

# 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. 33

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Thirty-Third Day

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The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Tuesday, May 14, 2026, and is called to order at 4:11 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable Christopher R. Blazewski, Speaker.

The roll is called, and a quorum is declared present with 71 members present and 4 members absent as follows:

**PRESENT** – 71: The Honorable Speaker Blazewski and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, 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, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

**ABSENT** – 4: Representatives Brien, Costantino, Fascia, and Shekarchi.

## INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker Blazewski presents Rabbi Barry Dolinger, from the Congregation Beth Sholom, Providence, 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, May 7, 2026, is approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Representative Jon D. Brien is unable to attend session today, Thursday, May 14, 2026.

**CALENDAR**

From the Calendar are taken:

**IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026:**

- 1. 2026-H 7613 SUB A**  
**BY** Marszalkowski  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- TAX PREPARERS ACT OF 2013

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

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Kazarian and Representative Potter.

Chairman Solomon, Minority Whip Place, and Representative Nardone discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 66 members voting in the affirmative and 3 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 66: The Honorable Speaker Blazewski and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 3: Representatives Chippendale, Perez, Place.

RECUSED - 0:

- 2. 2026-H 8004 SUB A**  
**BY** Craven  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--COURTS -- SUPERIOR COURT

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

Chairwoman McEntee moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Kazarian, Representatives Knight, Caldwell, and Speakman.

Chairwoman McEntee 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, 57 members voting in the affirmative and 12 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

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

RECUSED - 0:

**3. 2026-H 7679 SUB A**

**BY** Azzinaro

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- BURIAL OF VETERANS

Committee on Veterans` Affairs recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

Chairman Azzinaro moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable Speaker Blazejewski and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Craven, Cruz, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Potter, Read, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

Chairman Azzinaro and Chairman Corvese discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 70 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 70: The Honorable Speaker Blazejewski and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**4. 2026-H 7491**

**BY** Kislak

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND NOTES TO FUND THE PROVIDENCE HOUSING TRUST FUND TO FINANCE AFFORDABLE MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING PROJECTS IN THE CITY

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Kazarian, Representatives Biah, Speakman, Ajello, Kislak, Morales, Diaz, Lombardi, and Deputy Speaker Hull.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

Read and passed, as amended, on a roll call vote, 70 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 70: The Honorable Speaker Blazejewski and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**5. 2026-H 8487**

**BY** Azzinaro

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE CAMP LEJEUNE JUSTICE ACT OF 2022

Committee on Veterans` Affairs recommends passage.

Chairman Azzinaro moves passage of the act, seconded by he Honorable Speaker Blazejewski and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Caldwell, Carson, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Craven, Cruz, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, O'Brien, Phillips, Potter, Read, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Voas.

Chairman Azzinaro and Representative Tanzi discuss the act.

Read and passed, as amended, on a roll call vote, 70 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 70: The Honorable Speaker Blazejewski and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**6. 2026-H 8403**

**BY** Finkelman

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF JAMESTOWN TO FUND AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS AND TO ISSUE NOT MORE THAN \$3,000,000 BONDS AND NOTES THEREFOR

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

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

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

Read and passed, as amended, 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 Blazejewski and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**7. 2026-H 8466****BY** Corvese**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 Kazarian and Representative Corvese.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

Read and passed, as amended, on a roll call vote, 70 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 70: The Honorable Speaker Blazejewski and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**8. 2026-S 2755****BY** Zurier**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage in concurrence.

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

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

Read and passed, in concurrence, on a roll call vote, 70 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 70: The Honorable Speaker Blazejewski and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, 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

Representative Knight, in celebration of Jewish-American Heritage Month, welcomes Rabbi Barry Dolinger, members of the Jewish Alliance, Harris Chronney, CEO Marissa Garber, and Stephanie Hague, Emily Gaudreau.

Chairwoman Donovan, in commemorating National Hospital Week, extends a warm welcome and is honored to have Lisa Tomasso, former State Representative and Senior Vice President of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island, Daniel Parkinson, Chief Executive Officer of Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Johnston, Angie Wright, Senior Vice President and Chief Nurse Executive, Brown University Health, Dr. Michael Wagner, Chief Executive Officer and President of Care New England, and Micheal Souza, Chief Executive Officer and President of Landmark Medical Center, to the House Chamber. Speaker Blazejewski welcomes them and commends all of them for their hard work and dedication.

