

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 Seventh Day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

Volume 153, No. 12

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

Twelfth Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, and is called to order at 4:16 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called, and a quorum is declared present with 62 members present and 13 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 62: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

ABSENT – 13: Representatives Abney, Baginski, Batista, Casimiro, Dawson, Diaz, Felix, Hull, Knight, Morales, Perez, and Quattrocchi.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi presents Representative Christopher G. Paplauskas, 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, February 10, 2026, is approved.

RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST
2026

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(i) Representative Megan Cotter
hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of 2026 - H - 7362
entitled: AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- HEALTH
AND SAFE FAMILIES WORKPLACES ACT--WORKWEEK
which is currently in the House Committee on Labor

Signature: Megan Cotter
Representative

House District# 39

Date: 2/11/2026

Acknowledgment:
[Signature]
Chief Counsel to the Speaker

*NOTE: This request must be submitted to the Clerk of the House, who shall retain the original.
A copy shall be delivered to the Recording Clerk
A copy shall be delivered to Legislative Data, and a copy shall be placed in the committee's
original bill file.*

RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST
2026

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii) Representative Megan Cotter

hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of 2026 - H - 7367

entitled: HOUSE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE
COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO REDUCE THE
FORTY-HOUR WORKWEEK TO A THIRTY-TWO-HOUR WORKWEEK

which is currently in the House Committee on Labor

Signature: Megan Cotter
Representative

House District# 39

Date: 2/11/2026

Acknowledgement:

[Signature]
Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker

*NOTE: This request must be submitted to the Clerk of the House, who shall retain the original.
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RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST
2026

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii) Representative Christopher G. Paplauskas
hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of 2026 – H - 7528
entitled: An Act Relating To Education -- Rights And Duties Of Teachers Generally
which is currently in the House Committee on Education

Signature: Chris Paplauskas, Representative
House District # 15

Date: February 9, 2026

Acknowledgement:

[Signature]
Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker

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RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST
2026

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii) Representative David J. Place
hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of 2026 – H - 7528
entitled: An Act Relating To Education – Rights And Duties Of Teachers Generally
which is currently in the House Committee on Education

Signature: [Signature], Representative
House District # 47

Date: February 9, 2026

Acknowledgement:

[Signature]
Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker

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original bill file.*

RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST
2026

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii) Representative Jon D. Brien
hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of 2026 - H - 7528
entitled: An Act Relating To Education -- Rights And Duties Of Teachers Generally
which is currently in the House Committee on Education

Signature: [Signature], Representative
House District # 49

Date: February 9, 2026

Acknowledgement:

[Signature]
Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker

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RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives


CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST
2026

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii) Representative Michael Chippendale
hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of 2026 – H - 7528
entitled: An Act Relating To Education -- Rights And Duties Of Teachers Generally
which is currently in the House Committee on Education

Signature: , Representative
House District # 40

Date: February 9, 2026

Acknowledgement:


Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker

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original bill file.*

RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST
2026

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii) Representative Marie A. Hopkins
hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of 2026 – H - 7528
entitled: An Act Relating To Education – Rights And Duties Of Teachers Generally
which is currently in the House Committee on Education

Signature: [Signature], Representative
House District # 21

Date: February 9, 2026

Acknowledgement:
[Signature]
Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker

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original bill file.*

RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

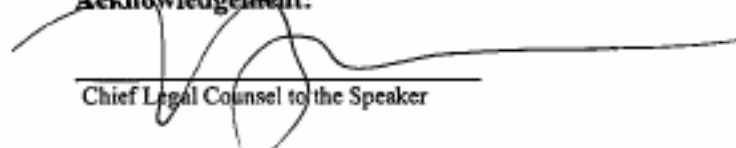
CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST
2026

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii) Representative Sherry Roberts
hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of 2026 – H - 7528
entitled: An Act Relating To Education – Rights And Duties Of Teachers Generally
which is currently in the House Committee on Education

Signature: Sherry Roberts, Representative
House District # 29

Date: February 9, 2026

Acknowledgement:



Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE SPEAKER

February 11, 2026

Speaker K. Joseph Shekarchi has nominated:

Representative Nathan Biah to attend the National Conference of State Legislatures' Forensic Forum to examine the policy implications of the use of DNA and DNA databases.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Leonela Felix is unable to attend session today, Wednesday, February 11, 2026.
Representative Matthew S. Dawson is unable to attend session today, Wednesday, February 11, 2026.
Representative Grace Diaz is unable to attend session today, Wednesday, February 11, 2026.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SENATE

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

Senate Bill No. 2340 SUB A

(Governor/Attorney General)

BY DiPalma, Lawson, Ciccone, Tikoian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MAKING REVISED APPROPRIATIONS IN SUPPORT OF FY 2026 RELATING TO ROGER WILLIAMS MEDICAL CENTER AND OUR LADY OF FATIMA HOSPITAL AND AUTHORIZING THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND TO PROVIDE FINANCING SUPPORT TO ASSIST THE SALE OF THE HOSPITALS TO CHARTERCARE HEALTH OF RHODE ISLAND, INC. {LC4729/A/1}

02/11/2026 Referred to House Finance

NEW BUSINESS**House Bill No. 7603**

BY Serpa, Brien, Fellela, Lima, Read

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- VETERINARY PRACTICE (Requires veterinarians to provide consultations to animal owners when a drug is prescribed and dispensed for that annual patient.) {LC4900/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7604

BY Batista

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- UNFAIR CLAIMS SETTLEMENT PRACTICES ACT (Increases minimum amount for required damages and time to perform appraisal from three days to four.) {LC4747/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7605

(by request)

BY Boylan, Dawson, Donovan, Voas, Kazarian, Speakman, McGaw

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES (Deceptive trade practice to sell vehicle used in violent crime or exposed to biohazards without notice to purchaser.) {LC3132/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7606

BY Carson, Morales, Cortvriend, Fogarty, Cotter, Donovan, Spears

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- LIBRARY EBOOK CONTRACTS (Establishes enforcement limitations on contract terms for the licensing of electronic books or digital audiobooks to libraries to preclude the library from being subject to unfair sales practices.) {LC5146/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7607

BY McEntee, Caldwell, Fogarty, Spears, Shallcross Smith, Phillips, Cortvriend, Costantino, Voas, Casey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- SWIPE FEES (Prohibits the charging of swipe fees on taxes and gratuities.) {LC4939/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7608

BY Dawson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- OPERATION OF RAILROADS GENERALLY (Provides that no train or light engine would be used in connection with the movement of freight could be operated unless it had a crew consisting of at least 2 persons, would also include the imposition of fines upon a company for violation of the act.) {LC5020/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7609

BY Fellela, Hull, Serpa, Lombardi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- CONDOMINIUM LAW (Causes the enactment of the amendment of § 34-36.1-3.22 to be applicable to condominiums created before July 1, 1982.) {LC4579/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7610

BY Lima, Costantino, Brien, Casey, Noret, Hopkins, Shanley, O'Brien

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (Requires the PUC to produce report on comprehensive study by April 30, 2027.) {LC5079/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7611

