

# 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 Third Day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

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Volume 150, No. 11

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Eleventh-Day

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The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence, Tuesday, February 7, 2023, and is called to order at 4:15 o'clock P.M., by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, 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 Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

**ABSENT** – 4: Representatives Batista, Felix, Fenton-Fung, Vella-Wilkinson.

## INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Representative Julie A. Casimiro who delivers the Invocation and leads the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

(For Invocation, see Appendix, this Journal.)

## APPROVAL OF RECORD

By unanimous consent, the House Journal of Thursday, February 2, 2023, is approved.

RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

**CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST**

**2023**

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii), Rep. Sanchez  
herchy requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of Bill # H-5369  
Entitled: Relating to Criminal Offenses - -Weapons  
which is currently in the House Committee on Judiciary.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

House District: \_\_\_\_\_

HD 9

Date: February 6, 2023

Acknowledgement:

Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker

*NOTE: This request must be submitted to the Clerk of the House, who will retain the original and a copy to be placed in the committee's original bill file*

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Representative Leonela Felix is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, February 7, 2023.

Representative Jose F. Batista is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, February 7, 2023.

Representative Barbara Ann Fenton-Fung is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, February 7, 2023.

Representative Camille Vella-Wilkinson is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, February 7, 2023.

**APPOINTMENTS**

February 7, 2023

Speaker K. Joseph Shekarchi announces the following appointments:

**Low and Moderate Income Housing Commission**

Representative Joshua Giraldo

Finance Subcommittees**Education Subcommittee**

Representative Scott Slater, Chair

Representative Nathan Biah

Representative Terri Cortvriend

Representative William O'Brien

Representative George Nardone

**Human Services Subcommittee**

Representative Teresa Tanzi, Chair

Representative Karen Alzate

Representative Terri Cortvriend

Representative Grace Diaz

Representative George Nardone

**Environment/Transportation Subcommittee**

Representative William O'Brien, Chair

Representative John Edwards

Representative Scott Slater

Representative Camille Vella-Wilkinson

Representative Brian Rea

**General Government Subcommittee**

Representative Alex Marszalkowski, Chair

Representative Jacqueline Baginski

Representative John Edwards

Representative Raymond Hull

Representative George Nardone

**Public Safety Subcommittee**

Representative Camille Vella-Wilkinson, Chair  
Representative Jacqueline Baginski  
Representative Grace Diaz  
Representative Raymond Hull  
Representative Brian Rea

Oversight Subcommittees**Aging and Senior Services Subcommittee**

Representative June Speakman, Chair  
Representative Edith Ajello  
Representative Jon Brien  
Representative Deborah Fellela  
Representative Robert Quattrocchi

**Children and Families Subcommittee**

Representative Julie Casimiro, Chair  
Representative Deborah Fellela  
Representative Mary Messier  
Representative Thomas Noret  
Representative George Nardone

**Energy Subcommittee**

Representative Arthur Handy, Chair  
Representative Jose Batista  
Representative Edward Cardillo  
Representative Susan Donovan  
Representative Robert Quattrocchi

**Tourism, Arts and Recreation Subcommittee**

Representative Lauren Carson, Chair  
Representative Jose Batista  
Representative Mary Ann Shallcross Smith  
Representative Joseph Solomon, Jr.  
Representative George Nardone

**Read and placed on file.****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.

Chairwoman Donovan announces that the Committee on Health & Human Services will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 101 of the State House.

Chairman Casey announces that the Committee on Housing & Municipal Government will meet tomorrow, at 4:00 o'clock P.M., in Room 101 of the State House.

Chairman Corvese commends Chairwoman Alzate on the importance of recognizing Congenital Heart Defect Awareness week.

Chairman Shanley announces that the Committee on State Government & Elections will meet today, at the rise of the House, in the House Lounge of the State House.

Representative Lombardi, in honor of Black History Month, acknowledges the accomplishments of local African Americans. Professional champion boxer Demetrius "Boo Boo" Andrade, award-winning actress Viola Davis, Michael Stephens a Division I college basketball official and Providence Police Director of Community Engagement & Diversion, Vanessa Crum the first woman of color to be elected as a Providence Municipal Court judge and Deputy Speaker Raymond Hull. Speaker Shekarchi also acknowledges and thanks Mike Harris a veteran of the Marines, for his service.

