

# 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. 35

Thursday, May 21, 2026

Thirty-Fifth Day

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The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Thursday, May 21, 2026, and is called to order at 4:18 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable Christopher R. Blazewski, Speaker.

The roll is called, and a quorum is declared present with 66 members present and 9 members absent as follows:

**PRESENT** – 66: The Honorable Speaker Blazewski and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Speakman, Spears, and Voas.

**ABSENT** – 9: Representatives Brien, Giraldo, Paplauskas, Quattrocchi, Santucci, Shekarchi, Solomon, Stewart, and Tanzi,

## INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker Blazewski presents Representative Karen Alzate, 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 19, 2026, is approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Representative Jon D. Brien is unable to attend session today, Thursday, May 21, 2026.  
Representative Joshua J. Giraldo is unable to attend session today, Thursday, May 21, 2026.  
Representative Jennifer A. Stewart is unable to attend session today, Thursday, May 21, 2026.

**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 Corporations:

**Senate Bill No. 3266****BY** Felag**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF CHARLIE'S OIL CO., INC. {LC6353/1}

05/21/2026 Committee transferred to House Corporations

**CALENDAR**

From the Calendar are taken:

**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.

Chairwoman McEntee moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Kazarian, Representatives Caldwell, Shallcross Smith, Fogarty, Bennett, and Diaz.

Chairwoman McEntee discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 62 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 62: The Honorable Speaker Blazejewski and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Speakman, Spears, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**2. 2026-H 7210**

**BY** McEntee

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- UNIFORM PARTITION OF HEIRS' PROPERTY ACT

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

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

Chairwoman McEntee discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 65 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**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.

Chairwoman McEntee moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Kazarian, Representative Corvese, Floor Manager Edwards, Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman, and Representative Bennett.

Chairwoman McEntee, Representative Newberry, Chairman Corvese, and Representative Knight discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 57 members voting in the affirmative and 8 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, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Speakman, Spears, Voas.

NAYS - 8: Representatives Chippendale, Fascia, Hopkins, Nardone, Newberry, Perez, Place, Roberts.

RECUSED - 0:

**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.

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

Chairman Casey 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 Blazejewski and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Speakman, Spears, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

**GUESTS**

In recognition of Brain Tumor Awareness Month, Chairman Shanley warmly welcomes Lisa D'Ambra, Executive Director; Christopher Maxwell; and Christina Thibault, Board Members of the Rhode Island Brain and Spine Tumor Foundation of Warwick, to the House Chamber.

Chairwoman Diaz and Representative Batista warmly welcome the esteemed members of the RI Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, including Oscar Mejias, Executive Director; Elvis Santana, Board Secretary; Devon Diaz; Joel Arias; Yudelka Guzman, Board at Large; and Aura Quintero, Program Manager. We are honored to have you here today to commemorate the RI Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's tenth anniversary.

Representative Batista warmly welcomes Oliver Cruz, a senior at Cranston East High School, to the House Chamber. He is a mentee of Representative Batista through the "College Visions" program and is interested in a career in law.

**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.

Vice-Chairman Slater wishes his father, Thomas C. Slater, a heavenly birthday.

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.

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

Representative Kislak warmly welcomes members of the Divine Nine and the Rhode Island Coalition of Black Women, some of whom are her constituents, including Melody Forrest, Angie Ankoma, former City Councilor Nira La Fortune, Kayla, Pamela Hughes, Shahidah Ali, Denise Barge, and Nicole Tingle. She thanks them for their service to the community and the state and welcomes them to the House.

Chairman McNamara announces that this weekend is the Annual Gaspee Day Art and Craft Fair, and all are welcome to attend.

Vice-Chairwoman Caldwell announces that the Committee on Corporations will meet today, at the rise of the House, in the House Lounge of the State House.

Chairwoman Fogarty and Speaker Blazewski express their deepest condolences to the family and friends of Patricia M. Lynch on her passing.

Majority Leader Kazarian announces that the next House session will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, and Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

Majority Leader Kazarian announces that this Saturday morning, Jack Masse, her constituent and House Page, has organized a charity car rally as part of his High School Senior Project. All proceeds from this Rhode Rally will go directly to Hasbro Children's Hospital. Congratulations on this great project.

### IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

#### **House Resolution No. 8569**

**BY** Bennett, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Paplauskas, Newberry, Santucci, Hull, Lombardi, Tanzi

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING MAY 17-23, 2026, AS "QUAHOG WEEK 2026" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC3181/1}

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. 8570**

**BY** Giraldo, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Voas, Stewart, Alzate, Potter, Diaz, Kislak  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 22, 2026, AS "RHODE ISLAND COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6043/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Alzate discusses the resolution.

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

#### **House Resolution No. 8571**

**BY** Cotter, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Place, Kennedy, Shallcross Smith, Ajello, Bennett, Fogarty

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION DECLARING MAY 2026 AS "WILDFIRE AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6474/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Cotter discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8572**

**BY** Knight, Speakman, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Shallcross Smith, Ajello, Bennett, Fogarty, Potter

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF DAVID SUNLEY FRERICHS {LC6498/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Knight discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8573**

**BY** Blazejewski, Kazarian, Lima, Chippendale, Paplauskas, Potter, Baginski, Brien, McNamara, Kennedy

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE EDWARD L. MAGGIACOMO {LC6493/1}

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

Representative Lima discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8574**

**BY** Diaz, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Edwards, Slater, Giraldo, Alzate, Stewart, Batista

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION JOYOUSLY CELEBRATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RHODE ISLAND HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON MAY 19TH, 2026 {LC6461/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Diaz and Representative Batista discuss the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8575**

**BY** Shanley, Blazewski, Kazarian, Hopkins, McNamara, Bennett, Chippendale, Kennedy, Shallcross Smith, Ajello

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION DECLARING MAY 2026 AS "BRAIN TUMOR AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6470/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Shanley discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8576**

**BY** Chippendale, Kazarian

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING CONGRATULATIONS {LC6487/1}

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.

**House Resolution No. 8577**

**BY** Chippendale, Kazarian

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES {LC6488/1}

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 rising vote.

**RULE 7D**

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

Representative Alzate-An Act relating to Accident and Sickness Insurance

Representative Caldwell-An Act relating to HealthCare

Representative DeSimone-An Act relating to the Rhode Island Turnpike Bridge Authority

Representative McGaw-An Act relating to Medicare Supplement Insurance

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. 2176**

**BY** DiMario

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Creates a special motor vehicle registration plate for the Friends of the Historic Narragansett Towers.) {LC3635/1}

05/22/2026 Referred to House Special Legislation

**Senate Bill No. 2181 SUB A**

**BY** Burke, Felag, LaMountain, Sosnowski, Gallo, Ciccone, Tikoian

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL (Creates a program through which fire departments and fire districts are notified of locations of registrants of electric and hybrid motor vehicles can register their vehicles with their local fire department or fire district.) {LC4053/A/1}

05/22/2026 Referred to House State Government & Elections

**Senate Bill No. 2185****BY** Dimitri, Thompson, Patalano, Famiglietti, Urso, Appollonio**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Creates a special license plate for the charity Real Access Motivates Progress, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.) {LC3952/1}

05/22/2026 Referred to House Special Legislation

**Senate Bill No. 2195 SUB A as amended****BY** Urso, Gu, DiPalma, Paolino, Zurier, Murray, Appollonio**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE COMPANION MODELS (Creates additional safety features for AI companion technology that include addressing suicidal ideation, potential physical harm or financial harm to others expressed by a user. It also requires notification the AI companion does not have human emotions.) {LC3227/A/1}

05/22/2026 Referred to House Innovation, Internet, &amp; Technology

**Senate Bill No. 2197 SUB A as amended****BY** Urso, Tikoian, Zurier, Burke, Gu, Paolino, DiPalma, Famiglietti**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS -- OVERSIGHT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TECHNOLOGY IN MENTAL HEALTH CARE ACT (Establishes regulations regarding the use of artificial intelligence in mental health care treatments.) {LC4017/A/1}

