

# 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. 30

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Thirtieth Day

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The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Tuesday, May 5, 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 73 members present and 2 members absent as follows:

**PRESENT** – 73: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

**ABSENT** – 2: Representatives Perez and Spears.

## INVOCATION

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

(For Invocation, see Appendix, this Journal.)

## APPROVAL OF RECORD

By unanimous consent, the House Journal of Thursday, April 30, 2026, is approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Representative Ramon A. Perez is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, May 5, 2026.

**CALENDAR**

From the Calendar are taken:

**IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026:**

**Majority Leader Blazejewski moves item #8 to be placed on Tuesday's Calendar. There is no objection.**

**8. 2026-H 7079 SUB A**

**BY Craven**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- EXPUNGEMENT OF CRIMINAL RECORDS**

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

Read and, by unanimous consent, placed on the Calendar for Tuesday, May 12, 2026.

**1. 2026-H 7865 SUB A**

**BY Kennedy**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- WEATHER-RELATED LOSSES**

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

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Craven, Cruz, Edwards, Fogarty, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, McNamara, Noret, Potter, Shallcross Smith, Speakman.

Chairman Solomon and Minority Leader Chippendale discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 62 members voting in the affirmative and 11 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 62: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier,

Morales, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Potter, Read, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 11: Representatives Chippendale, Fascia, Hopkins, Nardone, Newberry, Paplauskas, Place, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

**2. 2026-H 8213**

**BY** Serpa

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES --  
REGULATION OF BUSINESS PRACTICES AMONG MOTOR VEHICLE  
MANUFACTURERS, DISTRIBUTORS, AND DEALERS

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, and Representative Fellela.

Chairman Solomon and Minority Leader Chippendale discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 63 members voting in the affirmative and 9 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

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

RECUSED - 0:

**3. 2026-H 7952**

**BY** Diaz

**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION AMENDING THE JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING  
A PERMANENT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON CHILD CARE IN RHODE ISLAND

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

Chairwoman Donovan moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Felix, Fogarty, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, McGaw, O'Brien, Potter, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

Chairwoman Donovan discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 72 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 72: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**4. 2026-H 7154**

**BY** Edwards

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

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

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 68 members voting in the affirmative and 4 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 4: Representatives Place, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

**5. 2026-H 7676****BY** Speakman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Speakman, Shallcross Smith, and Knight.

Chairman Shanley, Minority Leader Chippendale, Spears, Newberry, and Felix discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 59 members voting in the affirmative and 12 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS - 12: Representatives Azzinaro, Chippendale, Cotter, Fascia, Hopkins, Nardone, Newberry, Paplauskas, Place, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

**6. 2026-H 7989 SUB A****BY** Baginski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

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

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

Chairman Shanley, Representative Phillips, Minority Leader Chippendale, Representatives Newberry, and Lima discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 63 members voting in the affirmative and 9 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 63: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz,

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

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

RECUSED - 0:

**7. 2026-H 8297**

**BY** Read

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --  
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

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

Chairman Shanley, Minority Leader Chippendale, and Representative Lima discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 65 members voting in the affirmative and 6 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 65: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Santucci, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 6: Representatives Chippendale, Fascia, Nardone, Place, Quattrocchi, Roberts.

RECUSED - 0:

**9. 2026-H 8247**

**BY** Casimiro

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -  
- SUPERIOR COURT

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Chairwoman McEntee moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Felix, Fellela, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull,

Kazarian, Lima, Lombardi, McGaw, McNamara, Morales, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

Chairwoman McEntee discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 71 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 71: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**10. 2026-H 7149**

**BY Read**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RELIEF OF INJURED AND DECEASED FIRE FIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS**

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

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

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 71 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 71: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**11. 2026-H 8000 SUB A****BY Shekarchi****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS**

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

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Carson, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, McGaw, Morales, O'Brien, Potter, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Speakman, Stewart.