Representative Casimiro, in honor of Black History Month, recognizes Melvoid J. Benson, who became one of the first African-American women to serve in the Rhode Island General Assembly.

Representative Casimiro and Speaker Shekarchi wish Ryan Lukowicz a Happy 17<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the next House session will be this Thursday, February 9, at 4 p.m. The following committees, Finance, Education, Municipal Government and Small Business will meet tomorrow.

A photographer will be available at the RISE today in Room 205, for those who have not had their new picture taken for the website or the Secretary of State's Owner's Manual.

### IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

#### **House Resolution No. 5406**

**BY** Morales, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Tanzi, Fogarty, Shallcross Smith, Ajello, Kennedy, Kislak

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 4, 2023, AS "TRANSIT EQUITY DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND IN HONOR OF ROSA PARKS AND HER HISTORIC FIGHT FOR EQUITABLE PUBLIC TRANSIT {LC1420/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Morales discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 5407**

**BY** Fogarty, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Tanzi, Handy, McEntee, Knight, Cortvriend, Casimiro

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF DENNIS JOSEPH TENTE {LC1421/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Fogarty discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to the family and friends.

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

**House Resolution No. 5408**

**BY** McNamara, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Giraldo, Morales, Cruz, Ackerman, Chippendale, Tanzi, Fogarty

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING "NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK" ON FEBRUARY 6-10, 2023, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC1325/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman McNamara discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 5409**

**BY** Alzate, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Batista, Craven, Fogarty, Felix, Ackerman, Diaz, Giraldo

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 7TH THROUGH THE 14TH OF 2023, TO BE "CONGENITAL HEART DEFECT AWARENESS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC1177/1}

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.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

### TRANSMITTAL

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

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

### DESK HELD OPEN

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

### NEW BUSINESS

#### House Bill No. 5410

**BY** Cruz, Boylan, Solomon, Potter, Slater, Shekarchi, Voas, Stewart, McNamara, Baginski  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (Provides that utility services would not be terminated for the period from November 1 to April 15 to any residential customer's property which property is being used as a warming center for unhoused individuals.) {LC1304/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

#### House Bill No. 5411

**BY** Morales, Slater, Cruz, Kazarian, Felix, McEntee, Sanchez, Potter, Cotter, McGaw  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (Directs PUC to extend utility termination moratorium for gas/electricity from April 15 to May 1, of each year with discretion to respond to emergency/economic conditions/customers needs.) {LC553/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

#### House Bill No. 5412

**BY** Perez, Slater, Fellela, Lima, Costantino  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- THE RHODE ISLAND CANNABIS ACT (Allows marijuana products to be delivered by a compassion center employee to a person located in the state that is registered with the compassion center. It limits the dollar amount of the marijuana product to \$300 per delivery.) {LC565/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

#### House Bill No. 5413

**BY** Potter, Edwards, Bennett  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- CONTRACTORS' REGISTRATION AND LICENSING BOARD (Provides that contractors maintain errors and omissions insurance.) {LC997/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5414****BY** Fellela, Messier, Casey, Potter, Edwards**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- ELECTRICIANS (Clarifies the types of electrical services that require an electrical contractor's license.) {LC990/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5415****BY** O'Brien, Dawson, Shanley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- LICENSES GENERALLY (Creates a Class B-W license to allow for the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores, convenience stores and markets throughout the state.) {LC530/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5416****BY** Serpa**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- CONDOMINIUM OWNERSHIP (Provides that a condo unit owners policy would be the primary insurance policy with respect to any loss covered by the association's policy but not payable under the association's policy because of the application of the deductible.) {LC1414/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5417****BY** Shanley, Craven, Carson, Abney, Donovan, Serpa, Edwards, McEntee, Slater, Diaz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE -- RHODE ISLAND SECURE CHOICE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PROGRAM ACT (Establishes the Rhode Island secure choice retirement savings program as a public corporation managing IRA-type investments. Requires employers to offer the program to employees or be subject to a \$250 penalty per employee.) {LC1400/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5418****BY** Solomon, Craven, Dawson, McEntee**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- UNFAIR CLAIMS SETTLEMENT PRACTICES ACT (Requires insurers to provide contact information, including email addresses of adjusters and their direct supervisors and to notify any claimant or their legal representative of the reassignment of an adjuster.) {LC1119/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5419**