05/22/2026 Referred to House Health &amp; Human Services

**Senate Bill No. 2333****BY** LaMountain, Dimitri, Patalano, Famiglietti**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Creates a special motor vehicle registration plate for The Rhode Island Hockey Hall of Fame.) {LC3607/1}

05/22/2026 Referred to House Special Legislation

**Senate Bill No. 2342 SUB A as amended****BY** Lawson, LaMountain, Bissaillon**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- RESTRICTIONS ON SELF-SERVICE CHECKOUT STATIONS ACT (Places limits on the number of self-service checkout stations a grocery store can have and on the workload of employees assigned to monitor those checkout stations.) {LC4473/A/1}

05/22/2026 Referred to House Labor

**Senate Bill No. 2413****BY** Lauria, Felag, Lawson, Valverde, Gallo, Tikoian, DiPalma, Ciccone, Quezada, Raptakis**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Allows for a special RI license plate to raise awareness for colon cancer. The plate would be designed by the partnership to reduce cancer in RI and honoring the late Maryellen Goodwin.) {LC4664/1}

05/22/2026 Referred to House Special Legislation

**Senate Bill No. 2563****BY** Ujifusa, Lawson, Urso, Euer, Mack, Murray, Acosta, Zurier, DiMario, Valverde**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PRESCRIPTION DRUG SAVINGS AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2026 (Establishes the "Prescription Drug Savings and Transparency Act of 2026.") {LC4525/1}

05/22/2026 Referred to House Finance

**Senate Bill No. 2800 SUB A as amended****BY** Bissaillon, LaMountain**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- ABANDONED PROPERTY (Provides that energy storage systems located on abandoned or contaminated property be permitted by right as a permitted use and not considered to have negative environmental impacts.) {LC4500/A/1}

05/22/2026 Referred to House Municipal Government &amp; Housing

**Senate Resolution No. 3056****BY** Murray, Lawson, Ciccone, Tikoian, LaMountain**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE MEDICAID SECTION 1115 DEMONSTRATION WAIVER REQUESTS AND RENEWALS (Allows EOHHS to implement waiver amendments, state plan amendments, and changes to department rules and regulations to make certain updates to the behavioral health per-diem add on program for particularly complex patients.) {LC6130/1}

05/22/2026 Referred to House Finance

**Senate Bill No. 3064****BY** Sosnowski, Lauria, Lawson, Ciccone, Murray, DiMario, Paolino**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND (Establishes the framework to create a medical school at the University of Rhode Island and provides an initial appropriation of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) as the first phase of a multi-year investment for the development of a medical school.) {LC5342/1}

05/22/2026 Referred to House Finance

**Senate Bill No. 3170 SUB A****BY** Bissaillon, Lawson, Ciccone, Tikoian, Gallo, Murray, Burke, Britto**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS (Makes the bridge over Smith Street and Route 95, the George Nee Bridge.) {LC6215/A/2}

05/22/2026 Referred to House Special Legislation

**Senate Bill No. 3294****BY** Felag, Lauria, Ujifusa, DiPalma**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.) {LC6465/1}

05/22/2026 Referred to House Special Legislation

## NEW BUSINESS

**House Bill No. 8578**

**BY** O'Brien, Dawson, Caldwell, McEntee, Corvese, Slater, Diaz, Bennett, Kennedy, Azzinaro  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- FAMILY CAREGIVERS  
SUPPORT ACT OF 2013 (Provides workplace protection for family caregivers. It also provides for  
enforcement and remedies through the human rights commission.) {LC6483/1}

05/22/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

**House Bill No. 8579**

**BY** Spears, Donovan

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGERS  
ACT (Requires pharmacy benefit managers to apply for certificate of authority from DBR to operate  
such a business in this state. Empowers the health insurance commissioner to oversee pharmacy  
benefit managers and penalize violations.) {LC6503/1}

05/22/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 8580**

(Tiverton)

**BY** Edwards, Kennedy, Azzinaro, Bennett, Cortvriend

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO THE NORTH TIVERTON FIRE DISTRICT (Amends the  
act which incorporated the North Tiverton fire district and reduces the number of tax assessors,  
subsequent to any voluntary resignations, from six (6) to four (4) after the annual 2026 meeting.)  
{LC6504/1}