Representative Noret welcomes members of the Ambulatory Operations at Yale New Haven Health, Emily Dudley, Director, and Julie Noret, Supervisor, to the House Chamber. They were here for the Hospital Association Press Event.

Chairman Bennett welcomes members of the Rhode Island Academy of Physicians Assistants, including Raymond Cord, PA-C, Immediate Past President, and Jim Carney, Associate Executive Director, to the House Chamber in recognition of Rhode Island physicians' assistants.

Representative Spears warmly welcomes members of the Rhode Island Parent Information Network to the House Chamber, including Sam Salganik, Executive Director; Yasmin Alba, Board member; and Colbie Taylor, Board member. Also present are Mykahla Gardiner, Clinical Care Manager, and Tara Hayes, Policy, Advocacy & Family Voices Manager. RIPIN is a nonprofit that helps individuals and families navigate the healthcare, special education, and social services systems. They are here today in celebration of RIPIN's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Chairman Solomon congratulates and warmly welcomes the Wheeler School's Academic Decathlon Participants to the House Chamber.

In recognition of Rhode Island Native Plant Month, Representative McGaw warmly welcomes two of her constituents, Lavinia Gadsden, a member of the Garden Club of America's National Affairs and Legislation Committee, and Libby Moore, the National Garden Clubs of America Horticulture Committee Chair and a member of the Little Compton Garden Club, to the House Chamber.

Representative Potter warmly welcomes members of the Rhode Island Medical Society, including. Nadine Himelfarb, MD, President; Mariah Stump, MD, President-elect; Christopher DiMarco, MD, Vice President; Stacy Paterno, Executive Vice President; Michael Migliori, MD, Public Laws Chair; Gary Bubly, MD; Sierra Grasso, MD; Matthew Sarasin, MD; Philip Rizzuto, MD; and Beth Cronin, MD, to the House Chamber. Representative Potter thanks them for organizing the 2026 Advocacy Day, held here at the State House today.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Noret wishes his wife, Julie Noret, a Happy Birthday!

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.

Vice- Chairwoman Kislak announces that the Committee on Education will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 135 of the State House.

Chairwoman Shallcross Smith announces that the Committee on Small Business will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 101 of the State House.

Chairwoman McEntee announces that the Committee on Judiciary will meet today, at the rise of the House, in the House Lounge of the State House.

Representative Fellela would like to congratulate one of her constituents' sons, Davivid Zannelli. He was recently named Chief of Police in New Haven, Connecticut. David began his police career with the Middletown Police Department in Rhode Island and has served with the New Haven Police Department for over 15 years.

Majority Leader Kazarian announces that the next House Session will be held on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and Thursday, May 21, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

Majority Leader Kazarian wishes former Speaker Shekarchi a happy birthday this Sunday, May 17, 2026.

### IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

#### **House Resolution No. 8549**

**BY** Azzinaro, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Ackerman, Kennedy, Hopkins, Fellela, Lombardi, Santucci

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING AND CELEBRATING "ARMED FORCES DAY" ON MAY 16TH, 2026, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6039/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Azzinaro discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8550**

**BY** McGaw, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Boylan, Potter, DeSimone, Tanzi, Ajello, Fogarty  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MAY OF 2026 AS “RHODE ISLAND  
NATIVE PLANT MONTH” {LC3551/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative McGaw discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8551**

**BY** Spears, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Potter, Ajello, Fellela, Bennett, Santucci, Diaz  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING RIPIN ON 35 YEARS OF  
IMPROVING RHODE ISLANDERS' LIVES {LC6371/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Spears discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8552**

**BY** Solomon, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Casimiro, Casey, Chippendale, O'Brien, DeSimone,  
McNamara, McEntee

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND RECOGNIZING THE  
MEMBERS AND COACH OF THE WHEELER SCHOOL TEAM ON THEIR 1ST PLACE  
VICTORY AT THE 43RD RHODE ISLAND ACADEMIC DECATHLON AND  
CONGRATULATING THE TEAM ON THEIR SUCCESS AT THE NATIONAL ACADEMIC  
DECATHLON ON APRIL 23-25, 2026 {LC6144/1}

