule 33(e), authorizing Proxy Votes, he has received a request from Majority Whip Ackerman to be recorded in the affirmative for items #1 through #3.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces the next House session will be held on Thursday, April 2, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

The House Finance Subcommittee on Education will meet tomorrow at 4 p.m., but there will be no full committee hearings in observance of the first night of Passover.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

House Resolution No. 8371

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Shallcross Smith, Casimiro, Chippendale, Place, Kennedy, Giraldo, Solomon, Slater

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 31, 2026 AS "401GIVES DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

{LC4524/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Shallcross Smith discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 8372

BY Casimiro, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Kazarian, Alzate, Voas, Stewart, Giraldo, Kennedy

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING MARCH 31, 2026 AS
“ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION OF RHODE ISLAND ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS DAY”
IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6220/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Casimiro discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 8373

BY Kennedy, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Azzinaro, Edwards, Bennett, Diaz, Tanzi, Ajello
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 172ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE
UNITED STATES AND JAPAN TREATY OF PEACE AND AMITY {LC5872/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 8374

BY Paplauskas, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Santucci, Quattrocchi, Read, McNamara, Shallcross Smith, Hopkins

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION JOYOUSLY CELEBRATING "WORLD GREEK
LANGUAGE DAY IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND" AS PROCLAIMED BY UNESCO
{LC6188/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Paplauskas discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 8375

BY Solomon, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, McNamara, Paplauskas, Casimiro, Casey, Edwards, Bennett

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION (AHEPA) CHAPTER 106 "SOPHOCLES" OF PROVIDENCE ON THE JOYOUS OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY {LC6187/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Solomon discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 8376

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, McNamara, Paplauskas, Chippendale, Solomon, Kennedy, Tanzi, Ajello, Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING MARCH 25, 2026, AS THE 205TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY AND CELEBRATING DEMOCRACY IN GREECE AND THE UNITED STATES {LC3711/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman McNamara discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 8377

BY Newberry, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Corvese, Chippendale, Kennedy, Tanzi, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Boylan

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE COURAGE, HEROISM, AND COMPASSION OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO RENDERED AID DURING THE LYNCH ARENA SHOOTING IN PAWTUCKET {LC6232/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Newberry and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Newberry, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, and the entire House of Representatives, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 8378

BY Newberry, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Corvese, Chippendale, Kennedy, Tanzi, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Boylan

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE BLACKSTONE VALLEY SCHOOLS (BVS) BOYS CO-OP TEAM ON WINNING THE RHODE ISLAND DIVISION II HIGH SCHOOL STATE HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP {LC6230/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Newberry and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Newberry, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, and the entire House of Representatives, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 8379

BY Blazejewski, Chippendale

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING CONGRATULATIONS {LC6250/1}

Majority Leader Blazejewski requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

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

House Resolution No. 8380

BY Blazejewski, Chippendale

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES {LC6251/1}

Majority Leader Blazejewski requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Read and passed, on a motion of Majority Leader Blazejewski, seconded by Minority Leader Chippendale, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

RULE 7D

The following bills were received pursuant to Rule 7D:

Representative Carson-An Act relating to Aging Policy

Representative Dawson-An Act relating to Children's Medicaid Infrastructure

Representative DeSimone-An Act relating to Human Services
An Act relating to Human Services

Representative McEntee-An Act relating to Public Offices and Employees' Retirement System, Contributions, and Benefits

Representative Speakman-An Act relating to Taxation-Historical Preservation Tax Credit

Representative Spears-An Act relating to Insurance-Medical Malpractice

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

TRANSMITTAL

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

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

DESK HELD OPEN

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SENATE

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

Senate Bill No. 2141

BY Zurier, McKenney, Bissaillon, Burke, Quezada, Tikoian, LaMountain
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE
GENERALLY -- FEES (Increases fees paid to jurors to fifty dollars (\$50.00) per day.) {LC3442/1}
04/01/2026 Referred to House Finance

Senate Bill No. 2142**BY** LaMountain, Vargas

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- EMINENT DOMAIN (Allows the department of environmental management to acquire established foot paths by eminent domain in order to provide public access to streams, rivers, lakes and ponds.) {LC4013/1}
04/01/2026 Referred to House Judiciary

Senate Bill No. 2145**BY** LaMountain

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- COMMERCIAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY (Establishes the commercial sex buyer's accountability program which consists of an instructional program on prostitution and human trafficking schemes.) {LC4014/1}
04/01/2026 Referred to House Judiciary

Senate Bill No. 2147 SUB A**BY** Burke, LaMountain

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARY ELECTIONS (Requires that the primary election date, statutorily the eighth Tuesday preceding the biennial state elections, shall be held on the Wednesday when Labor Day is the day before said Tuesday. No other filing deadlines would be affected.) {LC4179/A/1}
04/01/2026 Referred to House State Government & Elections