05/22/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 8581**

**BY** Casey, Brien, Phillips

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND  
PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Removes the fiscal year 2026 fourteen percent (14%) limitation for  
reduction to the local per-pupil funding for charter schools.) {LC6490/1}

05/22/2026 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. 7070**

**BY** McGaw, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Kislak, McNamara, Tanzi, Speakman, Boylan, Stewart, Cotter

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- FUNERAL  
DIRECTOR/EMBALMER AND FUNERAL SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS (Provides for the  
operation and duties of natural organic reduction for the contained, accelerated conversion of human  
remains to soil. Disposition facilities would be used for either cremation or natural organic  
reduction.) {LC3543/1}

05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/28/2026)

**House Bill No. 7332**

**BY** Hull, Lombardi, Fogarty, DeSimone, Tanzi, Felix, Azzinaro, Alzate, Bennett, Slater  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS (Requires all public utilities to maintain a customer service facility within the state to perform services such as addressing customer inquiries and accepting bill payments.) {LC4618/1}

05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/26/2026)

**House Bill No. 7837**

(Dept. of Executive Office of Health and Human Services)

**BY** Caldwell, Kislak

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- DENTISTS AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS (Permits reimbursement for dental hygienists from "other insurance" or a third-party payor such as Medicare.) {LC4973/1}

05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/28/2026)

**House Bill No. 7867**

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

**BY** Solomon

**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.) {LC5415/1}

05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/26/2026)

**House Bill No. 7920 SUB A**

(Dept. of Health)

**BY** Donovan, Furtado, Boylan, Bennett, Cotter

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- FUNERAL DIRECTOR/EMBALMER AND FUNERAL SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS (Reduces funeral home inspections from twice a year to once a year.) {LC5255/A/1}

05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/28/2026)

**House Bill No. 8128**

**BY** Casey

**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.) {LC5945/1}

05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/26/2026)

**House Bill No. 8324 SUB A**

(Secretary of State)

**BY** Shallcross Smith, Casey, Fogarty, Hull, Azzinaro, DeSimone, Casimiro, Solomon, Furtado, Messier

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE -- SECURED TRANSACTIONS (Makes a series of amendments and adds new provisions of law to address business identity theft and deceptive solicitations sent to businesses and the unauthorized formation of entities.) {LC6142/A/1}

05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/26/2026)

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

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

**House Bill No. 7114 SUB A**

**BY** Ackerman, Shekarchi, McNamara, Boylan, Finkelman, Kazarian, Kennedy, Donovan, Brien, Newberry

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Permits special community service to be imposed because of bullying based on religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or ethnicity.) {LC3216/A/1}

05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/28/2026)

**House Bill No. 7115**

**BY** McNamara, Donovan, Ackerman, Casimiro, Bennett, Casey, Noret, Read, Paplauskas, Fascia

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Mandates the use of a soft-shell helmet cover device that adds a padded, soft-shell layer to the outside of a traditional football helmet, for students participating in Rhode Island interscholastic league football) {LC3590/1}

05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/28/2026)

**House Bill No. 7617 SUB A**

**BY** Donovan, Cotter, Boylan, Speakman, Fogarty, Biah, Tanzi

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Provides that where the administration, use, or maintenance of epinephrine within schools and on buses is authorized, this use includes epinephrine delivery devices approved by the United States Food & Drug Administration and epinephrine nasal sprays.) {LC4770/A/1}

05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/28/2026)

**House Bill No. 8129**

**BY** Caldwell, Furtado, DeSimone, O'Brien, Speakman, Donovan, Kislak, Spears, Read

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FEDERAL AID (Ends transaction fees for school lunches in all districts. This act requires at least one no-fee payment method for school lunches and a full disclosure whether fees will be charged by a payment platform.) {LC5567/1}

05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/28/2026)

**COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Chairman Bennett, for the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