Chairman Casey, Minority Leader Chippendale, and Representative Lima discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 56 members voting in the affirmative and 13 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS - 13: Representatives Baginski, Brien, Costantino, Fascia, Hopkins, Lima, Nardone, Newberry, Paplauskas, Place, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

**12. 2026-H 8006 SUB A****BY Slater****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES**

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

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

Chairman Casey, Representatives Morales, Minority Leader Chippendale, Minority Whip Place, Representatives Sanchez Lima, Fascia, Speakman, and Slater discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 59 members voting in the affirmative and 12 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS - 12: Representatives Chippendale, Cruz, Fascia, Lombardi, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Paplauskas, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

**13. 2026-H 8009 SUB A**

**BY** Giraldo

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- TEMPORARY EXTENDED SERVICE HOURS

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

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Speakman, Cruz, Alzate, and Stewart.

Chairman Casey, Minority Leader Chippendale, and Representatives Alzate Tanzi, Lima, Giraldo, Newberry, and Diaz discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 60 members voting in the affirmative and 8 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 60: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, O'Brien, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

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

RECUSED - 0:

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

**NOW PRESIDING**

At 5:24 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi yields the rostrum to the Honorable Deputy Speaker Hull.

**GUESTS**

In celebration of Zambarano Day, Minority Whip Place welcomes the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals (BHDDH) and its representatives, including Richard Leclerc, Director; Louis Cerbo, Deputy Director; Elizabeth Sylvestre, Chief of Staff; Kimberly Kane, Chief Nursing Officer of Eleanor Slater Hospital; Jennifer McCarthy, Administrator; Kimberly Amaral, Nurse Manager; and Kristin Raimond, Chief Implementation Aide, Supervisor of Therapeutic Recreation of Zambarano Campus; and Donald Olson, patient at Zambarano. Minority Whip Place proudly continues the tradition of recognizing the exemplary work at Eleanor Slater Hospital-Zambarano Campus. This institution provides crucial, unparalleled care to extremely vulnerable patients within our state.

Representative Carson warmly welcomes members of the Senior Agenda Coalition of Rhode Island, including Carol Ann Costa, Executive Director; Kathy McKeon, Chair; Karen Hollands, Administrative Assistant; and Dr. Katherine Leigh, Senior Fellow, to the House Chamber in recognition of Older Americans Month.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Azzinaro announces that the Committee on Veterans Affairs will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 135 of the State House.

**GUESTS**

In observance of the National Day of Reason, Representative Stewart warmly welcomes Brian Cardoza, Assistant Director, and Jonathan Carney, Program Coordinator, from the Rhode Island Atheists to the House.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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.

Chairman Slater invites all members to attend Roger Williams Park Zoo Day at the State House tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. in the House Lounge.

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

Chairman Solomon wishes all the mothers a Happy Mother's Day and his mother, Cynthia Solomon, a happy birthday on May 10th.

Majority Leader Blazewski announces that the next House session will be held on Thursday, May 5, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. However, the House Committee on Finance will meet tomorrow at 4:00 p.m.

### IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

#### **House Resolution No. 8513**

**BY** Diaz, Shekarchi, Blazewski, Chippendale, Slater, Shallcross Smith, Donovan, McEntee, Casimiro, Tanzi

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING AND CELEBRATING MAY 7, 2026, AS "CHILDCARE AWARENESS DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC3899/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Diaz discusses the resolution.

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

#### **House Resolution No. 8514**

**BY** Read, Shekarchi, Blazewski, DeSimone, Brien, Marszalkowski, Craven, Caldwell, Hopkins  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING MAY 3 THROUGH MAY 9, 2026, AS "NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6035/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Read discusses the resolution.

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

#### **House Resolution No. 8515**

**BY** Cortvriend, Shekarchi, Blazewski, Chippendale, McGaw, Carson, Boylan, Fogarty, Ajello, Fellela

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 3-9, 2026, TO BE "COMPOSTING AWARENESS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6029/1}

05/05/2026 House read and passed

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

There is no objection.