BY Lima, Costantino, Brien, Casey, Noret, Hopkins, Shanley, O'Brien

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD (Amends the obligation of entities to sell at retail to Rhode Island and use customers.) {LC5084/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7612

BY Cruz, Stewart, Potter, Morales, McEntee, Giraldo, Kazarian, Sanchez, Tanzi, Felix

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- TERMINATION OF SERVICE TO PERSONS WHO ARE DISABLED, SERIOUSLY ILL, OR IN ARREARS OF PAYMENT (Extends the forbearance of utility terminations for customers with serious illness certifications and would amend various provisions related to the termination of utility services for persons who are disabled, seriously ill, or in arrears.) {LC3746/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7613

(Dept. of Revenue)

BY Marszalkowski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- TAX PREPARERS ACT OF 2013

(Provides for penalties for tax preparers that purposefully mislead their clients or act as ghost preparers of tax returns.) {LC4981/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7614

BY O'Brien, McNamara, Solomon, Furtado, Messier, Kazarian, Slater, Giraldo, Voas, Casey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS

(Provides that for the period up until July 1, 2027, an applicant for a teaching certificate in Rhode Island would not be required to complete a standardized teacher's examination as a prerequisite to obtaining a teaching certificate.) {LC3873/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7615

BY Place

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- ESTABLISHMENT OF CHARTER

PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Permits local communities to adopt an all-charter public school model for public education upon an affirmative vote of the local municipality's council and school committee, and an affirmative vote at a special or general election.) {LC4888/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7616

BY Bennett, Cortvriend, Edwards, Casey, Slater, Noret, Corvese, Kislak, Ackerman, Serpa

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL TRAUMA KIT ACT (Requires every elementary and secondary school within the State of Rhode Island to provide and maintain clearly visible and easily accessible trauma kits within the school. It also provides immunity if assistance is rendered.) {LC5028/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7617**BY** Donovan, Cotter, Boylan, Speakman, Fogarty, Biah, Tanzi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Provides that where the administration, use, or maintenance of epinephrine within schools and on buses is authorized, this use would include epinephrine auto-injectors and epinephrine nasal sprays) {LC4770/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7618**BY** Handy, Slater**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY -- PROTECTION OF TREES AND PLANTS GENERALLY (Increases the maximum penalty for certain violations related to the cutting, removal, damage by injurious liquids or gases to trees, plants and shrubs on any public highway or public land under the jurisdiction of state agencies from \$500 to \$1,000.) {LC4907/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7619

(Dept. of Environmental Management)

BY Spears, McEntee, Donovan, Boylan, Tanzi, Fogarty, Cotter, Speakman, Felix, McGaw**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- LICENSING (Allows any member of a federally recognized Indian tribe located in Rhode Island to receive recreational freshwater and saltwater fishing licenses free of charge.) {LC4931/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7620**BY** McGaw, Boylan, Speakman, Donovan, Caldwell, Carson, Potter, Dawson, Batista, McEntee**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PLASTIC WASTE CONVERSION FACILITY ACT (Establishes the Plastic Waste Conversion Facility Act.) {LC4875/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7621**BY** Noret, Fellela, Corvese, Costantino, Brien, Dawson, Batista, O'Brien, Fascia, Casey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- CONSUMER PFAS BAN ACT OF 2024 (Exempts certain cookware that contains perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances or PFAS that are authorized by the FDA for food contact for consumer goods from the provision of the consumer PFAS ban act of 2024.) {LC4587/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7622**BY** Cortvriend, Carson, Boylan, Spears, Speakman, McGaw, Kislak, Bennett, Handy, Fogarty**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- REFUSE DISPOSAL (Authorizes the department of environmental management to issue and enforce rules and regulations to implement and enforce the provisions of the food waste ban.) {LC3566/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7623**BY** Handy, Fogarty, Cortvriend, Batista, Sanchez**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION -- STATE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS METRICS

(Requires that the division of planning create a checklist of environmental and energy issues that state construction projects which cost in excess of \$10,000,000 would need to consider.) {LC4904/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7624**BY** Donovan, Fogarty, Handy, Boylan, Speakman, Carson, Tanzi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- ASSISTED LIVING

RESIDENCE LICENSING ACT {LC4792/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7625**BY** Donovan, Speakman, Boylan, Spears, Tanzi, Kislak, Giraldo, Stewart, Fogarty, Carson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

(Commencing January 1, 2027, mandates insurers provide health insurance coverage without cost-share requirements for vaccinations recommended by the DOH and mandates the coverage for the medical assistance program and managed care organizations.) {LC4819/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7626**BY** Carson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE RHODE ISLAND
MATERNAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT AND EQUITY ACT OF 2026 (Establishes the Rhode
Island Maternal Health Improvement and Equity Act of 2026, to establish permanent statewide
support for maternal health and to implement the maternal health strategic plan improving maternal
health care and access.) {LC4874/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7627**BY** Tanzi, Ajello, Speakman, Boylan, Donovan, Carson, Cotter, Shanley, McGaw, Bennett**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- MATERNAL AND CHILD
HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS -- EARLYINTERVENTION EXTENSION--BRIDGE TO PRESCHOOL (Permits extended early intervention
services for children with developmental disabilities whose third birthday is between May 1 and

August 31.) {LC5095/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7628**BY** Handy, Donovan, Fogarty, Chippendale**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESSINSURANCE POLICIES-NON-OPIOID PAIN TREATMENT (Requires health insurers to develop
a plan to provide adequate coverage, of and access to, a broad spectrum of pain management service.)

{LC4442/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7629

BY Alzate, Kazarian, Felix, Fogarty, Furtado, Messier, Edwards, Bennett, Kislak, McEntee
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS
INSURANCE POLICIES (Amends the current law on health insurance coverage for fertility
diagnostic care, standard fertility preservation services, and fertility treatment and requires coverage
for any medically necessary ovulation-enhancing drugs and medical services.) {LC4607/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7630

BY Tanzi, Ajello, Spears, Boylan, Donovan, Carson, Cotter, Shanley, Felix, McGaw
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS
INSURANCE POLICIES (Requires that reimbursement rates for certified mobile response and
stabilization services be equal to or greater than the prevailing integrated state Medicaid rate for
mobile response and stabilizations services) {LC5129/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7631

BY Alzate, Morales, Furtado, McGaw, Shanley, Batista
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- MEDICARE
ENROLLMENT (Requires the EOHHS to disregard an individual's assets or resources, when
determining an individual's eligibility for any Medicare beneficiary program, contingent on federal
approval.) {LC4349/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7632

BY Cotter, Spears, Chippendale, Caldwell, Speakman, Carson, McNamara, McGaw, Read, Noret
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY
PROVISIONS -- AGE-APPROPRIATE DESIGN CODE (Requires that any covered entity that
develops/provides online services, products, or features that children are reasonably likely to access
shall consider the best interest of children when designing/developing such online service, product, or
feature.) {LC5126/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, & Technology

House Bill No. 7633

(Dept. of BHDDH)

BY Kislak

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS --
CONFIDENTIALITY OF HEALTH CARE COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ACT
(Provides conditions under which BHDDH has the authority to compel certain healthcare providers to
finish requested healthcare records without violating The Health Insurance Portability and
Accountability Act.) {LC4956/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7634