**House Bill No. 7183**

**BY** Kislak, Fogarty, Carson, McGaw, Boylan, Speakman, Cortvriend, Handy, Bennett, Donovan

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- BUILDING

**BENCHMARKING AND REPORTING ACT OF 2026** (Establishes a program for the energy and water benchmarking of large buildings in Rhode Island and a standard for their energy performance.) {LC4069/1}

05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/26/2026)

**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Chairwoman Donovan, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

**House Bill No. 7933 SUB A**

(Dept. of Health)

**BY** Potter, Donovan, Giraldo

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- OFFICE OF STATE MEDICAL EXAMINERS (Clarifies and updates language in the office of state medical examiners statute to address outdated or ambiguous language, outdated practices, outdated position titles/qualifications, and ensures compliance with federal HIPAA requirements.) {LC5257/A/1} 05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/28/2026)

**COMMITTEE ON LABOR**

Chairman Corvese, for the Committee on Labor, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

**House Bill No. 7146**

**BY** Fellela, Corvese, Azzinaro, Brien, Edwards

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION (Creates a new class of retirement status license for retirees that had possessed a professional license issued by the department of labor and training.) {LC4058/1} 05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/28/2026)

**COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING**

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

**Senate Bill No. 2627 SUB A**

**BY** LaMountain, Felag, Burke, Gallo, Tikoian, Ciccone, Britto, Raptakis, Bissaillon, Murray

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- TEMPORARY EXTENDED SERVICE HOURS (Allows, but not require, local licensing authorities to grant temporary periods for extended indoor service hours under existing liquor licenses for certain 2026 FIFA World Cup Tournament matches.) {LC5018/A/2} 05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/28/2026)

**House Bill No. 8010**

**BY** Tanzi, Spears

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES (Allows for the issuance of a Class B or Class B-H liquor license for the property located at 349 Main Street in the town of South Kingstown.) {LC5830/1} 05/22/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/26/2026)

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:00 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representatives Speakman and Knight, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Hon. David S. Frerichs; on motion of Representative Lima, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Hon. Edward L. Maggiacomo; on motion of Representative Fogarty and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Patricia M. Lynch; seconded by Leaders Kazarian and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

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

**APPENDIX**

**INVOCATION**

**REPRESENTATIVE KAREN ALZATE**

Gracious God, you have entrusted us with the responsibility to protect our communities. This can be a heavy burden at times. Guide us with your courage and grant us the strength to do what is best for all our constituents, no matter the cost. Amen

**APPENDIX****CALENDAR****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.

2. **2026-H 7867**  
**BY** Solomon  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- LICENSED ACTIVITIES

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

3. **2026-H 8128**  
**BY** Casey  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

4. **2026-H 8324 SUB A**  
**BY** Shallcross Smith  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE -- SECURED TRANSACTIONS

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

5. **2026-H 7332**  
**BY** Hull  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

6. **2026-H 7183**  
**BY** Kislak  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- BUILDING BENCHMARKING AND REPORTING ACT OF 2026

Committee on Environment and Natural Resources recommends passage.

7. **2026-H 8010**  
**BY** Tanzi  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

**IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026:**

1. **2026-H 7617 SUB A**  
**BY** Donovan  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

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

2. **2026-H 8129**  
**BY** Caldwell  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FEDERAL AID

Committee on Education recommends passage.

3. **2026-H 7114 SUB A**  
**BY** Ackerman  
**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.

4. **2026-H 7115**  
**BY** McNamara  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

Committee on Education recommends passage.

5. **2026-H 7837**  
**BY** Caldwell  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- DENTISTS AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

6. **2026-H 7070**  
**BY McGaw**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- FUNERAL DIRECTOR/EMBALMER AND FUNERAL SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS**

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

7. **2026-H 7920 SUB A**  
**BY Donovan**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- FUNERAL DIRECTOR/EMBALMER AND FUNERAL SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS**

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

8. **2026-H 7933 SUB A**  
**BY Potter**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- OFFICE OF STATE MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

9. **2026-H 7146**  
**BY Fellela**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION**

Committee on Labor recommends passage.

10. **2026-S 2627 SUB A**  
**BY LaMountain**  
**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 in concurrence.

**Francis McCabe**  
Clerk of the House

**Friday, May 22, 2026**