(RI Airport Corporation)

**BY** Kennedy, Azzinaro, Ackerman, McNamara**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AERONAUTICS -- AIRPORTS AND LANDING FIELDS (Designates the appropriate authority on air space issues as the president and CEO of the Rhode Island airport corporation and aligns certain job titles with their proper responsibilities relative to aeronautics.) {LC736/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5420**

(RI Airport Corporation)

**BY** Kennedy, Ackerman, Azzinaro

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AERONAUTICS -- UNPILOTED AERIAL VEHICLES

(Provides for the regulation of unpiloted aircraft systems in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requirements.) {LC1331/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5421**

**BY** Giraldo, McNamara, Alzate, Morales, Biah, Henries, Diaz, Abney, Hull, Sanchez

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION (Creates a committee to generate a written report of concrete proposals to attract diverse and traditionally under represented teachers to work in Rhode Island public schools.) {LC617/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 5422**

**BY** Diaz, Shallcross Smith, Ajello, Edwards, Giraldo, Hull, Tanzi, Slater, Caldwell, Sanchez

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS (Authorizes schools to issue an out-of-school suspension for students in grades six (6) and above, if they are found to be a threat to the physical safety or health of students, teachers, and administrators.) {LC1186/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 5423**

**BY** Lombardi J, Hull, Ajello, Cruz, Stewart

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COOPERATIVE SERVICE AMONG SCHOOL DISTRICTS (Amends the composition of the Urban Collaborative and provide that the collaborative be governed by a board of trustees.) {LC1158/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Resolution No. 5424**

**BY** Messier, Fogarty, Alzate, Kazarian, Stewart, Cortvriend, Cruz, Craven, Potter

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ANTI-LITTERING EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS (Creates a 9 member commission to study and make recommendations for the development and implementation of an anti-littering program for students, who would report back by February 2, 2024, and expire on April 2, 2024.) {LC822/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 5425**

**BY** Kislak, Edwards, Carson, Donovan, Speakman, McGaw, Tanzi, Boylan, Potter, Cortvriend

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- THE GREEN BUILDINGS ACT (Creates building energy performance standards based on the size of buildings, to achieve, by way of benchmarking and reporting, a statewide analysis of energy use and strategies to increase energy efficiency.) {LC1327/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

**House Bill No. 5426**

**BY** Speakman, Kislak, Donovan, Ajello, Morales, Carson, Bennett, Alzate, McGaw, McEntee  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- INDIVIDUAL HEALTH INSURANCE  
COVERAGE (Aligns Rhode Island with current federal requirements on health insurers as  
established by the Affordable Care Act, Also prohibits annual and lifetime limits on coverage  
within health insurance plans issued within the state.) {LC1423/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 5427**

**BY** Bennett, Casimiro, Noret, Caldwell, Serpa, Ackerman, Casey, Speakman, Carson, Hull  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS -- MENTAL HEALTH LAW (Includes licensed advanced  
practice registered nurses (APRN), certified in psychiatric/mental health, as qualified to certify the  
need for mental health treatment in certain patients.) {LC1338/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 5428**

**BY** Ajello, Knight, Batista, McGaw, Bennett, Cruz, Handy, Felix, Tanzi, Boylan  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LICENSING OF HEALTH  
CARE FACILITIES (Mandates a patient shall not be denied appropriate care on the basis of  
age/sex/gender identity/sexual orientation, race/color/marital status/familial  
status/disability/religion/national origin/source of income/source of payment or profession.)  
{LC821/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 5429**

**BY** Craven, Caldwell, McEntee, Diaz, Casey  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LICENSING OF YOUTH  
CAMPS (Establishes the procedures and requirements for the licensing of youth camps.)  
{LC829/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 5430**

