

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 Second Day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Four.

Volume 151, No. 8

Thursday, January 25, 2024

Eighth-Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence, Thursday, January 25, 2024, and is called to order at 4:06 o'clock P.M., by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 67 members present and 8 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 67: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson and Voas.

ABSENT – 8: Representatives Caldwell, Corvese, Costantino, Fogarty, Lima, Lombardi, Newberry and Perez.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Representative Susan R. Donovan 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, January 23, 2024, is approved.

RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST

2024

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii), Rep. Sanchez hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of Bill # H-7165 Entitled: Relating to Criminal Offenses—Commercial Sexual Activity which is currently in the House Committee on Judiciary.

Signature: _____

House District: _____

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Date: January 25, 2024

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 Kathleen A. Fogarty is unable to attend session today, Thursday, January 25, 2024.
Representative John J. Lombardi is unable to attend session today, Thursday, January 25, 2024.
Representative Arthur J. Corvese is unable to attend session today, Thursday, January 25, 2024.
Representative Ramon A. Perez is unable to attend session today, Thursday, January 25, 2024.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

GUESTS

On behalf of Speaker Shekarchi and the entire Warwick delegation, Chairman Solomon welcomes and congratulates Warwick Police Department Colonel Bradford Connor on being elected President of the Rhode Island Police Chiefs' Association. He also welcomes to the House Chamber the Rhode Island Police Chiefs' Association Executive Director Chief Sidney Wordell and Bristol Police Department Chief Kevin Lynch. Speaker Shekarchi also extends a warm welcome and thanks them for their service.

Representative Speakman welcomes Rhode Island School of Design Department Head, Interior Architecture, Wolfgang Max Rudolf, Faculty member Elizabeth Debs; AARP of Rhode Island State Director Catherine Taylor; Volunteer Advocacy Team member Marianne Kelly, Associate State Director of Advocacy Matthew Netto, Volunteer Advocacy Team Co-Leads, Dan Liparini and Sandra Darling, Rhode Island School of Design Architecture First Place Team members Ella Nadeau and Holden Rappuhn and Second Place Team Members David Li and Farnaz Dastranj to the House Chamber. Speaker Shekarchi welcomes and thanks ARRP, RISD, and the students.

Representative Morales welcomes and congratulates Matt Sheaff to the House Chamber for his eight years of dedicated service to the State of Rhode Island and wishes him the best in his future endeavors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Phillips congratulates Larry Berman on his time as sports editor at the Woonsocket Call and presented him with an "I Beat Berman" t-shirt.

Representative Messier congratulates her son Seth and his wife Meredith on the birth of their daughter, Camden J. Messier. Speaker Shekarchi congratulates Representative Messier on becoming a grandmother for the first time.

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

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the House will be meeting next Tuesday, January 30, 2024, and Thursday, February 1, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. House members are reminded to check the committee calendars on the website as committee hearings will be held Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of next week.

Majority Leader Blazejewski wishes Chairman Azzinaro a Happy Birthday!

Speaker Shekarchi requested that House members review their emails regarding changes to session days prior to vacation week.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**House Resolution No. 7279**

BY Morales, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Solomon, Ackerman, Kennedy, Rea, Boylan, Tanzi

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND HONORING MATT SHEAFF FOR HIS EIGHT YEARS OF DEDICATED AND EXEMPLARY SERVICE IN STATE GOVERNMENT AND HIS SERVICE IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT {LC4477/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Morales, Speaker Shekarchi and Chairman Solomon discuss the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Morales, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, and 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SENATE

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

Senate Bill No. 2096

BY Ruggerio, Pearson, Acosta, Mack, Gallo, Tikoian, LaMountain, Kallman, Cano, Britto
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' BILL OF RIGHTS (Amends LEOBOR to a five (5) member committee and extends summary punishment to fourteen (14) days.) {LC3848/1}
01/26/2024 Referred to House Judiciary

Senate Bill No. 2137**BY** Quezada, Bell, DiMario, Euer, Britto, Cano, Valverde, Acosta**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY-- POLICE RELATIONSHIP ACT OF 2015 (Amends the comprehensive community-police relationship act of 2015 to require an annual study by an outside agency chosen by the department.) {LC3865/1}