Representative Cortvriend discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8516**

**BY** Phillips, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Corvese, Hull, Ajello, Fellela, Cortvriend, Diaz  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF MAY 2026 AS  
“EYEGLASS RECYCLING MONTH” IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6401/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Phillips discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8517**

**BY** Place, Newberry, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Felix, Hull, Hopkins, Ajello, Fellela  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE ELEANOR SLATER  
HOSPITAL--ZAMBARANO CAMPUS ON THE RECOGNITION OF "ZAMBARANO DAY" ON  
MAY 5, 2026 {LC6166/1}

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

There is no objection.

Minority Whip Place discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Minority Whip Place, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

**House Resolution No. 8518**

**BY** Carson, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Fogarty, Shallcross Smith, Cortvriend, Hull,  
Ajello, Fellela  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2026, TO BE "OLDER  
AMERICANS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6031/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Carson discusses the resolution.

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

#### **RULE 7D**

**The following bills were received pursuant to Rule 7D:**

Representative McEntee-An Act relating to Courts

Representative Slater-An Act relating to the Rhode Island Cannabis Act

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. 2015**

**BY** Raptakis, Thompson, Gu, Patalano, Murray, Burke, Quezada, LaMountain, McKenney, Sosnowski

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- LENDERS AND LOAN BROKERS (Removes the licensing exemption for a lender that originates less than six (6) loans in twelve (12) consecutive months.) {LC3453/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Corporations

##### **Senate Bill No. 2184**

**BY** Felag, Appollonio, Lauria, Gallo, Burke, LaMountain, Britto

**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.) {LC4237/1}  
05/06/2026 Referred to House Finance

**Senate Bill No. 2203**

**BY** Zurier, Valverde, Euer, Urso, Gu

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- GENETIC INFORMATION PRIVACY ACT (Requires a direct-to-consumer genetic testing company, as defined, to provide a consumer with certain information regarding the company's policies and procedures regarding use of genetic data.) {LC3434/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Judiciary

**Senate Bill No. 2327**

**BY** Sosnowski, Britto, McKenney

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE (Designates the month of May, annually, as "Rhode Island Native Plant Month," with appropriate ceremonies and activities to recognize and educate people about Rhode Island's native plants.) {LC4298/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Special Legislation

**Senate Bill No. 2332**

**BY** Bell, Murray, Thompson, Gu, Ujifusa, Quezada, Valverde, Felag, Vargas, DiMario

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES (Provides that exemptions to the prohibition of liquor licenses within two hundred feet (200') of schools or places of worship do not eliminate neighboring property owners' remonstrance rights to object to the license.) {LC3965/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**Senate Bill No. 2414**

**BY** Felag, Raptakis, Burke, Tikoian, LaMountain, Murray, Lauria, Vargas, DiMario

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION FEES (Disabled veteran license plate may be transferred to veterans' spouse or issued to veteran or veterans spouse.) {LC4568/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Veterans Affairs

**Senate Bill No. 2418**

**BY** Lawson, LaMountain, Gallo, Lauria, Britto

**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.) {LC4214/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Finance

**Senate Bill No. 2420**

**BY** Patalano, Ciccone, Tikoian, Famiglietti, Appollonio, Thompson, Raptakis, Burke, Urso, Dimitri

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- NATIONAL GUARD (Allows the dependents of a national guard member, who is in good standing, to be eligible for tuition assistance.) {LC4301/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Veterans Affairs

**Senate Bill No. 2519****BY** McKenney, Tikoian, Britto, Bissaillon, Zurier**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- THE RHODE ISLAND SPECIAL DEPOSITS ACT (Establishes the Rhode Island Special Deposits Act to be governed by an account agreement between the bank and the depositor or its beneficiary.) {LC4839/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Corporations

