

State of Rhode Island

JOURNAL

-OF THE-

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY SESSION of the General Assembly begun and held at the State House in the City of Providence on Tuesday, the Fourth Day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.

Volume 149, No. 16

Thursday, March 10, 2022

Sixteenth-Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence, Thursday, March 10, 2022, and is called to order at 4:04 o'clock P.M., by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

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

PRESENT – 69: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Amore, Azzinaro, Baginski, Barros, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cassar, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Filippi, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McLaughlin, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Price, Quattrocchi, Ranglin-Vassell, Roberts, Ruggiero, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson and Williams.

ABSENT – 6: Representatives Batista, Hawkins, Lima C., Lima S., Newberry, and Tobon.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Representative Mary Ann Shallcross Smith 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, March 8, 2022, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Bernard Hawkins is unable to attend session today, Thursday, March 10, 2022.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**TRANSFER OF BILLS**

Chairman Abney, for the Committee on Finance, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of transfer to the Committee on State Government & Elections:

House Bill No. 7917

BY McNamara

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RHODE ISLAND INFORMATION PRIVACY ACT (Allows an individual to access and learn what personal information about the individual has been gathered and stored by covered entities that conduct business in Rhode Island.) {LC3582/1}

03/10/2022 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7927

(Secretary of State)

BY Batista

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- PUBLIC RECORDS ADMINISTRATION (Updates public records administration act, modifies records control schedule, designates records officer, establishes procedures for retention of records. Provides administrator submit yearly reports, establishes public reporting compliance.) {LC4934/1}

03/10/2022 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

AT EASE

At 4:07 o'clock P.M. the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi declares the House to be at ease.

ORDER

At 4:08 o'clock P.M. the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi calls the House to order.

CALENDAR

From the Calendar is taken:

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022:**1. 2022-H 7244**

BY Kennedy

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE POLICIES

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Donovan, Ranglin-Vassell, McEntee, Carson, Lombardi, Potter, Craven, Caldwell, Ajello, Morales, Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy, Azzinaro, Hull, McNamara, Deputy Whip Ackerman, Kislak, Corvese, Bennett, Edwards, Felix, McGaw, Messier, Constantino, Casimiro, Solomon, Fogarty, and Speakman.

Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy and Whip Chippendale discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 62 members voting in the affirmative and 7 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 62: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Amore, Azzinaro, Baginski, Barros, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cassar, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McLaughlin, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Potter, Ranglin-Vassell, Ruggiero, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Williams.

NAYS - 7: Representatives Chippendale, Filippi, Nardone, Place, Price, Quattrocchi, Roberts.

RECUSED - 0:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Carson and on behalf of Chairman Abney invite all to the 66th St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday.

GUESTS

Representative Carson would like to recognize and welcome, Abby Mills an undergraduate in Music Education at URI and a collegiate member of the RI Music Education Association. Karen Anghinetti, President-Elect for the RI music Education Association and a music educator, in the Portsmouth Public Schools. Kristin Sprague of Bristol, 44-year music teacher and choral director. Tara Villanova music educator in Portsmouth and an art teacher in Cumberland.

Speaker Shekarchi welcomes Abby Mills, Karen Anghinetti, Kristin Sprague, and Tara Villanova to the House.

NOW PRESIDING

At 4:26 o'clock P.M. the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi yields the rostrum to the Honorable Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Representative Tanzi reminds everyone of the legislative meet and greet of Washington County that will take place tomorrow from 8:30 am to 9:30 p.m.

Representative Tanzi gives her best wishes to her friend Elizabeth Gledhill on the pending birth of her daughter.

Representative McLaughlin asks for everyone to keep the people of Ukraine in their prayers.

Vice-Chairman Phillips announces that the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 101 of the State House.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces our next session day will be held on Tuesday, March 15th, 2022.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**House Resolution No. 7963****BY** Blazejewski, Filippi**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES {LC5471/1}

Majority Leader Blazejewski requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

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

House Resolution No. 7964**BY** Blazejewski, Filippi**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING CONGRATULATIONS {LC5472/1}

Majority Leader Blazejewski requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

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

House Resolution No. 7965

BY Filippi, Blazejewski, McGaw, Shallcross Smith, Fellela, Ajello, Slater, O'Brien, Solomon
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE
PASSING OF CARROLL J. HUGHES, SR. {LC5478/1}

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

There is no objection.