01/26/2024 Referred to House Judiciary

Senate Bill No. 2243**BY** DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF CHRISTIAN ACTION CENTER, INC. {LC3897/1}

01/26/2024 Referred to House Corporations

Senate Bill No. 2099**BY** Raptakis**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Timothy Conlon to join Sarah Conlon and Andrew Proulx in marriage on or about March 22, 2024, within the City of Newport, Rhode Island.) {LC3915/1}

01/26/2024 Referred to House Special Legislation

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
COMMITTEE ON CORPORATIONS**

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

House Bill No. 7085**BY** McNamara**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF NEW ENGLAND BIBLE DOCTRINE CHURCH {LC3922/1}

01/26/2024 Placed on House Calendar (01/30/2024)

NEW BUSINESS**House Bill No. 7280**

(Dept. of Revenue)

BY Finkelman, Casey, Dawson, Cardillo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CORPORATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS, AND PARTNERSHIPS -- RHODE ISLAND BUSINESS CORPORATION ACT (Makes numerous technical amendments to the statutes on taxes and corporations, associations and partnerships.) {LC4453/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7281

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

BY Kennedy, Azzinaro, O'Brien, Solomon, Edwards, Kazarian, Casimiro

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- EXAMINATIONS (Amends the statutory provisions regarding domestic and foreign insurers and insurer examinations to provide provisions with regard to cybersecurity events involving Rhode Island consumers.) {LC4385/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7282

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

BY Kennedy, Azzinaro, Finkelman, O'Brien, Solomon, Edwards, Kazarian, Casimiro

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- POWERS AND OPERATIONS (Amends outdated provisions of the banking statutes and the home loan protection act, adds consumer protections, including minimum capital requirements and limits on investments, for currency transmitters, including crypto currency.) {LC4395/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7283

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

BY Kennedy, Azzinaro, O'Brien, Solomon, Edwards, Kazarian, Casimiro

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PRODUCER LICENSING ACT (Amends provisions re insurance producer appointments and clarifies language re insurance claims adjusters. Amends the RI life & health guarantee assoc act. Adds insurance data security and pet insurance acts and unfair discrimination prohibitions.) {LC4393/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7284

(by request)

BY Shekarchi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES (Provide that advertising goods that don't include a price referencing all mandatory fees and charges shall be a deceptive trade practice.) {LC4550/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7285

BY Cortvriend, McGaw, Carson, Handy, Kislak, Boylan, Spears, Fogarty, Edwards, Knight