Senate Bill No. 2148 SUB A**BY** Gu, Felag, Urso

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES (Requires that applicants for a retail liquor license in the town of Westerly acquire commercial, general-liability, liquor liability and property damage insurance coverage.) {LC4027/A/1}
04/01/2026 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 2149**BY** McKenney, LaMountain, Appollonio

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS-- WARWICK MUNICIPAL COURT (Expands the jurisdiction of the city of Warwick municipal court.) {LC3185/1}
04/01/2026 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 2160**BY** LaMountain

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- RHODE ISLAND NONCOMPETITION AGREEMENT ACT (Prohibits noncompete agreements except for noncompete agreements between a seller and buyer of a business; creates civil action for an employer for the violation of an agreement by employee regarding disclosure or wrongful utilization of trade secrets.) {LC4002/1}
04/01/2026 Referred to House Labor

Senate Bill No. 2253**BY** Britto, Burke, LaMountain, DiPalma, Tikoian, Gallo, Gu, Murray, Bissaillon, Urso

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS

(Includes any costs paid by an enrollee or on behalf of the enrollee, by a third party when calculating an enrollee's overall contribution to any out-of-pocket maximum or cost sharing requirement, under a health plan as of January 1, 2027.) {LC4370/1}

04/01/2026 Referred to House Health & Human Services

Senate Bill No. 2281

BY Patalano, Ciccone, Tikoian, Thompson, LaMountain, Dimitri, de la Cruz, Appollonio, Burke, Famiglietti

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION (Makes it a felony for any person required to register as a sex offender to live within three hundred feet (300') of a school as defined in § 11-37.1-2.) {LC4363/1}

04/01/2026 Referred to House Judiciary

Senate Bill No. 2401 SUB A as amended

BY Gallo, Vargas, LaMountain

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS (Authorizes the city of Cranston to establish a housing division within its municipal court.) {LC4296/A/1}

04/01/2026 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 2576

(Tiverton)

BY Felag, DiPalma

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Allows the town of Tiverton to apply different tax rates to all classes of property.) {LC5242/1}

04/01/2026 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 2577

(by request)

BY Ujifusa

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Enables the town of Portsmouth to adopt, repeal, or modify their tax classification plan for any tax year on and after December 31, 2026.) {LC4951/1}

04/01/2026 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 2650

BY Ciccone, Acosta, Mack, Quezada, Vargas

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COUNCIL ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION (Provides any student, who meets the requirements of this section, with an exemption from paying nonresident tuition at Rhode Island public universities, colleges, or community colleges.) {LC5305/1}

04/01/2026 Referred to House Finance

Senate Bill No. 3036 SUB A

BY Bissaillon, LaMountain, McKenney, Bell, Quezada, Ciccone, Gallo, Urso, Dimitri, Lawson

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 provides criteria for the court to consider in determining whether the person is of good moral character.) {LC6012/A/1}

04/01/2026 Referred to House Judiciary

**TRANSFER OF BILLS
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Chairwoman Donovan, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, reports back the following measure, with a recommendation of transfer to the Committee on Corporations.

House Bill No. 7427

BY Hopkins, Brien, Casimiro, Perez, Nardone, Fascia, Read, Chippendale, Place, Paplauskas **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- THE PRIMARY CARE PRESERVATION ACT (Prohibits health insurance companies or other payors from including in physician participation agreements any provisions that restrict or prevent a physician from charging patients reasonable administrative or operational fees to support overhead.) {LC3921/1}

04/01/2026 Committee transferred to House Corporations

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Chairman Abney, for the Committee on Finance, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of transfer to the Committee on Health & Human Services:

House Resolution No. 8203

BY Carson

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT A CONDITION PRECEDENT BE PLACED ON ALL FUTURE STATE FUNDING OR GRANT ASSISTANCE TO BROWN UNIVERSITY HEALTH AND AFFILIATED ENTITIES TO ENSURE MAINTENANCE OF THE NEWPORT HOSPITAL BIRTHING CENTER (This resolution would condition the distribution of any state funds to Brown University Health on the continued operation of a birthing center in the city of Newport.) {LC5147/1}

04/01/2026 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Chairman Bennett, for the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of transfer to the Committee on State Government & Elections:

House Bill No. 7915

BY Chippendale, Place, Santucci, Cotter, Handy, Carson, Tanzi, Noret, Bennett, Edwards **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- REGULATION OF BOATS (Authorizes the collection of a small additional fee, in addition to the registration fee paid by motorboat owners, to be deposited in a restricted account, in order to fund the newly established freshwater lake management program.) {LC5355/1}