**BY** Tanzi, Cortvriend, McGaw, Henries  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- WHOLESALE PRESCRIPTION  
DRUG IMPORTATION PROGRAM (Establishes the Wholesale Prescription Drug Importation  
Program for the importation of wholesale prescription drugs from Canada to provide savings to  
Rhode Island consumers.) {LC377/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 5431**

**BY** Tanzi, Henries, Cortvriend  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- PRESCRIPTION DRUG COST  
PROTECTION {LC376/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 5432****BY** Solomon, Kislak, Morales**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION SYSTEMS AND INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS (Requires Internet service providers to follow net neutrality requirements serving consumers/state as well as awarding of state contracts with violations resulting in penalty provisions for deceptive trade practice.) {LC430/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, &amp; Technology

**House Bill No. 5433****BY** Hull, Casey, O'Brien, Costantino, Slater, Lombardi J, Bennett**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- SELF-SERVICE STORAGE FACILITIES (Requires default notices to lessees of self-service storage facilities to be sent to the lessee's last known address, would repeal the necessity of certified mail for three and repeal the necessity of publication for 3 weeks.) {LC1367/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5434****BY** Caldwell, Knight, Kazarian, McEntee, Craven, McGaw, Dawson, Batista, Ajello, Boylan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (Requires the safe storage of firearms and would provide civil penalties and criminal penalties for violations.) {LC1293/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5435****BY** Edwards, Diaz, Ackerman, Cortvriend, Kislak, Knight, Kazarian, Alzate, Baginski, Potter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- DNA DETECTION OF SEXUAL AND VIOLENT OFFENDERS (Requires the state crime laboratory to conduct an audit of DNA samples in the DNA databank to ascertain the rate of compliance with DNA recording requirements.) {LC1435/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5436****BY** Serpa, Fellela, Ackerman, Costantino, Phillips, Lima, Shanley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- ABUSE IN HEALTHCARE FACILITIES (Removes the intent requirement relative to the definitions of "abuse" within the chapter on "abuse in healthcare facilities" and amends the definitions of "abuse" and "neglect" with regard to elderly affairs by deleting the element of willful conduct.) {LC1001/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5437****BY** Potter, Serpa, Kislak, Craven, Messier, Cruz, Bennett, Donovan, DeSimone, Caldwell**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- FORCE-FED POULTRY PRODUCTS (Prohibits force-feeding to create a force-fed poultry product nor hire another to engage in force feeding of a poultry product. Violations subject to a civil penalty.) {LC1163/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5438****BY** Knight**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- CAUSES OF ACTION (Permits a signed release to be transmitted to the party responsible for paying the settlement or their attorney by electronic means.) {LC1009/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5439****BY** Shanley, Dawson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- CAUSES OF ACTION (Provides for punitive damages in civil actions where there is willful or wanton conduct or a reckless disregard for health, safety and welfare.)

{LC1000/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5440****BY** Solomon, Craven, Dawson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- DECISIONS, SPECIAL FINDINGS AND ASSESSMENT OF DAMAGES (Adds the doctrine of assumption of risk to the current comparative negligence statute.)

{LC1007/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5441****BY** Craven, Caldwell, Dawson, McEntee, Solomon**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE --PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- EVIDENCE (Repeals the collateral source rule in medical malpractice actions.)

{LC996/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5442****BY** Ajello, Knight, Batista, Lombardi J, Kislak, Shallcross Smith, Morales, Cruz, Handy, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS (Provides that any reports of investigations conducted by internal affair units or their equivalent are public records.) {LC210/1}

{LC210/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5443****BY** Ajello, Knight, Batista, Lombardi J, Kislak, Shallcross Smith, Cruz, Handy, Tanzi, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS -- SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Requires returns of a marriage certificate to be filed within two (2) business days after the ceremony, and validates the common practice of filing the return by mail.) {LC207/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5444**

(Department of Administration)

**BY** Noret, Casimiro, Hull, Casey, Baginski, Corvese, O'Brien, Phillips, Dawson, Finkelman

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE -- THE OFFICE OF INTERNAL

AUDIT (Provides that the chief of the office of internal audit, when carrying out official duties, shall have access to certain records relating to the purchase of services from vendors or contractors by public bodies.) {LC1299/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5445**