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- UTILITY THERMAL ENERGY NETWORK AND JOBS ACT (Establishes thermal energy networks network infrastructure by any public utility company that provides electric/natural gas distribution to maximize cost-effective investments deemed in the public interest by the public utilities commission (PUC).) {LC4070/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7286**BY** Slater, Morales, DeSimone, Stewart, Diaz, Alzate, Potter, Cruz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (Creates an income-sensitive tiered subsidy program to ensure that home energy utility costs are affordable for eligible low-income households.) {LC3838/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7287**BY** Batista**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- UNFAIR CLAIMS SETTLEMENT PRACTICES ACT (Increases the amount requiring that an appraisal be performed by a licensed appraiser when a vehicle sustains damage from \$2,500 to an amount in excess of \$5,000. This act also corrects a citation regarding salvage and reconstructed titles.) {LC4404/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7288**BY** Sanchez, Morales, Batista, Costantino, Giraldo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- CASUALTY INSURANCE RATING (Prohibits auto insurance companies from using certain race and geographical locations criteria when determining insurance rates.) {LC4194/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7289**BY** McNamara, Donovan, Cruz, Ackerman, Giraldo, Voas, Potter, Noret**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE (Directs the department of elementary and secondary education to establish a two (2) year pilot outreach and tracking program at two (2) public high schools.) {LC3451/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7290**BY** McNamara, Donovan, Ackerman, Voas, Giraldo, Potter, Noret**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE (Directs each local education agency adopt a program to monitor absenteeism data to identify students who are at risk for chronic absenteeism before it becomes a chronic situation.) {LC4432/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7291**BY** Shallcross Smith, Alzate, Ackerman, Diaz, Kazarian, Cruz, Felix, Casimiro, Donovan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RHODE ISLAND EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION WORKFORCE DATA ACT (Codifies the previously funded Rhode Island early care and education workforce registry data system.) {LC4461/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7292**BY** Donovan, Speakman, Knight**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TRANSPORTATION OF SCHOOL PUPILS BEYOND CITY AND TOWN LIMITS (Removes the towns of Warren and Bristol from school bus district Region III and places Warren and Bristol in school bus district Region V.) {LC4527/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7293**BY** Shanley, Craven, Bennett, Vella-Wilkinson, Spears**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY -- OLD GROWTH FOREST PROTECTION ACT (Creates a statutory framework designed to protect our forests and biodiversity, also prohibits logging in old growth forests and in the natural area preserves when they are created.) {LC3810/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7294**BY** Slater, Diaz, Bennett, O'Brien**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- FIELD TRIALS AND SHOOTING PRESERVES -- CAPTIVE HUNTING PROHIBITED (Prohibits captive hunting for domestic or wild animals and does not prohibit the release of upland game birds for hunting on licensed shooting preserves.) {LC4555/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7295**BY** Shanley, Bennett**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE RHODE ISLAND CLEAN AIR PRESERVATION ACT (Establishes regulations to prohibit stratospheric aerosol injection (SAI), solar radiation modification (SRM) experimentation, and other hazardous weather engineering activities.) {LC3665/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7296**BY** McGaw, Kislak, Cortvriend, Carson, Ajello, Cotter, Henries, DeSimone, Potter, Bennett**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF STATE ROADS (Authorizes and empowers the department of transportation to plant pollinator-friendly species of trees, shrubs, grasses and plants.) {LC4382/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7297**BY** Finkelman, Baginski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- OPTICIANS -- QUALIFICATIONS (Establishes a second avenue of qualification as an optician, to include successfully completing an apprenticeship program.) {LC4528/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7298**BY** Serpa, Phillips, Fellela, Biah**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE -- LONG-TERM CARE SERVICE AND FINANCE REFORM (All Medicaid programs operated by EOHHS would not reimburse home care providers less than fee-for-service rates adopted by rate review recommendations of the office of health insurance commissioners.) {LC4240/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7299**BY** Shanley, Carson, Donovan, Chippendale, Solomon, Spears, Batista**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Requires health insurance policies to provide coverage for the licensed practice of naturopathy and to provide reports.) {LC3894/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7300**BY** Carson, Donovan, Potter, McGaw, Boylan, Tanzi, Bennett, Cortvriend, Spears, McEntee**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- RHODE ISLAND FOOD, DRUGS AND COSMETICS ACT (Prohibits the manufacture, sale and distribution for sale a food product containing brominated vegetable oil, potassium bromate, propylparaben and red dye 3.) {LC3979/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7301**BY** Ackerman, Donovan, Edwards, Serpa, McNamara, Finkelman, Chippendale, Shallcross Smith**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LICENSING OF HEALTHCARE FACILITIES (Allows the healthcare facility to conduct human-subject research on patients subject to 21 C.F.R. Pt 50 and/or 45 C.F.R. Pt 46 (relating to the informed consent of human subjects).) {LC4560/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7302

(Dept. of Public Safety)

BY Hull, Solomon, Cardillo, Azzinaro, Biah, Phillips**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- SEARCH WARRANTS (Dictates the length a search warrant involving a tracking device would be valid and provide a process to extend the time frame of the tracking device for good cause.) {LC4333/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7303**BY** Noret, Cortvriend, Speakman, Donovan, Serpa, Phillips, McNamara, Messier, Craven, Shallcross Smith**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- THREATS AND EXTORTION (Defines "public official" to include school personnel for purposes of the criminal prohibition against making threats to public officials.) {LC4510/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7304