(Dept. of BHDDH)

BY Bennett

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS -- MENTAL HEALTH LAW (Provides that advanced practice

registered nurses have the same immunity from liability as physicians and surgeons.) {LC4955/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7635

BY McGaw, Carson, Tanzi, Fogarty, Handy, Craven, Shanley
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE RHODE ISLAND
CESSPOOL ACT OF 2007 (Provides that a certificate be provided for every contract for the
purchase and sale of real estate certifying that the property has a functioning on-site wastewater
treatment system or a sewer connection and not a cesspool.) {LC4817/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7636

BY Boylan, Caldwell, Casimiro, Dawson, Craven, Read, Batista, Felix, Ajello, Knight
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- SUICIDE PREVENTION--
VOLUNTARY FIREARM RESTRICTIONS ACT (Creates process for individual to voluntarily be
either temporarily or indefinitely added to a list restricting their rights to purchase or possess
firearms. Adds civil fines and misdemeanor for violations.) {LC4974/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7637

BY Alzate, Chippendale, Hull, Giraldo, Stewart, Casimiro, Fogarty, Felix, Batista
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY (Prohibit denial of an opportunity to apply for employment
as a law enforcement officer or firefighter solely on the basis of a person's country of citizenship.)
{LC4290/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7638

(Judiciary)
BY Read, Noret, Hopkins, Brien, Corvese
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- RIGHT-OF-WAY
(Amends the general law relative to right-of-way of pedestrians to reference the schedule of
violations for the adjudication of traffic offenses contained in § 31.41.1-4.) {LC5102/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7639

BY Ajello, Cortvriend, Corvese, Place, Cruz, Kislak, Handy, Boylan, Donovan, Cotter
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY
PROVISIONS -- GENETIC INFORMATION PRIVACY ACT (Requires a direct-to-consumer
genetic testing company, as defined, to provide a consumer with certain information regarding the
company's policies and procedures regarding use of genetic data.) {LC5027/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7640

(Judiciary)
BY McEntee, Caldwell, Knight, Dawson, Spears, Bennett
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--COURTS --
COURT ADMINISTRATION (For purposes of the judicial security act permits an authorized agent

to file a written notice with a state, county, or municipal agency on behalf of a protected individual.)
{LC5105/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7641

BY Dawson, McEntee, Boylan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- JUDICIAL SELECTION (Requires individuals seeking a judicial nomination to reapply to JNC every 3 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.) {LC5005/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7642

(Judiciary)

BY Donovan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- DISTRICT COURT PRACTICE (Provides amendments to the assessment of filing fees required to appeal from certain matters adjudicated by the district court.) {LC5100/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7643

(Judiciary)

BY Donovan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE-- PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTION -- SMALL CLAIMS AND CONSUMER CLAIMS (Simplifies the assessment of filing fees required to appeal from small claims and consumer matters adjudicated by the district court.) {LC5101/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7644

BY Felix, Batista, Knight, McEntee, Dawson, Ajello, Noret, Cruz, Place, Kazarian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- FEES (Increases the fees charged for filings and writs of execution in the district court, superior court and family court.) {LC5055/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7645

BY McEntee, Craven, Casimiro, Bennett, Edwards, Caldwell

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS -- ARBITRATION (Extends time for a party to apply for stay of arbitration to 180 days; invalidates any provision that penalizes a party for seeking legal representation; requires arbitrator to provide notice of default to a party for failure to pay fees.) {LC4896/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7646

BY Nardone, Santucci, Chippendale, Roberts, Place, Hopkins

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE IN

PARTICULAR ACTIONS -- RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL LIABILITY ACTIONS (Creates a medical malpractice tribunal that would screen medical malpractice actions before such actions could proceed in superior court.) {LC3601/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7647

BY McEntee, Spears, Craven, Casimiro, Bennett, Fogarty, Caldwell

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO DELINQUENT AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN -- PROCEEDINGS IN FAMILY COURT -- JUVENILE RECORDS (Allows access to juvenile criminal records in order to conduct firearm background checks.) {LC4952/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7648

(Judiciary)

BY McEntee, Caldwell, Knight, Dawson, O'Brien, Spears, Bennett

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- SEXUAL ASSAULT (Requires the electronic filing of domestic violence/sexual assault forms by law enforcement agencies, and enhances the information to be included on the reporting forms.) {LC5099/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7649

BY Dawson, McEntee, Boylan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- UNIFORM ACT ON PREVENTION OF AND REMEDIES FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING (Requires that all monies received from the payment of fines under the Uniform Act on Prevention of and Remedies for Human Trafficking be deposited into the into the violent crimes indemnity account within the general fund.) {LC5007/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7650

BY Lima, Fellela, Place, Corvese, Azzinaro, Kennedy, Bennett, Edwards, Phillips, Casey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (Provides that any person eighteen (18) years of age who is issued a license or permit may carry a stun gun. It would impose criminal penalties for a person to sell or transfer a stun gun to a person under the age of eighteen (18).) {LC5081/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7651

BY Batista, Cruz, Potter, Alzate, Felix, Lombardi, Morales, Stewart, Shanley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- SENTENCE AND EXECUTION (Requires courts to presume release for most probation violations, set reasonable bail or non-monetary conditions, limit detention to cases of risk or danger, require prompt hearings, and mandate written reasons for detention.) {LC3709/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7652

BY Cruz, Felix, Batista, Potter, Stewart, Morales, Kislak, Furtado, Sanchez, Tanzi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- SENTENCE AND

EXECUTION (Requires sentencing court to consider whether defendant is parent of child, or caregiver of elderly, disabled or terminally ill person whose well-being would be adversely affected by the person's incarceration and if so, shall impose a non-jail sentence.) {LC3752/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7653

(Judiciary)

BY Felix, Alzate, Kazarian, Tanzi, Sanchez, Furtado

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT (Allows for the electronic filing of domestic violence/sexual assault reporting forms by law enforcement agencies, enhances the information to be included on the reporting forms, and clarifies that the reporting forms should be submitted monthly.) {LC5098/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7654

BY Dawson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE AND SALE (Allows for sending of the notice under power of sale and rights of active military servicemembers by USPS First Class Mail and/or an overnight delivery service, instead of by USPS certified mail return receipt requested.) {LC5019/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7655

BY Handy, Fogarty, Cortvriend, Batista, Sanchez

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Permits a tenant, at the tenant's expense, to implement energy conservation measures to any dwelling or dwelling unit such as removable weather-stripping around doors and windows.) {LC4908/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7656

(General Treasurer)

BY McEntee, Caldwell, Read, Spears, McNamara, Bennett, O'Brien, Dawson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PENSION REVOCATION AND REDUCTION ACT (Authorizes the state retirement board to revoke or reduce an individual's pension benefit if that individual is convicted or pleads guilty or no contest to a felony sex crime related to their public office or public employment.) {LC4646/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7657

BY Carson, Cortvriend, Spears

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT (Distinguishes residential and commercial short-term rental properties for tax purposes.) {LC4506/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7658