**Senate Bill No. 2639 SUB A****BY** Dimitri, Famiglietti, Tikoian, Britto, Thompson, Patalano**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- SINGLE-USE PLASTIC STRAWS (Allows customers to directly take single-use plastic straws from single straw dispensers at food service establishments.) {LC5408/A/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

**Senate Bill No. 2644**

(Lieutenant Governor)

**BY** Murray, Thompson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- ESTATES IN REAL PROPERTY (Prohibits restrictive covenants related to grocery stores.) {LC4779/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Judiciary

**Senate Bill No. 2647 SUB A****BY** Appollonio**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- COMMERCIAL KITCHEN EXHAUST SYSTEM INSPECTION AND CLEANING, LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION ACT (Establishes the commercial kitchen exhaust system inspection and cleaning licensing and certification act. It also requires entities inspecting or cleaning commercial exhaust systems be licensed and insured.) {LC5335/A/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Corporations

**Senate Bill No. 2772**

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

**BY** Gallo, Tikoian, Burke, LaMountain, Felag**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- ARCHITECTS (Amends how architecture firms and individual architects are registered.) {LC5445/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Corporations

**Senate Bill No. 2838**

(Adm/Office of Healthy Aging (OHA))

**BY** Tikoian**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE-- DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE (Provides that the month of September in each year be designated "Rhode Island Senior Center Month" with appropriate exercises in public places.) {LC4959/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Special Legislation

**Senate Bill No. 3075**

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

**BY** Britto, Burke, Urso, Bissaillon

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- LICENSED

ACTIVITIES (Establishes requirements for capital, liquidity, and corporate governance including: audit, risk management, and board oversight, for nonbank mortgage servicers.) {LC5442/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Corporations

**Senate Bill No. 3076**

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

**BY** Britto, McKenney, Burke, Urso, Bissaillon

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PUBLIC

ACCOUNTANCY (Updates the state's public accountancy act for consistency with the 9th edition of the Uniform Accountancy Act, as issued by NASBA and AICPA in July 2025.) {LC5444/1}

05/06/2026 Referred to House Corporations

**NEW BUSINESS****House Bill No. 8519**

**BY** Carson, Shekarchi

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD (Provides a three-year moratorium on the requirement that obligated entities obtain increasing percentages of retail sales of electricity from renewable energy sources.)

{LC6419/1}

05/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 8520**

**BY** Potter

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF LOS TOROS BAND, INC. {LC6427/1}

05/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 8521**

**BY** Potter

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF LOS TOROS RECORDS, INC. {LC6428/1}

05/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 8522**

**BY** Cotter

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- RECIPROCAL

ENFORCEMENT OF FISHING LAWS (Provides reciprocal enforcement of boating and fish and game laws with the state of Connecticut on any part of waters lying between Connecticut and Rhode Island.) {LC6431/1}

05/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

**House Bill No. 8523****BY** Noret**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SPECIAL STOPS REQUIRED (Permits a driver to admit to a violation for failure to stop for a school bus and pay the violation of \$300 directly to the municipality or its designee, without the need for a court appearance.) {LC6363/1}

05/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 8524****BY** Corvese, Kennedy, Azzinaro, Solomon, Casey, McEntee, Noret, Read**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- WORKERS' COMPENSATION--GENERAL PROVISIONS (Amends various sections of the workers' compensation statute relative to the court's jurisdiction and the court's authority.) {LC6432/1}

05/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

**House Bill No. 8525****BY** Noret, Read**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES {LC6407/1}

05/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government &amp; Housing

**House Resolution No. 8526****BY** Stewart, Cruz, Potter, Alzate, Kazarian, Felix, Giraldo, Kislak, Morales, Sanchez**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY 4, 2026, AS A "NATIONAL DAY OF REASON" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND AFFIRMING THE CENTRAL IMPORTANCE OF REASON IN THE BETTERMENT OF HUMANITY {LC5831/1}