BY Stewart, Morales, Voas, Sanchez, Knight, Alzate, Potter, Ackerman, Ajello, Speakman
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Requires landlords of residential properties give tenants notice of rent increase at least 90 days prior to increase and requires notice requirement for rent increases for month to month tenants who are over the age of 62 years, to 120 days.) {LC3668/1}
01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7305

BY Ajello, Vella-Wilkinson, Speakman, Shallcross Smith, Handy, Cruz, Felix, Batista, Potter, Kislak
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RHODE ISLAND FAIR HOUSING PRACTICES ACT (Prohibits discrimination based on housing status, define "assistance animal", make it unlawful to issue discriminatory notices or statements relating to the sale, rental or leasing of housing and to delete an unconstitutional provision.) {LC4092/1}
01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7306

BY Knight, Craven, Dawson, Shanley, Batista, McEntee, Kazarian, Brien, Potter, Ajello
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- JUDICIAL SELECTION (Requires individuals seeking a judicial nomination to reapply to JNC every 5 years and make those individuals selected as finalists, eligible only for the court in which they applied and were chosen during the five years following their selection.) {LC4445/1}
01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7307

BY Sanchez, Stewart, Henries
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- COMMERCIAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY (Provides immunity to people involved in commercial sexual activity if they are victims or witnesses to various other offenses and would not grant immunity to law enforcement officers for arresting those persons.) {LC4357/1}
01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7308

BY O'Brien, Dawson, Serpa, Craven, Noret, Azzinaro, Hull, Phillips, Kennedy, Bennett
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- MAINTENANCE OF ORDER ON CAMPUS (Mandates arming campus police at public higher educational institutions and includes campus police in the definition of "law enforcement officer" for the purposes of the "Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights.") {LC4552/1}
01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7309

BY Batista, Potter, Felix, Giraldo, Lombardi J, Alzate, Kislak, Cruz
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- DISORDERLY CONDUCT (Requires disorderly conduct to include an actual public disturbance as evidenced by gathering of people drawn to and watching conduct and prohibits police officers from being complainant for purposes of establishing offense.) {LC3892/1}
01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7310**BY** Batista, Sanchez, Knight, Morales, Potter, Cruz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY -- POLICE RELATIONSHIP ACT OF 2015 (Mandates police disclosure reason for stop.) {LC4171/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7311**BY** Batista, Potter, Cruz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- GENERAL PROVISIONS

(Provides that imposition of a fine, or sentences of probation or a suspended sentence, absent a period of incarceration, are not convictions.) {LC4140/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7312**BY** Batista, Potter, Cruz, Sanchez**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- POLICE

OFFICERS--COMMISSION ON STANDARDS AND TRAINING (Expands the authority of the police officers commission on standards and training. It makes it applicable to the city of Providence. It creates and maintains a database containing records for each certified and decertified law enforcement officers.) {LC4440/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7313**BY** Batista, Potter, Tanzi, Felix, Giraldo, Lombardi J, Alzate, Kislak, Spears, Boylan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- LAW

ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' BILL OF RIGHTS (Amends the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights providing greater accountability in the disciplinary process, the chief of police authority to impose discipline after the finding of a violation, appellate rights to the accused officer.) {LC3893/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7314**BY** Batista, Cruz, Potter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- ARREST (Prohibits the civil

arrest of any person who is attending court either on behalf of themselves or a family or household member. Any person who violates this act shall be subject to civil suit and for contempt of court.)

{LC4407/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7315**BY** Batista, Potter, Felix, Giraldo, Lombardi J, Alzate, Kislak, Cruz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT {LC3891/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7316**BY** Craven, Dawson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (Exempts full-time members of divisions of the state police, including the capitol police and the sheriff's department from the requirements of § 11-47-35.) {LC4075/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7317**BY** Cruz, Boylan, Potter, Ajello, Alzate, McNamara, Kislak, Stewart, Cortvriend**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RADON CONTROL (Requires landlords to conduct a radon test of all residential rental properties every five (5) years. Short-term residential rentals would be excluded from radon testing requirements.) {LC4565/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7318**BY** Vella-Wilkinson, Noret, Morales, Diaz, Casimiro, Batista**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- WRITS, SUMMONS AND PROCESS (Adds those persons with experience as a federal process server as qualifying for certification as a constable.) {LC4475/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7319**BY** Alzate, Cruz, Giraldo, Voas, Casimiro, Potter, Stewart**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- HEALTHY AND SAFE FAMILIES AND WORKPLACES ACT (Mandates that the work week be reduced to thirty-two hours and rate of pay for a thirty-two (32) hour workweek would remain the same as the rate of pay for forty hours.) {LC3908/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 7320**BY** Shanley, Craven, O'Brien, Dawson, Vella-Wilkinson, Bennett**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- WAREHOUSE WORKER PROTECTION ACT (Requires employers to provide each employee of a warehouse distribution center, upon hire, with written description of quotas applicable to the employee within defined time periods and adverse employment action for failure to meet the quota.) {LC4417/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 7321