BY Cruz, Stewart, Furtado, Kislak, Lombardi, Sanchez, Handy, Morales, Giraldo, Tanzi
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- HOUSING MAINTENANCE AND OCCUPANCY CODE -- NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS (Requires a housing code enforcement officer to give a copy of any housing code violation notice to all tenants of the building affected by a housing code violation along with any hearing dates scheduled for the violation.) {LC3742/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7659

BY Santucci, Chippendale, Newberry, Nardone, Roberts, Hopkins, Place, Costantino, Fascia
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING (Prohibits contractors from submitting a single application to a local review board seeking a comprehensive permit for housing projects in certain circumstances.) {LC4882/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7660

BY McEntee, Spears, Craven, Casimiro, O'Brien, Bennett, Diaz, Edwards, Caldwell, Dawson
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- OPTIONAL RETIREMENT FOR MEMBERS OF POLICE FORCE AND FIREFIGHTERS (Affords an option for police and firefighters to receive retirement allowances, without reduction, who seek retirement after twenty (20) years of service, upon reaching age fifty-seven (57).) {LC4892/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7661

BY McGaw, Cortvriend
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Enables the town of Portsmouth to adopt, repeal, or modify their tax classification plan for any tax year on and after December 31, 2026.) {LC5089/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7662

BY Cortvriend, Finkelman
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Authorizes the town of Middletown to adopt by ordinance, a veterans' property tax exemption to any veteran, who was honorably discharged, or discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, regardless of dates or periods of service.) {LC4881/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7663

BY Roberts, Hopkins, Santucci, Nardone, Chippendale, Newberry
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Provides a totally and permanently disabled veteran with a one hundred percent (100%) exemption from local taxation on real or personal property including real property located in any fire or lighting district.) {LC3861/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7664**BY** Casey, Brien, McEntee, Corvese**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES

(Allows holders of a Class P license to purchase alcoholic beverages from either a retail or wholesale establishment in the State of Rhode Island.) {LC4863/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Small Business

House Bill No. 7665

(Office of Healthy Aging)

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

DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE (Provides that the month of September in each year be designated "Rhode Island Senior Center Month" with appropriate exercises in public places.)

{LC4965/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

House Bill No. 7666**BY** Chippendale, Santucci, Newberry, Place**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Paul J. Rao to join Spencer Rao and Michaela Smith in Marriage on or about June 20, 2026, within the Town of Foster, Rhode Island.) {LC5196/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

House Bill No. 7667**BY** Roberts, Hopkins, Nardone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- UNIFORM ACT ON

PREVENTION OF AND REMEDIES FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING -- TRAFFICKING OF

PERSONS AND INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE (Provides specific language for signs to be posted at certain establishments notifying people of contact information to the national human trafficking resource center.) {LC3957/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7668**BY** Cruz, Stewart, Potter, Sanchez, Morales, Tanzi, Felix, Ajello, Kislak, Lombardi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- RESIDENCE OF INDIVIDUALS IN

GOVERNMENT CUSTODY ACT (Requires state use actual residences of persons in government custody for redistricting purposes. Information would be collected by the department of corrections and forwarded to the division of statewide planning, to be utilized for redistricting.) {LC3747/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7669**BY** Brien, Corvese, Chippendale, Noret, Hopkins**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND

VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES (Limits early voting to eight (8) weekdays and the two (2) weekend days immediately preceding election day.) {LC5073/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7670**BY** Kislak**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OPERATION OF BICYCLES (Requires bicyclists to slow or stop at a stop sign and yield to vehicular traffic.)

{LC4926/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7671

(Dept. of Transportation)

BY Cotter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SIZE, WEIGHT, AND LOAD LIMITS (Provides a series of updates to size, weight, and load regulations for commercial and specialized vehicles.) {LC5113/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7672

(by request)

BY Boylan, Fogarty, Casimiro, DeSimone, Read, Hull, Spears, Dawson, Felix, Kislak**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SPECIAL STOPS REQUIRED (Requires the placement of a stop sign at any intersection of a roadway and bike path.)

{LC4328/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7673

(Dept. of Environmental Management)

BY Cortvriend, Carson, Tanzi, McGaw**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY (Authorizes the department of environmental management to enter into leases of up to forty (40) years at State Pier #9 in Newport, Chase Marina in Tiverton, and all other ports and marine facilities owned and operated by the department.) {LC4929/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7674

(Dept. of Administration)

BY Edwards, Cortvriend, Bennett**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- STATE PURCHASES (Defines public-private partnerships and provides the framework to encourage the use of public-private partnerships for proposals for state purchases.) {LC4963/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7675**BY** Cortvriend, Carson, Boylan, Spears, Speakman, McGaw, Kislak, Bennett, Handy, Fogarty**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --

COMPOSTING AND ORGANIC WASTE DIVERSION (Establishes Compost Fund to award grants related to reducing the amount of solid waste generated in the state.) {LC3567/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7676

BY Speakman, Tanzi, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Cortvriend, Carson, Spears, Cotter
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS (Allows advisory bodies to participate in a public meeting using videoconferencing, subject to certain requirements.) {LC4865/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7677

(CRMC)
BY Spears, Cortvriend, McEntee, Carson, Boylan, Fogarty, Tanzi, Caldwell, Shanley, Kazarian
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (Provides that the legislature would be the body that negotiates on behalf of the state for all activities occurring in, on and over state submerged land extending beyond twenty-five (25) acres.) {LC4997/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Resolution No. 7678

BY Casey, Brien, McEntee, Chippendale, Shallcross Smith, Noret, Corvese, Speakman
ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON CITY AND TOWN AFFAIRS (Creates a 9-member Joint Commission to review and provide recommendations to strengthen coordination between state and local government and who would report back to the General Assembly by December 31, 2026, and would expire on January 31, 2027.) {LC5042/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7679

BY Azzinaro, Corvese, Casey, Kennedy
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- BURIAL OF VETERANS (Provides that certain Hmong or Lao veterans who served honorably in military operations in support of the United States as special guerrilla units be granted burial rights at the Rhode Island Veterans Memorial Cemetery.) {LC4890/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Veterans Affairs

House Bill No. 7680

BY Donovan, Speakman, Biah, Diaz, Kislak, Giraldo, Stewart, Fogarty, Boylan, Carson
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Specifies that pre-k programs for three (3) – and four (4) – years olds be added to programs to increase access to voluntary, free, high-quality pre-kindergarten programs.) {LC4813/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7681

BY Cotter, Spears, Chippendale, Speakman, McGaw, Kennedy, Kazarian, Roberts, Tanzi
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Ensures that transportation categorical funds between the state and regional school districts would be fully funded.) {LC5135/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7682

BY Cotter, Chippendale, Spears, Speakman, McGaw, Read, Kennedy, Kazarian, Roberts
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TRANSPORTATION OF SCHOOL PUPILS BEYOND CITY AND TOWN LIMITS (Allows an individual school district that can utilize its own buses or vendors at a lower cost than the statewide system, to obtain reimbursement for these costs from state funds.) {LC5132/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7683