04/01/2026 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

NEW BUSINESS

House Bill No. 8381**BY** McNamara, Kennedy, Read, Marszalkowski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Provides that no contract between a dental plan or other healthcare entity and a dentist requires the dentist to accept exclusively by virtual credit cards.) {LC6110/1}

04/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 8382**BY** Kislak, McGaw, Donovan, Corvese, Cruz, Giraldo, Potter, Fogarty, Stewart**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES (Strengthens enforcement of the state's pharmacy audit law by clarifying and tightening audit procedures to ensure pharmacy audits are conducted fairly and transparently.) {LC6204/1}

04/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 8383**BY** Spears, Cotter, Donovan, Speakman, Caldwell, Read, Shanley, McEntee, Fogarty, Carson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- THE RHODE ISLAND PRESCRIPTION DRUG PURCHASING POOL ACT (Establishes a state-run prescription drug purchasing pool, available for participation by nonstate public employers, private employers, and health insurance carriers, to maximize the value of drug discounts available to participants.) {LC6205/1}

04/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 8384

(Governor)

BY Corvese, Noret, Azzinaro, Kennedy, Casey, Brien, O'Brien, Craven, Solomon, Phillips**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER MOTOR VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES -- CASEY'S LAW (Creates an enhanced penalty defined as "road rage" to be applied in addition to penalties for convictions of certain motor vehicle offenses.) {LC6022/1}

04/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 8385**BY** Cruz, Potter, Stewart, Kislak, Tanzi, Furtado, Sanchez, Morales**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Allows sealing of eviction records for defective complaint or lack of jurisdiction for individuals between the ages of eighteen (18) and twenty-one (21) who didn't sign the lease.) {LC6198/1}

{LC6198/1}

04/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 8386**BY** Cruz, Potter, Stewart, Kislak, Tanzi, Furtado, Sanchez, Morales**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Requires landlords to provide a receipt upon receiving a cash payment for rent from a tenant.) {LC6199/1}

04/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 8387

BY Cruz, Potter, Stewart, Kislak, Tanzi, Furtado, Sanchez, Morales, Speakman

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

(Requires all municipal zoning ordinances be amended to provide that any lot with access to public water/sewer services, not establish or enforce a minimum lot area that exceeds 5,000 sq.ft. for a residential building with between one and 4 dwelling units.) {LC6185/1}

04/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 8388

BY Spears

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGULATION OF RENTAL OF MOTORIZED BICYCLES, MOTOR SCOOTERS AND MOTORIZED TRICYCLES IN NEW SHOREHAM (Permits the town council of the town of New Shoreham to enact an ordinance that limits a license holder from renting or leasing more than thirty-four (34) motorized bicycles, motor scooters and/or motorized tricycles.) {LC6259/1}

04/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:14 o'clock P.M., on motion of Majority Leader Blazejewski, seconded by Minority Leader Chippendale, the House adjourns, on a unanimous voice vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

FATHER AARON WALKER

ST. SPYRIDON GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

In the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

You are invited to respond with "Lord have mercy" to each petition.

-In peace let us pray to the Lord. (Lord have mercy)

-For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the Holy Churches of God and for the unity of all people, let us pray to the Lord.

-For our country, the president of the United States, the Governor of Rhode Island and all those who serve with him, for our legislators, judges and their staff; and all those in public service, and for our armed forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

-Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us O God by your grace.

For you are a merciful and loving God and to you do we offer up glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever and the ages of ages.

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear. Even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though its waters roar and be troubled, Though the mountains shake with its swelling.

There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God, The holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High. God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved. God shall help her, just at the break of dawn. The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved. He uttered His voice, the earth melted.

The Lord of hosts is with us. The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the Lord. Who has made desolations in the earth.

He makes wars cease to the end of the earth. He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two. He burns the chariot in the fire.

Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth!

The Lord of hosts is with us. The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd. I shall not want.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures

He leads me beside the Still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in the path of righteousness for his namesake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil, for you are with me.

Your rod in your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil. My cup runs over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

My hope is the Father.
My refuge is the Son.
My shelter is the Holy Spirit.
All Holy Trinity, Glory be to You.

Amen.

APPENDIX

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026:

1. 2026-H 7733

BY Cotter

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE EXETER -- WEST GREENWICH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Committee on Education recommends passage.

2. 2026-H 7738

BY Cortvriend

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE

Committee on Environment and Natural Resources recommends passage.

3. 2026-H 7483

BY Messier

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING 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.

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Friday, March 27, 2026

APPENDIX

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026:

1. 2026-S 2037

BY Lauria

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

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage in concurrence.

2. 2026-S 2040

BY Ujifusa

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

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage in concurrence.

3. 2026-S 2041

BY DiPalma

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

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage in concurrence.

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Friday, March 27, 2026