Minority Leader Filippi discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 7966

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi, Hull, Costantino, Lombardi J, McGaw, Shallcross Smith, Fellela, Ajello
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE
PASSING OF THE HONORABLE CHARLES R. MANSOLILLO, ESQ. {LC5492/1}

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

There is no objection.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Lombardi, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, Majority Leader Blazejewski, and Minority Leader Filippi, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

House Resolution No. 7967

BY Lombardi J, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Hull, Costantino, Filippi, Kennedy, McGaw, Ackerman, Shallcross Smith
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE
PASSING OF THE HONORABLE KEVEN ALEXANDER MCKENNA {LC5491/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Lombardi and Chairman Corvese discuss the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Lombardi, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representative Hull, and Minority Leader Filippi and, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

House Resolution No. 7968

BY Vella-Wilkinson, Williams, Donovan, Casimiro, Alzate, Kazarian, Baginski, Ackerman, Shekarchi, Blazejewski

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MARCH OF 2022, TO BE "WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC5438/1}

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

There is no objection.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Vella-Wilkinson, seconded by Representative Williams, Donovan, Casimiro, Alzate, and many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 7969

BY Amore, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi, Hull, Kennedy, Solomon, Casimiro, Lombardi J, Fogarty

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING PROVIDENCE COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH ED COOLEY ON BEING NAMED THE BIG EAST

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Amore discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Chairman Amore, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, Majority Leader Blazejewski, Minority Leader Filippi, and many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 7970

BY Carson, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi, Donovan, Biah, Speakman, Ranglin-Vassell, Amore, Serpa

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING MARCH OF 2022 AS "ARTS IN THE SCHOOLS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC5433/1}

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 Speaker Shekarchi, Majority Leader Blazejewski, Minority Leader Filippi, and many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

RULE 7D**The following bills are received pursuant to Rule 7D:**

Representative Serpa-An Act relating to Health and Human Services and Care New England
Representative Ruggiero-An Act relating to Department of Human Services to Reduce Family
Co-Payments for the Childcare Assistance Program
Representative Potter-An Act relating to State Affairs and Government
Representative Filippi-An Act relating to Education
An Act relating to Education
Representative Quattrocchi-An Act relating to Medication
Representative Price-An Act relating to Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax
Representative Fenton-Fung-An Act relating to Office of Refugee Assistance
Representative Lombardi-An Act relating to Control of High Prescription Drugs
An Act relating to Residential Landlord and Tenant Act
An Act relating to Theft, Embezzlement, False Pretenses, and
Misappropriation
Representative McNamara-An Act relating to Campaign Contributions and Expenditures
Reporting
Representative Corvese-An Act relating to Businesses Profession
Representative Edwards-An Act relating to Health and Safety

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.)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SENATE

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

Senate Bill No. 2085

(by request)

BY DiPalma

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SIZE, WEIGHT, AND LOAD LIMITS -- COMMERCIAL VEHICLES (Prohibits commercial vehicles from operating on Chases Lane in the town of Middletown and would provide for fines for violations.)

{LC3234/1}

03/11/2022 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 2088**BY** Seveney, Pearson, Coyne**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

(Provides a procedure for homeowners to submit to a municipal zoning board of review or municipal official or agency for a review to determine whether or not a proposed use under this chapter requires a special use permit.) {LC3633/1}

03/11/2022 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 2348**BY** Lawson, Coyne**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION

(Exempts from taxation the real and tangible personal property of the Holy Rosary Band Society located in East Providence.) {LC4538/1}

03/11/2022 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 2336**BY** Sosnowski, Algieri, Valverde**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES --

ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW (Authorizes the town of South Kingstown to enact a local ordinance which increases the number of alternates on their zoning board of review from two (2) to three (3).) {LC4808/1}

03/11/2022 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 2342

(by request)

BY DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF

LOCAL TAXES (Allows the town of Middletown to adopt a new the tax classification plan to provide property tax relief to its residents.) {LC3903/1}

03/11/2022 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

Senate Bill No. 2346**BY** Lawson, Coyne**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION

(Exempts from taxation the real and tangible personal property of American Legion Riverside Post Holding Company, d/b/a American Legion Post 10, located in East Providence.) {LC4536/1}