BY McEntee, Serpa, O'Brien, Spears, Caldwell, Biah, Donovan, Phillips, Messier, Furtado
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TEACHERS' RETIREMENT (Increases monthly minimum benefit for a spouse, domestic partner, former spouse.) {LC4940/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7684

(Dept. of Corrections)

BY Dawson, McEntee

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM -- CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS (Includes the deputy chief of inspection and inspector within the provision of law related to retirement on service allowance relating to correctional officers.) {LC4943/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7685

BY O'Brien, Dawson, Shanley, Corvese, Azzinaro, Kennedy, McEntee, Noret, Bennett, Phillips
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM -- CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS (Adds probation and parole officers to the list of state law enforcement professionals, for purpose of retirement on service allowance.) {LC5029/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7686

BY Fogarty, Handy, Knight, Cortvriend, Shallcross Smith, Ajello, Donovan, Spears, McGaw, Boylan
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PRIMARY CARE TRAINING SITES PROGRAM (Appropriates two million seven hundred thousand dollars (\$2,700,000) to fund the primary care training sites program to provide training for physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants within the department of health.) {LC5250/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7687

BY Bennett, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Edwards, Azzinaro, Kennedy, Slater, Fogarty, Handy, Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ACT (Exempts individual retirement accounts as a countable resource for public assistance. This act also prohibits the state as a creditor against an ABLE account in the event of death of a beneficiary.) {LC5030/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7688

BY Cruz, Stewart, Morales, Kislak, Furtado, Cotter, Giraldo, Diaz, Tanzi, Kazarian
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- RHODE ISLAND CHILD CARE FOR ALL ACT (Establishes the Rhode Island Child Care for All Act which provides high quality and affordable child care to families throughout the state.) {LC3744/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7689

BY Handy, Stewart, Alzate, Slater, Kislak, Kazarian, Caldwell, Giraldo, Ajello, Cruz
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- THE RHODE ISLAND WORKS PROGRAM (Amends the Rhode Island works program to allow lawful permanent residents to receive benefits without a waiting period and increases benefits.) {LC4698/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7690

BY Handy, Stewart, Alzate, Slater, Kislak, Kazarian, Caldwell, Giraldo, Ajello, Batista
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- THE RHODE ISLAND WORKS PROGRAM (Amends the Rhode Island works program to increase the cash support pass-through to \$100 for one child and \$200 for more than one child.) {LC4700/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7691

BY Stewart, Morales, Casimiro, Giraldo, Alzate, McNamara, Tanzi, Boylan, Kazarian, Messier
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 2027.) {LC4798/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7692

BY Stewart, Potter, Giraldo, Tanzi, Boylan, Donovan, Speakman, Cotter, Morales, Kislak
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES {LC4550/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7693

BY Tanzi, Ajello, Spears, Boylan, Donovan, Carson, Cotter, Shanley, McGaw, Bennett
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN (Requires the EOHHS to amend the state Medicaid plan and secure sufficient state general revenue to increase Medicaid payment rates to an amount equal to one hundred thirty percent (130%) of Medicare rates for outpatient clinical pediatric services.) {LC5128/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7694**BY** Lima, Fellela, Serpa, Phillips, Casey, Brien, Noret, Hopkins**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL (Establishes an office of inspector general as an independent administrative agency, charged with preventing and detecting fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement in the expenditure of public funds.) {LC5083/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7695**BY** Bennett, Edwards, Shanley, Phillips, O'Brien, Cortvriend, Slater, Fellela, Messier, Furtado**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RHODE ISLAND COMMERCE CORPORATION (Establishes property, tangible, sales and use tax exemptions as incentives for the location of qualified data centers in Rhode Island.) {LC5040/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7696

(Lieutenant Governor)

BY McEntee, Spears, Craven, Bennett, Diaz, Edwards, Caldwell**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP TAX CREDIT (Establishes a tax credit for businesses transitioning to employee ownership.) {LC4783/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7697**BY** Spears, Donovan, Cotter, Carson, Boylan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts from the sales tax any prescriptive scalp hair prosthesis or wig that are necessary due to hair loss to treat a medical condition.) {LC4386/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7698**BY** McEntee, Caldwell, Morales, McGaw, Spears, Speakman, Boylan, Bennett, O'Brien, Cortvriend**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- TAX CREDIT FOR FOOD DONATION (Provides a tax credit for food donations by qualified taxpayers to nonprofit organizations up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per year.) {LC4439/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7699**BY** Costantino, Santucci, Lima, Brien, Casey, Noret, Chippendale, McEntee, Phillips, Hopkins**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- ESTATE AND TRANSFER TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Eliminates the estate tax in Rhode Island.) {LC4811/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7700**BY** Cotter, Spears, Speakman, McGaw, Kennedy, Kazarian, Tanzi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY TAX RELIEF (Increases the income range up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) and tax credit up to eight hundred fifty dollars (\$850), for elderly and disabled persons who own or rent their homes.) {LC5123/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7701**BY** Lima, Costantino**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Removes the state-owned property from property exempt from local property taxes.) {LC5082/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance**House Bill No. 7702****BY** Lima, Costantino, Serpa, Fellela, Biah, Azzinaro, Kennedy, Phillips, Edwards, Bennett**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Includes payment of social security benefits to the modification reducing federal adjusted gross income on personal income taxes.) {LC5078/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7703**BY** Lima, Costantino, Fellela, Serpa, Brien, Casey, Noret, Hopkins, Shanley, O'Brien**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION TAX (Suspends the gross earnings tax on electric and gas companies until January 1, 2036.) {LC5077/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7704**BY** Fogarty, Tanzi, McEntee, Speakman, Caldwell, Donovan, Carson, Bennett, McGaw, Boylan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION TO ISSUE BONDS FOR A MEDICAL SCHOOL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND (Submits a proposition to be placed on the ballot at the next general election authorizing the issuance of bonds for a medical school on the University of Rhode Island's Kingston campus.) {LC4512/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Resolution No. 7705**BY** Cotter, Chippendale, Speakman, Carson, McGaw, Kennedy, Kazarian, Tanzi**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$40,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (DEM) FOR THE NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMPACT (Appropriates the sum of \$40,000 to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management.) {LC5124/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Resolution No. 7706**BY** Shallcross Smith, Hull, Sanchez, Potter, Voas, Kazarian, Casimiro, Diaz, Fellela, Fogarty**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 TO THE UNITED WAY OF RHODE ISLAND FOR THE 2-1-1 HUMAN SERVICES HOTLINE

(Authorizes the appropriation of the sum of \$500,000 to the United Way of Rhode Island to provide operational support for the 2-1-1 system.) {LC4693/1}

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Resolution No. 7707

BY Biah, DeSimone, Kislak, Slater, Sanchez, Lombardi, O'Brien, Batista, Lima, Costantino
ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$800,000 TO WATERFIRE PROVIDENCE (This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$800,000 to WaterFire Providence.) {LC5193/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Resolution No. 7708

BY Carson
ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$2,700,000 TO BE USED FOR MATERNAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT AND EQUITY (Appropriates the sum of \$2,700,000 to the department of health for maternal health improvement and equity.) {LC4873/1}
02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

CALENDAR

From the Calendar are taken:

IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026:**1. 2026-H 7301**

BY Carson

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION REINSTATING THE LIFE OF AND EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO REVIEW AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICIES THAT DEAL WITH NUMEROUS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SHORT-TERM RENTALS ISSUES

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the resolution, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Carson, Speakman, Fogarty, Handy, Alzate, McEntee, and Cortvriend.