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. 8553**

**BY** Potter, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Kislak, Chippendale, Corvese, Giraldo, Stewart, Bennett, Hopkins  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING THE RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY  
FOR ORGANIZING THE 2026 STATE HOUSE ADVOCACY DAY {LC6481/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Potter discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8554**

**BY** Bennett, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Felix, Hopkins, Paplauskas, Place, Donovan,  
Solomon

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE 50TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE RHODE ISLAND ACADEMY OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND  
COMMENDING ITS LEADERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO HEALTH CARE IN THE  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6392/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Bennett discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8555**

**BY** Donovan, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Potter, Ajello, Fellela, Bennett, Santucci, Diaz  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING "NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK" ON  
MAY 10-16, 2026, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6040/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Donovan discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8556**

**BY** Knight, Ackerman, Kislak, Finkelman, Boylan, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Potter, Ajello

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2026 AS "JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6386/1}

Majority Leader Kazarian requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

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

**RULE 7D**

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

Representative Ackerman-An Act relating to Alzheimer's

Representative Blazejewski-An Act relating to Inspector General

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 Blazejewski 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. 3002 as amended**

(Dept. of Transportation)

**BY** McKenney

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SIZE, WEIGHT, AND LOAD LIMITS (Provides a series of updates to size, weight, and load regulations for commercial and specialized vehicles.) {LC5447/1}

05/15/2026 Referred to House State Government & Elections

**TRANSFER OF BILLS  
COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING**

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

**House Bill No. 8532**

**BY** Nardone, Roberts, Chippendale, Noret, Serpa, Read

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (Requires 10% of all rental fees collected by the water resources board pursuant to a lease with the Coventry Pines Golf Club be paid to the town of Coventry and 10% to the Central Coventry Fire District.) {LC6450/1}

05/14/2026 Committee transferred to House Finance

**NEW BUSINESS****House Resolution No. 8557**

**BY** Hopkins, Donovan, Boylan, Knight, Speakman, Solomon, Casimiro, Casey, Bennett, Noret

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY PRIMARY CARE MEDICINE IN RHODE ISLAND (Creates a special legislative commission to study and provide recommendations relating to supporting primary care medicine in Rhode Island.) {LC6448/1}

05/15/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 8558**

**BY** McNamara, Solomon, Bennett, Hopkins, Shanley

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS -- CITY OF WARWICK (Grants the city of Warwick the authority to sell the property located at 34 Warwick Lake Avenue, without regard for statutory limitations pursuant to § 45-2-6, to clear the title to said property.) {LC6472/1}

05/15/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 8559**

**BY** Casey, Solomon, Chippendale, Corvese, Shallcross Smith, Phillips, Noret, Finkelman, Dawson, Biah

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Authorizes the administration of the division of motor vehicles to make available special license plates for the Rhode Island Manufacture Association.) {LC6477/1}

05/15/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

**House Bill No. 8560**

**BY** Ajello

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FOUNDATION LEVEL SCHOOL SUPPORT (Allows a different minimum salary schedule for Providence public school teachers and provides a process for the dismissal and demotion of teachers. The reconstitution and control of the Providence public schools would terminate on June 30, 2026.) {LC6463/1}

05/15/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 8561**

**BY** Solomon, Casey

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- MEDICAID PROGRAM FUNDING AND REALLOCATION OF ENROLLMENT SAVINGS (Provides any Medicaid program savings associated with enrollment reductions would be retained within the healthcare system and reinvested through targeted increases in reimbursement.) {LC6445/1}

05/15/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES COMMITTEE ON CORPORATIONS

Chairman Solomon, for the Committee on Corporations, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of passage:

**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}

05/15/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/19/2026)

**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}

05/15/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/19/2026)

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

Chairman McNamara, for the Committee on Education, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of passage:

**House Bill No. 7481 SUB A**

**BY** Fogarty, Cortvriend, Alzate, Boylan, Carson, Shallcross Smith, Spears, Kazarian, Handy, Hull  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS  
(Requires the department of elementary and secondary education and DOH to adopt policies, rules and regulations for the administration of seizure rescue medications for children who have been medically identified as having epilepsy/seizure disorder.) {LC4743/A/1}