**BY** Tanzi, Cortvriend, Kazarian, Hull, Lombardi J

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- FAIR

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES (Prohibits an employer, employment agency, labor organization, or employee from directly or indirectly committing any act declared to be an unlawful employment practice or the employee or employer may be held personally liable.) {LC1023/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Labor

**House Bill No. 5446**

**BY** Edwards, Bennett, Casey, Ackerman, McEntee

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- LABOR AND

PAYMENT OF DEBTS BY CONTRACTORS (Requires a contractor, subcontractor or public body to include offsite fabrication work in weekly certified prevailing wage records.) {LC989/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Labor

**House Bill No. 5447**

**BY** Diaz, Ajello, Edwards, Tanzi, Kennedy, Ackerman, Slater, Shallcross Smith, Morales, Caldwell

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- TEMPORARY

DISABILITY INSURANCE -- GENERAL PROVISIONS (Increases the taxable wage base upon which employees make contributions to the TDI and TCI funds, increases individual benefit rates for lower wage individuals, and creates an opt- in option for self-employed workers.) {LC1185/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Labor

**House Bill No. 5448**

**BY** Spears

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

TAXES (Allows the town council of New Shoreham to adopt a tax classification plan in accordance with the provisions of this section, to be applicable to taxes on or after the assessment date of December 31, 2023.) {LC1332/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 5449**

**BY** Nardone, Quattrocchi, Place, Rea, Chippendale, Morales, Sanchez

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Requires the secretary of state to establish a registry for publication of municipal invitations for bids and requires that municipalities publish notice of invitations for bids with the registry.) {LC1132/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 5450**

**BY** Sanchez, Perez, Morales, Hull, Newberry, Nardone, Chippendale, Biah, Lombardi J  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- REFUSE DISPOSAL  
(Prohibits municipalities from charging any recycling fees.) {LC1296/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 5451**

**BY** Solomon  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO THE CITY OF WARWICK -- SEWER AUTHORITY  
(Reduces excess interest rate chargeable by the Warwick Sewer Authority from a maximum rate of one and twenty-five hundredths percent (1.25%) to a maximum rate of one-half of one percent (.5%).) {LC431/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 5452**

**BY** Stewart, Henries, Morales, Sanchez, Kazarian, Tanzi, Dawson, Knight, Cotter, Kislak  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE  
-- HOLIDAYS (Changes the name of the holiday on the second Monday of August from Victory Day to Peace and Remembrance Day) {LC604/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

**House Bill No. 5453**

(Dept. of BHDDH)  
**BY** Slater, Hull, Diaz  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT  
COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER  
STATE CONSTRUCTIONS (Renames the "Roosevelt Benton Youth Assessment Center" as the  
"Roosevelt Benton Center".) {LC1408/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

**House Bill No. 5454**

**BY** Solomon, Casey, Ajello, Kislak  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS  
(Subjects police departments and peace officers to the public records requests and an initial  
narrative report of a police officer and makes any reports of investigations conducted by internal  
affair units public record.) {LC1136/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 5455**

**BY** Solomon, Casey  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- RHODE ISLAND CAMPAIGN  
CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES REPORTING (Requires all candidates for office to  
file the same number of campaign finance reports, all due at the same times, whether or not they  
have or had a contested primary election.) {LC433/1}  
02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 5456****BY** Hull, Casey, O'Brien, Costantino, Slater, Lombardi J, Bennett**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES GENERALLY (Adds the Providence Canteen vehicles to the authorized emergency vehicles equipped with a siren, whistle or bell.) {LC605/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House State Government &amp; Elections

**House Bill No. 5457****BY** Cortvriend, Carson, Donovan, McGaw, Edwards, Finkelman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL CODE PROVISIONS (Establishes regulations for the registration and operation of low-speed vehicles in this state.) {LC1148/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House State Government &amp; Elections