(by request)

BY Carson, Abney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- CITY OF NEWPORT -- ELECTRIC BICYCLES AND SCOOTERS (Enables the Newport city council to enact ordinances related to the operation of e-bikes and e-scooters.) {LC4273/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7322

(by request)

BY Batista

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ORDINANCES (Allows municipalities to seek recovery of fines associated with ordinance violations by permitting the municipality to include the fines on a property tax bill.) {LC4231/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7323

BY Cortvriend, McGaw, Speakman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Allows the town council of Portsmouth, by ordinance or resolution, to exempt Quaker Manor from valuation for taxation or to enter into tax abatement or payment in lieu of taxes agreements.) {LC3337/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7324

BY Baginski, Finkelman, Edwards

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES (Removes the floor area ratio requirement from the zoning ordinances.) {LC4421/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7325

BY Carson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS IN FOOD-SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS (Requires food service establishments to add an additional warning to their menus relative to food allergens and impose a civil penalty on those establishments that fail to include the required warnings on its menus.) {LC3356/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Small Business

House Bill No. 7326

BY Stewart, Morales, Kislak, Donovan, Potter, Sanchez, Boylan, Handy, Dawson, McGaw

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.) {LC3747/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

House Bill No. 7327

BY Azzinaro, Hull, Noret, Solomon, Kennedy

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS (Requires a member of the public to pay any outstanding balances due and owing for previous requests before being provided copies of records and documents on a new request from law enforcement agencies.) {LC4278/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7328

BY Ajello, Knight, Lombardi J, Handy, Kislak, Shallcross Smith, Chippendale, Batista, 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.) {LC4094/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Resolution No. 7329

BY Donovan, Morales, Henries, Stewart, Batista, Cruz, Speakman, McGaw, Potter, Ackerman
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PURSUE A BROAD RANGE OF MEASURES TO REDUCE THE DANGER OF NUCLEAR WAR, TO SIGN AND RATIFY THE TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (TPNW), TO MAKE NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT THE CENTERPIECE OF OUR NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY, AND TO SPEARHEAD A GLOBAL EFFORT TO PREVENT NUCLEAR WAR {LC4296/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7330

(Office of Veterans Services)

BY Fellela, Azzinaro, Serpa, Place, Nardone, Vella-Wilkinson
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.) {LC4454/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Veterans Affairs

House Bill No. 7331

(Dept. of Revenue)

BY Kennedy, Azzinaro, O'Brien, Edwards, Kazarian, Casimiro
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Provides a four (4) year expiration period on any certificate of exemption pursuant to this section for writers, composers and artists.) {LC4452/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7332

BY Shanley, Craven, Kazarian, Casimiro, Finkelman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- INSURANCE BENEFITS (Allows private employees at nursing homes, developmental disability and home care providers whose salaries are 90% funded with federal or state monies to be eligible to opt into the state healthcare plan.) {LC3606/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7333**BY** Alzate, Spears, Ajello, Morales, Shanley, Felix, Cruz, Giraldo, Diaz, Potter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICARE SAVINGS

PROGRAMS (Expands eligibility for the qualified Medicare beneficiary program by increasing the income limit from 100% to 138% of the federal poverty line.) {LC4335/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7334**BY** Cotter, Donovan, McNamara, Carson, Kazarian, Casimiro, Giraldo, Voas, Potter, Kislak**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- MATERNAL AND CHILD

HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS (Directs the executive office of health and human services to increase Medicaid rates for the Early Intervention and First Connections programs allowing for payment of competitive wages for qualified professionals.) {LC4276/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7335**BY** Morales, Carson, Vella-Wilkinson, Kislak, Tanzi, Dawson, McEntee, Stewart, Craven, Speakman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LIBRARIES -- STATE AID TO LIBRARIES (Requires

that the state's share to public libraries be fixed at twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount appropriated by the city or town in their budgets for fiscal year 2024, utilizing funds from the general fund or the American Rescue Plan Act.) {LC4481/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7336**BY** Donovan, Casimiro, McNamara, Diaz, Cotter, Shallcross Smith, Ajello, Messier, McGaw, Morales**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE OFFICE

OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING (Establishes the office of early childhood development and learning to manage a statewide early learning system for children from birth through age five (5), and ensure all children enter school ready to learn.) {LC4529/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7337**BY** Sanchez, Morales, Stewart, Hull, Henries, Handy, Slater**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FEDERAL AID (Requires free breakfast and lunches to be provided for all elementary and secondary students attending public schools.)

{LC4223/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7338**BY** Alzate, Batista, Ajello, Cruz, Potter, Diaz, Kislak, Donovan, Kazarian, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Creates an additional Rhode Island personal income surtax of 3% on taxable income over \$1,000,000, with the existing three-bracket personal income tax structure remaining in place.) {LC4548/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7339**BY** Edwards, Carson, Cortvriend, Baginski, Ackerman, McNamara, Bennett, Potter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION TAX CREDITS (Eliminates the sunset provision for the motion picture production tax credit.) {LC4594/1}
01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance**House Bill No. 7340****BY** Morgan P, Fenton-Fung, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Nardone, Brien, Messier, Rea**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION TAX (Eliminates the gross earning tax for every corporation whose principal business is manufacturing, selling, distributing and/or transmitting current of electricity and natural gas to be used for light, heat, or motive power.) {LC3976/1}
01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance**House Bill No. 7341****BY** O'Brien, Dawson, Serpa, Craven, Noret, Azzinaro, Hull, Slater, Phillips, Kennedy**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS (Provides state employee public safety professionals with parity to municipal public safety employees in the state/municipal retirement systems eff. 7/1/24 with 10% contribution.) {LC4553/1}
01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance**House Bill No. 7342****BY** Serpa, Fellela, Ackerman, Biah, McNamara, Noret, O'Brien, Dawson, Casimiro, Messier**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TEACHERS' RETIREMENT (Provides all retired teachers and all retired state employees a one-time stipend in the amount of three percent (3%) of the lesser of either the member's retirement allowance or forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) of the member's retirement allowance.) {LC4174/1}
01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance**House Bill No. 7343****BY** Fellela, Azzinaro, Serpa, Messier, O'Brien**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TEACHERS' RETIREMENT (Allows teachers, state and municipal employees to retire upon the earlier of reaching age sixty (60) with thirty (30) years of service or the employee's retirement eligibility date under present state statutes.) {LC4559/1}
01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance**House Bill No. 7344****BY** Craven, Cardillo, DeSimone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- ARREST (College security may detain criminal offenders.) {LC4557/1}
01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7345

BY Finkelman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (Allows the commissioners of the water and sewer commission for the town of Jamestown to limit its public water system's obligation to supply water only within designated and described area as opposed to the entire land area of the town.) {LC4309/1}

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:24 o'clock P.M., on motion of Majority Leader Blazejewski seconded by Minority Leader Chippendale, the House adjourns on a unanimous voice vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE SUSAN R. DONOVAN

Holy God: We ask your prayers today for all the members of this House of Representatives. They have been given the great responsibility of conducting the people's business. Guide them with your wisdom and compassion so they can best serve all their constituents. Amen

APPENDIX

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2024:

1. 2024-H 7085

BY McNamara

**ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE
CHARTER OF NEW ENGLAND BIBLE DOCTRINE CHURCH**

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Friday, January 26, 2024