Chairman Casey discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 60 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 60: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Newberry, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

2. 2026-H 7407

BY Baginski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE HOSPITAL CONVERSIONS ACT

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

Chairwoman Donovan moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Carson, Biah, McGaw, McEntee, Serpa, Fogarty, Fellela, Corvese, Edwards, Lima, Potter, Giraldo, Casey, Craven, Caldwell, and Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman.

Chairwoman Donovan discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 63 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 63: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

GUESTS

Representative Santucci is delighted to warmly welcome Detective Lieutenant Douglas Cerce of Smithfield, who has been recognized as the 2025 Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association Detective of the Year. Joining us are Woonsocket Police Chief Thomas F. Oates III, Chairman Emeritus of the Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association; former Smithfield Police Chief Richard St. Sauveur; and Smithfield Police Chief Eric Dolan. Speaker Shekarchi thanks them for their service and welcomes them to the House.

Representative Cruz proudly welcomes the CEO and Founder of Rhode Island Women in the Trades, Anita Bruno, and the Warden of the Women's Facility at the Rhode Island Department of Corrections, Lynda Aul, Deputy Warden Cory Cloud, Project Managers Lisa Soderl, and Eliza Bajakian, and Thode Island Doc Chief of Staff, Ryan Crowley. Rhode Island Women in the Trades is a program dedicated to empowering tradeswomen through collective advocacy and policy efforts,

mentorship, and leadership development. Joining them were the graduate representatives, Marina Hernandez and Georgia Anderson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Cotter wishes her son, Charlie, and all the JV States runners good luck. Speaker Shekarchi also wishes Charlie and all the runners good luck.

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

Speaker Shekarchi expresses his gratitude to Chairman Slater and the entire Finance Committee for their attendance on Friday and for their diligent efforts in passing the legislation to authorize revised appropriations in support of fiscal year 2026 for Roger Williams Medical Center and Our Lady of Fatima Hospital.

GUESTS

Representative Kislak extends a warm welcome to the family of the late Zacory P. Richardson, including his girlfriend, Lisa Pope; his sister, Michelle; his brothers, Jermaine and Derrick; young Jacoby; and his friend, Kim. Representative Kislak also offers her deepest condolences.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Casey announces that the Committee on Municipal Government & Housing will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 135 of the State House.

Chairman Solomon announces that the Committee on Corporations will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 101 of the State House.

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

PROXY VOTES

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces, pursuant to Rule 33(e), authorizing Proxy Votes, he has received a request from Chairman Abney to be recorded in the affirmative for items #1 and #2.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces the next House session will be on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. As a reminder, members must deliver their legislation to the Legislative Council office no later than Tuesday, February 17th, by the close of the business day. The Legislative Council needs time to prepare the bills for you. After Thursday, February 17th, any introductions of legislation will be subject to Rule 7(d) of the House Rules.

Majority Leader Blazejewski wishes everyone a restful Recess Week.

Majority Leader Blazewski and Speaker Shekarchi wish Happy Birthdays to Representatives Alex Finkelman (Friday) and Arthur Handy (Sunday).

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

House Resolution No. 7709

BY Azzinaro, Shekarchi, Blazewski, Chippendale, Kennedy, O'Brien, McEntee, Edwards, Bennett, Solomon

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND THANKING DR. CHRISTOPHER A. CAMPAGNARI, MD, ON HIS RETIREMENT AS A FAMILY MEDICINE PHYSICIAN AFTER 32 YEARS OF PROVIDING COMPASSIONATE AND EXEMPLARY MEDICAL CARE {LC4899/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Azzinaro discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 7710

BY Shekarchi, Blazewski, Chippendale, Carson, Kennedy, Edwards, Bennett, Solomon, Ajello, Fogarty

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 20TH OF 2026, TO BE "NATIONAL CAREGIVERS DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC3504/1}

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 many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 7711

BY Marszalkowski, Ackerman, Voas, Shekarchi, Blazewski, Chippendale, McEntee, Kennedy, Edwards, Bennett

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE DIAMOND HILL VINEYARDS ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY {LC5051/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Marszalkowski discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 7712

BY Kennedy, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Edwards, Diaz, Azzinaro, Bennett, Solomon, Ajello

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE CELEBRATION OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR "THE YEAR OF THE HORSE" ON FEBRUARY 17, 2026 {LC3478/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 7713

BY Ajello, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Kennedy, Edwards, Bennett, Solomon, Fogarty, Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF MARY MAGAVERN WORRELL {LC5188/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Ajello discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi extends his deepest condolences to the Worrell family.

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

House Resolution No. 7714

BY Chippendale, Spears, Place, Newberry, Nardone, Paplauskas, Santucci, Fascia, Hopkins, Roberts

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE RICHARD SERRA {LC5301/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, on behalf of Speaker Shekarchi, Minority Leader Chippendale requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Minority Leader Chippendale discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Minority Leader Chippendale, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

House Resolution No. 7715

BY Santucci, Hopkins, Quattrocchi, Place, Noret, Azzinaro, Bennett, McNamara, Brien, Read
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING SMITHFIELD POLICE DETECTIVE LIEUTENANT DOUGLAS CERCE ON BEING NAMED THE 2025 RHODE ISLAND POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION DETECTIVE OF THE YEAR {LC4871/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Santucci discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Santucci seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising 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. 7716

(Cannabis Control Commission)

BY Slater

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- THE RHODE ISLAND CANNABIS ACT (Updates the Rhode Island Cannabis Act to remove the current requirement to express cannabinoids as the dry-weight percentages.) {LC4932/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7717

(Cannabis Control Commission)

BY Slater

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- THE RHODE ISLAND CANNABIS ACT (Updates the Rhode Island Cannabis Act to eliminate the statutorily required subcommittees under the cannabis advisory board.) {LC4933/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7718

BY Potter, Kislak, Serpa, Bennett, Cruz, McEntee, Lima

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- FORCE-FED POULTRY PRODUCTS (Prohibits force-feeding to create a force-fed poultry product or the hiring of another to engage in force-feeding of a poultry product. It also prohibits the sale of a force-fed poultry product or food containing a force-fed poultry product.) {LC5066/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7719

(Lieutenant Governor)

BY Noret, Kazarian, Azzinaro, Kennedy, Corvese, Fascia, Paplauskas, Read, Fogarty, Carson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- UNFAIR SALES PRACTICES (Provides that stores offering food product discounts must provide the same discounts to in-store customers that are offered to customers using electronic digital coupons.) {LC4780/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7720

BY Fogarty, Handy, McEntee, Shanley, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Kazarian, Carson, McGaw, Speakman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RHODE ISLAND HEALTHCARE TRANSACTION OVERSIGHT ACT (Requires a healthcare entity to submit written notice to the attorney general and the department of health of any material change transaction at least 180 days prior to that transaction.) {LC4407/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7721