**House Bill No. 5458****BY** Casimiro, Kislak, Noret, Lima, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Cotter, Diaz, Chippendale, Roberts**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES (Requires that each child under the supervision of DCYF be provided a team of educational advocates which would be required to attend meetings on a regular basis to ensure the child's educational planning, progress and success.) {LC1394/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House State Government &amp; Elections

**House Bill No. 5459****BY** Ajello, Knight, Batista, Lombardi J, Kislak, Shallcross Smith, Cruz, Handy, Tanzi, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES (Includes the general assembly elections within the category of elections subject to the risk-limiting audits within the jurisdiction of the board of elections.) {LC209/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House State Government &amp; Elections

**House Bill No. 5460****BY** Baginski, Noret, Potter, Edwards**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- VOTING DISTRICTS AND OFFICIALS -- POLLING PLACE CAP {LC832/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House State Government &amp; Elections

**House Bill No. 5461****BY** Sanchez, Morales, Stewart, Giraldo, Henries, Alzate**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

(Authorizes cities and towns, by ordinance, to allow all their residents to vote in municipal elections for municipal officeholders regardless of the immigration status of their residents.) {LC1283/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House State Government &amp; Elections

**(For Co-sponsorship removal request, see Journal of 2-9-2023, page 2.)**

**House Bill No. 5462**

(Secretary of State)

**BY** Diaz, Slater, Alzate, Edwards, Kennedy, Azzinaro, Perez, DeSimone, McGaw, Giraldo

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

(Designates a liaison position within the secretary of state's office to formulate communication between the department of state and the board of elections and adds accessible voting devices to the equipment maintained by secretary of state.) {LC1078/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 5463**

(Dept. of Administration)

**BY** Edwards, Bennett, Casey, Ackerman, McEntee

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- STATE

PURCHASES (Provides that the maximum aggregate amounts for small purchases within the chapter on state purchases be adjusted to not exceed \$25,000 for construction and \$10,000 for all other purchases.) {LC1298/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 5464**

(RI Bridge and Turnpike Authority)

**BY** Finkelman, Noret, Dawson, Caldwell, O'Brien, Abney, Carson, Cortvriend

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- RHODE ISLAND TURNPIKE AND

BRIDGE AUTHORITY (Extends the time for payment of toll violations from fourteen (14) days to thirty (30) days from the issuance of the violation.) {LC1406/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 5465**

(Office of Veterans Services)

**BY** Fellela, Azzinaro, Shallcross Smith, Lombardi J, Hull, Casey

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE (Provides that the fifth day in April in each year be designated as "Rhode Island Gold Star Spouses Day" with appropriate exercises in public places and with flags flown at half-staff over the state house.) {LC1313/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Veterans Affairs

**House Bill No. 5466**

(Office of Veterans Services)

**BY** Azzinaro, Fellela, Solomon, Abney, Donovan, Serpa, Lombardi J, Costantino, Shallcross Smith, Hull

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- RHODE

ISLAND VETERANS' HOME (Requires that the administrator for the Rhode Island veterans' home be a licensed nursing home administrator and removes the requirement that the administrator be an honorably discharged veteran.) {LC1312/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Veterans Affairs

**House Resolution No. 5467****BY** Corvese, Azzinaro, Kennedy, O'Brien, Hull**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE VETERANS BENEFITS TO THE HMONG/LAOTIAN VETERANS WHO SERVED THE UNITED STATES IN THE "SECRET WAR" IN LAOS {LC1285/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Veterans Affairs