05/15/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/19/2026)

**House Bill No. 8362**

**BY** Casimiro, Kazarian, Potter, McEntee, Speakman, Donovan, Cruz, Hopkins, Craven, Caldwell  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CURRICULUM -- FOSTER CARE  
YOUTH ACADEMIC REPORTS (Expands foster care academic youth reports to include information regarding 504 eligibility, graduation progress and surrogate parents. The act would require implementation of additional strategies to improve performance and additional progress reports.) {LC6183/1}

05/15/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/19/2026)

**COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

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

**House Bill No. 7210**

**BY** McEntee, Caldwell, Casimiro, Spears, Felix, Craven, Dawson, Speakman, O'Brien, Marszalkowski  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- UNIFORM PARTITION OF HEIRS' PROPERTY ACT (Adopts the uniform partition of heirs property act.) {LC3372/1}

05/15/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/21/2026)

**House Bill No. 7437**

(City of Providence)

**BY** Slater

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- AUTOMATED TRAFFIC VIOLATION MONETARY SYSTEMS (Extends the sunseting of the "Don't Block the Box" automated traffic detection systems from January 15, 2027, to January 15, 2030.) {LC4258/1}

05/15/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/19/2026)

**House Bill No. 7507**

**BY** Corvese, McNamara, Brien, Azzinaro, DeSimone, Read, Bennett, Noret, Fascia, Slater  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- JUDGMENTS, ORDERS, AND DECREES (Requires that notice of a judgment lien be sent within ten (10) business days of the recording of the lien.) {LC4806/1}

05/15/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/21/2026)

**House Bill No. 8501****BY** Blazejewski

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATUTES AND STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION (Re-enacts certain chapters of title 45 relating to towns and cities and provides various technical statutory construction edits throughout the general laws.) {LC6193/1}  
05/15/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/19/2026)

**House Bill No. 8091**

(Dept. of Human Services)

**BY** Caldwell, McEntee, O'Brien

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LICENSING OF YOUTH CAMPS (Aligns the implementation date of youth camp licensing within the operational, and statutory framework of the Rhode Island department of human services and department of children, youth and families.) {LC5322/1}  
05/15/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/21/2026)

**COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING**

Chairman Casey, for the Committee on Municipal Government and Housing, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

**House Bill No. 8507****BY** McEntee, Tanzi

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF NARRAGANSETT TO FINANCE THE EQUIPPING, EXPANSION, IMPROVEMENT AND RENOVATION OF FIRE STATIONS IN THE TOWN OF NARRAGANSETT AND TO ISSUE NOT MORE THAN \$3,000,000 BONDS AND NOTES THEREFOR (Authorizes the town of Narragansett to issue up to \$3,000,000 in bonds and notes to finance the equipping, expansion, improvement and renovation of fire stations.) {LC6402/1}  
05/15/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/21/2026)

**COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS**

Chairwoman McEntee, for the Committee on Small Business, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

**House Bill No. 7975 SUB A****BY** Speakman, Spears, Boylan

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES (Requires licensed retailers authorized to sell intoxicating beverages to provide a lid to a consumer upon request.) {LC5547/A/2}  
05/15/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/19/2026)

**COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL LEGISLATION**

Chairwoman Alzate, for the Committee on Special Legislation, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of passage:

**House Bill No. 8509****BY** Donovan

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Joseph Couto to join Brandon Kemmy and Jacqueline Manousos in Marriage on or about August 2, 2026, within the Town of Tiverton, Rhode Island.) {LC6412/1}

05/15/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/19/2026)

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:01 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Fogarty, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of James S. Kandzerski, seconded by Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale, the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

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

APPENDIX

## INVOCATION

## RABBI BARRY DOLINGER

Today, as we mark Jewish American Heritage Month, we pause not only to celebrate a community, but to bless a promise.

My ancestors came to these shores because America was known in Yiddish as the *goldene medinah* — the Golden Land. Not perfect. Not uncomplicated. But golden because it held out the possibility that human dignity need not be trapped by the narrowness of the old world. Golden because the exhausted immigrant, carrying strange accents, strange foods, strange prayers, and impossible hopes, might yet find room to breathe, to build, to belong.

And Rhode Island — this remarkable state — has long stood close to the heart of that promise.