BY Fogarty, McEntee, Shanley, Ajello, Tanzi, Shallcross Smith, Kazarian, Carson, McGaw, Speakman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RHODE ISLAND BAN ON THE CORPORATE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE ACT (Establishes the Rhode Island Ban on the Corporate Practice of Medicine Act.) {LC5118/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7722

BY McNamara

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES-DENTAL INSURANCE COVERAGE (Clarifies the manner in which certain dental insurance benefits are paid directly to the provider.) {LC5036/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7723

BY Craven, McEntee, Potter, O'Brien

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- LIABILITY INSURANCE (Requires that insurance policies for property damage, personal injuries, and indemnification other than payment of compensation for workers compensation, state policy limits and no amount of the policy may be used to pay costs to defend a claim.) {LC5145/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7724

BY Serpa

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- SMALL LOAN LENDERS (Establishes a maximum per annum rate of interest on small loans at ninety-nine percent (99%) and limit the amounts of origination and closing fees. Also requires that late fees and returned payment fees be agreed to in writing between borrower and lender.) {LC4648/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7725

(Dept. of Transportation)

BY Voas

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES GENERALLY (Requires every vehicle that operates in intrastate commerce be permanently marked with a US DOT Number effective April 1, 2027.) {LC5112/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7726

BY Boylan, Potter, DeSimone, Handy, Caldwell, Carson, Cortvriend, McGaw, Speakman, Voas

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- SOLAR COST REDUCTION ACT (Amend the state's online E-Permitting Portal using automated plan review and instant permit issuance.) {LC4762/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7727

BY Handy, Fogarty, Tanzi, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Cortvriend

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- OFFSHORE WIND PROCUREMENT POLICY STUDY COMMISSION (Establishes the offshore wind procurement policy study commission.) {LC4870/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 7728

BY O'Brien, McNamara, Shallcross Smith, Craven, Azzinaro, Corvese, Fellela, McEntee, Donovan, Read

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS {LC3867/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7729

BY Kislak, Tanzi, Cruz, Biah, Alzate, Stewart, Potter, Shallcross Smith, Fogarty, Ajello
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS
(Creates a prohibition on the unlawful use of seclusion rooms within any public pre-k program,
elementary or secondary school in the state.) {LC4942/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7730

BY Stewart, Speakman, Cotter, Cruz, Alzate, Giraldo, Furtado, Boylan, Place, Lombardi
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- STUDENT CULTURAL EXCHANGE
PROGRAM (Directs the department of elementary and secondary education to provide a two-year
pilot program that coordinates a national cultural exchange program for students of this state.)
{LC4795/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7731

BY Read, Noret, Fascia, Corvese, Santucci, Donovan, McNamara, Casey, Serpa, Solomon
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS
(Strengthens school security measures, including the establishment of a RI school emergency
response committee to develop additional recommendations for school security measures and
requiring an annual school safety assessment by all school districts.) {LC5131/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7732

BY Roberts, Brien, Nardone, Hopkins, Fascia, Santucci
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FAIRNESS IN WOMEN'S SPORTS ACT
(Categorizes women by their biological identity at birth rather than their gender identity for purpose
of organized sports.) {LC3960/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7733

BY Cotter, Roberts, Kazarian, Tanzi
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE EXETER -- WEST GREENWICH SCHOOL
DISTRICT (Amends chapter 80 of the public laws of 1965 with respect to the composition of the
regional district school building committee, apportionment of construction and operating costs and
amendments to the agreement.) {LC5137/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 7734

(Dept. of Environmental Management)
BY Cortvriend, Speakman, Bennett, McGaw, Spears
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- CONSUMER PFAS BAN
ACT OF 2024 (Amends the Consumer PFAS Ban Act of 2024 by clarifying enforcement provisions.)
{LC4930/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7735**BY** Carson, Spears, Cotter, McGaw, Cortvriend, Speakman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- ORGANICS DIVERSION AT CATERED EVENTS ACT (Creates the "Organics Diversion at Catered Events Act" to require caterers to submit an annual diversion plan for food and organic waste to the department of environmental management for approval prior to permitting for covered events.) {LC4094/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7736**BY** Boylan, Ajello, Stewart, Tanzi, Carson, Cortvriend, McGaw, Spears, Speakman, Donovan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RHODE ISLAND RESOURCE RECOVERY CORPORATION (Prohibits the use of artificial turf as material to cover compacted solid waste at a sanitary landfill.) {LC4945/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7737**BY** Cortvriend, Speakman, Bennett, Spears**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- CONSUMER PFAS BAN ACT OF 2024 (Modifies the definition of "intentionally added PFAS" to mean PFAS that are deliberately added during the manufacturing of a covered product to perform a specific function.) {LC4757/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7738**BY** Cortvriend, McGaw, Speakman, Boylan, Spears**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE (Establishes a moratorium on changes to the state energy conservation code from the 2024 International Energy Conservation Code until January 1, 2031, unless approved by the legislature and made effective by the governor.) {LC3193/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7739**BY** Cortvriend, McGaw, Handy, Carson, Boylan, Bennett, Kazarian**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- THE GREEN BUILDINGS ACT (Creates the green buildings act commission to consist of 17 members, responsible for the implementation of the green buildings act.) {LC4093/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 7740**BY** McNamara, Corvese, Chippendale**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- NURSES (Details each of those limited emergency circumstances where a registered nurse and advanced practice registered nurses, may safely administer sedation, such as critical life-saving or emergency situations where there is an imminent threat to life or limb.) {LC5183/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7741**BY** Potter, McNamara, Giraldo, Kislak, Bennett, Cotter, Corvese, Voas**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- NURSES (Allows advanced practice registered nurses, physician assistants, and physicians who are and are not licensed in Rhode Island to provide telemedicine services to patients who are in the state when those services are rendered.) {LC5076/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7742**BY** Cortvriend, McGaw, McEntee, Tanzi, Boylan, Kazarian, Spears**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- SANITATION IN FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS (Adds pickles and relish to those foods not requiring refrigeration which are permitted to be manufactured and sold as a farm home food product.) {LC4283/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7743**BY** Cotter, Kazarian, Potter, Tanzi, Carson, McGaw, Speakman, Donovan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE MANDATORY CARRYING OF EPINEPHRINE AUTOINJECTORS BY POLICE OFFICERS ACT (Requires all peace officers to carry epinephrine autoinjectors in their vehicles or on their person police departments to budget sufficient funds to purchase the epinephrine and autoinjectors and for training of every peace officer.) {LC5142/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7744**BY** Potter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Amends the law on drug coverage to require insurance plans that provide coverage for prescription drugs to offer two options for prescription delivery.) {LC5064/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7745**BY** Santucci, Chippendale, Place, Newberry, Fascia, Fellela, Read, Cotter, Tanzi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE ISLAND HEALTH CARE REFORM ACT OF 2004--HEALTH INSURANCE OVERSIGHT (Requires health insurance commissioner to conduct a review of health insurance benefit mandates, including an analysis of the impact on premium costs, conducted every 5 yrs and report findings and recommendations to governor, senate president and speaker.) {LC3614/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7746**BY** Caldwell, Cotter, Spears, Speakman, Shanley, Giraldo, Roberts, Read, Slater, Knight**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- RHODE ISLAND CHILDREN'S ONLINE SAFETY ACT (Provides protections to children using online platforms by requiring platforms to turn off open chats by default for young users, and requires parent to approve children's financial transactions on gaming and social media sites.) {LC3734/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, & Technology