03/11/2022 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Chairman Casey, for the Committee on Health, Education and Services, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 7346 SUB A

BY Vella-Wilkinson, Williams, Casimiro, Kazarian, Alzate, Baginski, Messier, Felix, Morales, Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES

(Authorizes a pharmacist to prescribe and dispense FDA - approved hormonal contraceptive patches and self-administered oral hormonal contraceptives, provided that the pharmacist has completed a training program approved by the state board of pharmacy.) {LC4522/A/2}

03/11/2022 Placed on House Calendar (03/17/2022)

House Bill No. 7393

BY McNamara, Caldwell

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS WITH TERMINAL ILLNESS -- THE NEIL FACHON TERMINALLY ILL

PATIENTS' RIGHT TO TRY ACT OF 2022 (Creates the "Neil Fachon Terminally Ill Patients' Right To Try Act of 2022," which establishes the conditions for the use of experimental treatments for terminally ill patients.) {LC4215/1}

03/11/2022 Placed on House Calendar (03/15/2022)

COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS

Chairman Shanley, for the Committee on State Government and Elections, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 7429 SUB A

BY Baginski, Fenton-Fung, Tanzi, Noret

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- VOTING DISTRICTS AND

OFFICIALS -- POLLING PLACE CAP (Increases the maximum number of voters that a polling place can accommodate from three thousand (3,000) to four thousand (4,000).) {LC4525/A/1}

03/11/2022 Placed on House Calendar (03/15/2022)

NEW BUSINESS**House Bill No. 7971**

(Governor)

BY Handy, Williams, Edwards, Potter, McNamara, Alzate, Batista, Carson, Kazarian, Cassar

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS --

AFFORDABLE CLEAN ENERGY SECURITY ACT (Amends the affordable clean energy security act and the long-term contracting standard for renewable energy.) {LC4951/1}

03/11/2022 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7972

BY Fogarty

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF ROBERTS AND ROCHA, INC. {LC5490/1}

03/11/2022 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7973**BY** McEntee, Fogarty, Craven, Caldwell, Phillips**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION, INC. {LC5431/1}

03/11/2022 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7974**BY** Biah, Henries, Amore, Batista, Ruggiero, Morales, Williams, Vella-Wilkinson, Giraldo, Potter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE COLLEGE AND CAREER SUCCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT (Requires all high school seniors in the state to complete a federal financial aid application (FAFSA) or a Rhode Island Alternative Financial Aid Application, offered through the Community College of Rhode Island in order to graduate high school.) {LC5430/1}

03/11/2022 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Resolution No. 7975**BY** Giraldo, McLaughlin, Alzate, Potter**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$5,000,000 FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS TO THE CITY OF CENTRAL FALLS IN RECOGNITION OF THE DISPROPORTIONATELY HIGH IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC ON CENTRAL FALLS AND THE DISPROPORTIONATELY ARPA FUNDING TO THE CITY (This joint resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$5,000,000 to the City of Central Falls for relief in combating pandemic threats to the City's public health.)

{LC5485/1}

03/11/2022 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7976**BY** Casey, Chippendale, Noret, Kennedy**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL (Provides certain parties may not enter onto property where a fire occurred for solicitation or inspection of a fire loss, without the permission of the owner or occupant, until the property is released to the owners or occupants.) {LC5459/1}

03/11/2022 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:38 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Lombardi, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Hon. Keven McKenna and Hon. Charles Mansolillo; on motion of Representative Filippi, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Carroll J. Hughes seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Minority Whip Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE MARY ANN SHALLCROSS SMITH

Dear Lord: As we continue Black History month we call upon you today to help us recognize just how different we are from one and other, yet we are all your children. Guide us to always remember that in our diversity lies our strength. Amen.

APPENDIX**CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2022:**

1. **2022-H 7393**
BY McNamara
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS WITH TERMINAL ILLNESS -- THE NEIL FACHON TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS' RIGHT TO TRY ACT OF 2022

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

2. **2022-H 7429 SUB A**
BY Baginski
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- VOTING DISTRICTS AND OFFICIALS -- POLLING PLACE CAP

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

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022:

1. **2022-H 7346 SUB A**
BY Vella-Wilkinson
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES

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

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Friday, March 11, 2022