From the sacred letters of President George Washington to the Hebrew Congregation of Newport, assuring the Jewish people that this nation would “give to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance,” America offered something radical in the history of humanity: not mere tolerance, but dignity. Not simply permission to survive, but the invitation to help shape the moral fabric of the nation itself.

And so Jews came. We prayed. We argued. We opened shops and schools and hospitals. We organized labor movements and civil rights campaigns. We taught Torah and medicine, law and music. We built communities rooted in the ancient Jewish conviction that every human being is created *b'tzelem Elokim* — in the image of God.

But blessings, if they are to remain alive, require renewal.

For today, two truths exist side by side.

The first is that fear has again entered the public square. False zero-sum thinking has convinced too many that the immigrant, the stranger, the person with a different language, accent, religion, or story, is primarily a threat rather than a bearer of possibility. The dream of the *goldene medinah* feels farther away for many families struggling simply to live with dignity and hope.

And the second truth is that antisemitism — ancient, adaptable, poisonous antisemitism — has again begun to fray the sacred covenant America once promised the Jews of Newport. We feel it in vandalized synagogues, in conspiratorial rhetoric, in suspicion masquerading as sophistication, and in the terrible loneliness of communities wondering whether their neighbors still truly see them.

And yet — and yet — we stand here today not in despair, but in covenant.

So may this chamber, and this state, and this nation be blessed with the courage to resist the politics of fear and the seduction of division.

May we remain curious about one another rather than threatened by one another.

May Jewish Americans be celebrated not only for our survival, but for our contributions — our stubborn faith in learning, justice, family, memory, argument, compassion, and repair.

May immigrants arriving on these shores today be seen with the same moral imagination once extended to our grandparents.

And may America be golden again — not merely because wealth can be accumulated here, but because kindness can flourish here; because equality can deepen here; because human beings of different faiths and stories can build a shared society without surrendering their distinctiveness.

May this be a land golden with lovingkindness.

Golden with dignity.

Golden with moral courage.

And may we together prove worthy of the promise entrusted to us.

Amen.

**APPENDIX**

**TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR**

**Senate Bill No. 2755**

**BY** Zurier

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

(Allows for the issuance of a Class B or Class BV liquor license for the property located at 186 Wayland Avenue in the city of Providence.) {LC5290/1}

05/14/2026 Transmitted to Governor

**APPENDIX****CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MAY 19, 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 & Housing recommends passage.

- 2. 2026-H 7481 SUB A**  
**BY Fogarty**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS**

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

- 3. 2026-H 8362**  
**BY Casimiro**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CURRICULUM -- FOSTER CARE YOUTH ACADEMIC REPORTS**

Committee on Education recommends passage.

- 4. 2026-H 7975 SUB A**  
**BY Speakman**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES**

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

- 5. 2026-H 7437**  
**BY Slater**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- AUTOMATED TRAFFIC VIOLATION MONETARY SYSTEMS**

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

6. **2026-H 8501**  
**BY** Blazejewski  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATUTES AND STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

7. **2026-H 8509**  
**BY** Donovan  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Special Legislation recommends passage.

8. **2026-H 8520**  
**BY** Potter  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF LOS TOROS BAND, INC.

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

9. **2026-H 8521**  
**BY** Potter  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF LOS TOROS RECORDS, INC.

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

**IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026:**

1. **2026-H 8091**  
**BY** Caldwell  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LICENSING OF YOUTH CAMPS

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

2. **2026-H 7210**  
**BY** McEntee  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- UNIFORM PARTITION OF HEIRS' PROPERTY ACT

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

3. **2026-H 7507**  
**BY** Corvese  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE --  
PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- JUDGMENTS, ORDERS, AND DECREES

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

4. **2026-H 8507**  
**BY** McEntee  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF NARRAGANSETT TO  
FINANCE THE EQUIPPING, EXPANSION, IMPROVEMENT AND RENOVATION OF  
FIRE STATIONS IN THE TOWN OF NARRAGANSETT AND TO ISSUE NOT MORE  
THAN \$3,000,000 BONDS AND NOTES THEREFOR

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

**IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2026:**

1. **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.

**Francis McCabe**  
Clerk of the House

**Tuesday, May 12, 2026**