**House Bill No. 5468****BY** Kazarian, Shanley, Biah, Caldwell, Alzate, Stewart, Voas, Giraldo, Potter, Casimiro**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Allows a deduction from federal adjusted gross income for interest payments on outstanding student loans.) {LC635/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 5469****BY** Solomon, McNamara, Casey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Allows real property owner a one-time non-refundable tax credit for the actual costs of connecting a single family or multi-family dwelling to a municipal sewer system credited to the owner's personal or corporate income tax.) {LC432/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 5470****BY** O'Brien, Dawson, McEntee, Craven, Shanley, Slater, Casey, Solomon, Edwards, Kazarian**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Raises the earned-income tax credit from fifteen percent (15%) to fifty percent (50%) for the tax years 2024 and beyond.) {LC1373/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 5471****BY** Boylan, Carson, Ajello, Spears, McGaw, Speakman, Kislak, Knight, McEntee, Cortvriend**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- STATE PURCHASES (Bans state purchases of plastic bottles, bags and polystyrene. It would also require state funds to be used to lease or purchase alternative fueled vehicles and renewable energy efficient technologies for use on state property.) {LC1265/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 5472****BY** Cotter, Donovan, Spears, Casimiro, Kennedy, Knight, Chippendale, Rea, Speakman, Tanzi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Increases the state's regionalization bonus for regional school districts to six percent (6%) annually.) {LC1181/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 5473****BY** Tanzi, McGaw, Cortvriend, Spears, Cotter, Donovan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Provides that the state would reimburse the school committees for the costs of providing student transportation to public and private school pupils.) {LC373/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 5474****BY** Solomon, Morales**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (Requires the auditor general to oversee an audit of Medicaid programs administered by managed care organizations and submit a report of such findings within six (6) months to the general assembly and EOHHS.) {LC982/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 5475**

(By request)

**BY** Carson, Edwards, Kazarian, Caldwell, Donovan, Craven, Cortvriend, Alzate, O'Brien**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Removes the exemption from the state hotel tax for residences rented in their entirety.) {LC1317/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 5476****BY** O'Brien, Dawson, Craven, Shanley, Slater, Casey, Solomon, Edwards, Kazarian, Casimiro**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES--LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts from the sales and use tax the sale of animal supplies, food and related products.) {LC824/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 5477****BY** Alzate, Kazarian, Felix, McEntee, Fogarty, Tanzi, Cortvriend**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS

INSURANCE POLICIES (Requires every individual or group health insurance contract effective on or after January 1, 2024, to provide coverage to the insured and the insured's spouse and dependents for all FDA-approved contraceptive drugs, devices and other products.) {LC1019/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Resolution No. 5478****BY** Alzate, Kazarian, Casimiro, Tanzi, Boylan, Cruz, Diaz, McEntee, Caldwell, Speakman**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$150,000 TO THE

WOMEN'S FUND OF RHODE ISLAND (This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$150,000 to Women's Fund of Rhode Island to implement programs and initiatives that seek to close the gender wage, wealth, health, and leadership gaps.) {LC1409/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Resolution No. 5479**

**BY** Speakman, Cortvriend, Casimiro, Casey, Hull, Fogarty, Nardone, Noret, Dawson, Finkelman **ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$15,200,000 TO BE USED TO PURCHASE PFAS-FREE FIREFIGHTING GEAR (Authorizes the appropriation of the sum of \$15,200,000 to cities and towns to purchase firefighter and rescue personnel protective gear which is PFAS free.) {LC1365/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Resolution No. 5480**

**BY** Ackerman, Cotter, Spears, Bennett, Boylan, Casey, Costantino, Donovan, Ajello, Diaz **ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$105,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO IMPLEMENT CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR) TRAINING IN HIGH SCHOOLS (This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$105,000 to the Rhode Department of Health to implement CPR in High Schools.) {LC1336/1}

02/08/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4:43 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative McNamara, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Peter Reed; on motion of Representative Voas, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Patricia Silva Antunes; on motion of Representative Fogarty, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Dennis Tente seconded by Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

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

**APPENDIX**

**INVOCATION**

**REPRESENTATIVE JULIE A. CASIMIRO**

Dear Lord: We ask today that you help all those who lost loved ones in the earthquake in Syria and Turkey. We pray that you send your healing spirit to all the victims, survivors, and their families. We pray you give strength to all those helping to rescue those still trapped in the rubble. Amen

APPENDIX

CALENDAR

**IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023:**

**1. 2023-H 5150**

**BY** Azzinaro

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A PLAN AND THE DESIGN OF A VIETNAM MEMORIAL TO BE LOCATED IN THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Committee on Veterans` Affairs recommends passage.

**2. 2023-H 5018**

**BY** Solomon

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Special Legislation recommends passage.

**Francis McCabe**  
Clerk of the House

**Friday, February 3, 2023**