05/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

**House Bill No. 8527****BY** Cotter, Kennedy, Spears**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CHARIHO REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SERVING THE TOWNS OF CHARLESTOWN, RICHMOND AND HOPKINTON, CONSISTING OF ONE OR MORE BUILDINGS ON A SINGLE CAMPUS, AND IMPROVEMENTS AT THE SWITCH ROAD CAMPUS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, COSTS OF LAND ACQUISITION, DEMOLITION, DESIGN, HEALTH AND SAFETY PROJECTS, PLAYGROUNDS, LANDSCAPING, PAVING, AND ALL EXPENSES INCIDENTAL THERETO, BY THE ISSUANCE OF NOT MORE THAN \$116,000,000 BONDS AND/OR NOTES THEREFOR, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF STATE HOUSING AID AT A REIMBURSEMENT RATE OR STATE SHARE RATIO OF NOT LESS THAN 61% AT THE TIME OF ISSUANCE, WHICH RATE OR RATIO MAY INCREASE TO 65% AT PROJECT COMPLETION (Authorizes the Chariho Regional School District to finance the construction, furnishing and equipping of an elementary school and to issue not more than \$116,000,000 bonds and/or notes.) {LC6409/1}

05/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 8528****BY** Baginski, Slater**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM -- 2026 BOND REFERENDA (Submits the State's 2026 capital development program requesting the issuance of general obligation bonds for approval of the electorate at the general election to be held in November 2026.) {LC6416/1}

05/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 8529****BY** Baginski, Slater**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE RHODE ISLAND LIFE SCIENCE HUB ACT (Amends the compositions of the Rhode Island life science hub board of directors and amends the I-195 redevelopment district commission and provides additional amendments to the powers and duties of the commission.) {LC6426/1}

05/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 8530****BY** Edwards, Bennett**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES--LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts from sales tax the amount paid for a parking space at municipally operated beach parking in the town of Tiverton.) {LC6418/1}

05/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**TRANSFER OF BILLS  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

Chairman McNamara, for the Committee on Education, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of transfer to the Committee on Municipal Government & Housing

**Senate Bill No. 2749****BY** Bell**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES (Allows for the issuance of a Class BV liquor license for the property located at 819 Westminster Street in the city of Providence.) {LC5439/1}

05/07/2026 Committee transferred to House Municipal Government &amp; Housing

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:45 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**

**REPRESENTATIVE GRACE DIAZ**

Dear God: Today, we honor all the women and men who dedicate their lives to caring for our children. Our childcare workers are the caregivers for all future generations. We pray for their health and safety and give thanks for all the love and care they provide for our children. Amen

APPENDIX

## CALENDAR

## IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026:

1. **2026-H 7369****BY** Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS AND INSTALLATION OF SYSTEMS

Committee on Municipal Government &amp; Housing recommends passage.

2. **2026-H 7608****BY** Dawson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- OPERATION OF RAILROADS GENERALLY

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

3. **2026-H 7477 SUB A****BY** Voas**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CORPORATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS -- UNIFORM PARTNERSHIP ACT -- THE RHODE ISLAND LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY ACT

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

4. **2026-H 7836****BY** Giraldo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- BARBERS, HAIRDRESSERS, COSMETICIANS, MANICURISTS, AND ESTHETICIANS

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

5. **2026-H 7859 SUB A****BY** Kennedy**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- DOMESTIC INSURANCE COMPANIES

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

6. **2026-H 7551**  
**BY Kennedy**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- FRAUD AND FALSE DEALING**

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

7. **2026-H 7092**  
**BY Perez**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARIES FOR ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND FOR PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE**

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

8. **2026-H 7782**  
**BY Boylan**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES**

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

9. **2026-H 7677**  
**BY Spears**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

10. **2026-S 3204**  
**BY Pearson**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE CUMBERLAND LODGE #14, FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE**

Committee on Corporations recommends passage in concurrence.

**Francis McCabe**  
Clerk of the House

**Thursday, April 30, 2026**  
**Updated: Friday, May 1, 2026**