House Bill No. 7747**BY** Voas**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- REGULATION OF SALES (Prohibits the holding of multiple drivers licenses or identification cards and would change the term "re-constructed salvage" to "rebuilt salvage" for purposes of the Rhode Island salvage law.) {LC5194/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7748

(Judiciary)

BY Craven, McEntee, Shanley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--COURTS -- DISTRICT COURT (Moves North Kingstown from the third division of the district court to the fourth division to better balance case workloads among the divisions.) {LC5104/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7749**BY** Craven, Shanley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- EVIDENCE (Repeals the collateral source rule in medical malpractice actions.) {LC5141/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7750**BY** Shanley, Potter, Craven**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.) {LC5154/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7751**BY** Shanley, Potter, Craven, McEntee, Kazarian, Corvese**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- LITIGATION LENDING AGREEMENTS (Makes litigation loan agreements subject to state usury laws.) {LC5153/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7752**BY** Cortvriend, Boylan, Speakman, Handy, Carson, McGaw, Kazarian**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS -- CLIMATE DISASTER ACTIONS (Creates legal cause of action for persons/insurers to recover losses resulting from climate disaster against petroleum product producers based upon strict liability for deceptive/false statements as to climate impacts.) {LC4360/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7753**BY** Read, Chippendale, Santucci, Noret, Serpa, Spears, O'Brien, Fascia, Corvese, Fellela**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- DISARMING A PEACE OFFICER (Makes it a felony for any person to remove or attempt to remove any firearm or other

weapon or any communication device from any peace officer or investigator of the department of attorney general.) {LC5246/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7754

BY Fogarty, Handy, Donovan, McEntee, Caldwell, Tanzi, Kazarian, Cortvriend, Carson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (Deletes the provision permitting out of state residents to obtain concealed carry permits in this state solely based on their rights in other states. It also corrects a minor typographical error.) {LC5025/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

(For Co-sponsorship removal request, see Journal of 3-5-2026, page 2.)

House Bill No. 7755

BY Boylan, Tanzi, Dawson, Craven, Caldwell, Read, Batista, Stewart, Felix, Knight

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS -- RESPONSIBLE FIREARM PURCHASING ACT (Changes the application to purchase a firearm. Further, this act would require all persons seeking to possess a firearm except for police and military personnel to complete and pass a basic firearm safety training course.) {LC4448/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7756

BY Potter, McNamara, Edwards, Cruz, Ajello, Handy, Slater, Bennett, Donovan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT (Amends current law on controlled substances to permit psilocybin to be cultivated within a person's residence for personal use and contingent on the US FDA's program, mandate that RI department of health establish rules regulations.) {LC5065/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7757

BY Caldwell, McEntee, Dawson, Batista, Casimiro, Kazarian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- FAMILY COURT (Gives statewide juvenile hearing boards the authority to refer a juvenile offender to a rehabilitative driving course, as part of a disposition of an offense before the board. The order may be enforced by the traffic tribunal.) {LC4846/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7758

BY Cruz, Stewart, Felix, Morales, Giraldo, Batista, Furtado, Shallcross Smith, Potter, Cotter

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- BED BUGS IN RESIDENTIAL PREMISES ACT (Spells out the responsibilities of both the landlord and tenant with respect to the inspection and treatment of bed bugs in residential premises.) {LC5267/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7759**BY** Kislak, Edwards, Potter, Lombardi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RIGHTS OF NURSING HOME PATIENTS (Provides a specific cause of action for violations of the rights of nursing home patients chapter.) {LC5139/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7760**BY** Ajello, Handy, Cortvriend, Tanzi, Cruz, Potter, Stewart, Shanley, McGaw, Speakman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LILA MANFIELD SAPINSLEY COMPASSIONATE CARE ACT (Establishes the process to provide a legal mechanism whereby a terminally ill patient may choose to end their life using medications prescribed by a physician.) {LC5387/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7761**BY** Craven, Shanley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PARKS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS -- PUBLIC USE OF PRIVATE LANDS-LIABILITY LIMITATIONS (Changes the definition of owner to exclude the state and municipalities for the purposes of liability limitations relating to public use of private lands.) {LC5148/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7762

(Lieutenant Governor)

BY Giraldo, Cruz, Alzate, Stewart, Felix, Tanzi, Potter, Kislak, Handy, Sanchez**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- FAIR CHANCE IN HOUSING CREDIT REPORTS ACT (Establishes the fair chance in housing credit reports act to provide standards for which a credit report can be used in considering a rental application.) {LC4787/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7763**BY** Shallcross Smith, Boylan, Fellela, DeSimone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- MAINTENANCE OF PRIVATE EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY (Provides that the cost of maintaining and repairing or restoring an easement or right-of-way shall be shared by each owner of a benefited property and their costs shall be determined by and commensurate with the municipal appraisal of each property.) {LC4995/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7764**BY** Potter, Cruz, Voas, Stewart, Alzate, Sanchez**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Prohibits the use of algorithmic pricing by landlords to determine the amount of rent to charge a residential tenant.) {LC4447/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7765

BY Stewart, Tanzi, Speakman, Cruz, Alzate, Morales, Kislak, Furtado, Potter, Cotter
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Increases the notification time about rent increases and termination of tenancy for month-to-month tenants.) {LC4803/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7766

BY Cruz, Stewart, Felix, Morales, Giraldo, Batista, Furtado, Shallcross Smith, Potter, Cotter
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Removes the five (5) year waiting period for filing a motion to seal an eviction court file. It also deletes the numerical limitation on filing seal requests.) {LC5283/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 7767

BY Noret, Dawson, Felix, O'Brien, Bennett
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE USE AND FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES (Creates a comprehensive statutory framework to address and regulate the use of artificial intelligence in the workplace, considering the interests of employers and employees.) {LC4970/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 7768

BY Edwards, Shanley, Potter, Ackerman, Newberry, Craven, Bennett, Slater, Kislak, Voas
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES (Prohibits an employer, employment agency, labor organization, or employee, to commit any act declared to be an unlawful employment practice; individuals would be held personally liable for such conduct.) {LC5151/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 7769

BY Furtado, Kazarian, Stewart, Messier, Kislak, Cruz, Alzate, McGaw, Felix, Ajello
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES (Sets the minimum wage for 2027 at twenty dollars (\$20) per hour.) {LC4705/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 7770

BY Bennett, Edwards, Potter, Alzate, Messier, Furtado, Corvese, McNamara, Fellela, Shanley
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES (Increases the minimum hourly wage commencing January 1, 2029, by an amount equal to the total percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Northeast Region for the calendar year 2027.) {LC5268/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 7771

BY Sanchez, Cruz, Felix
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES (Provides that commencing January 1, 2027, the minimum wage shall be twenty-four

dollars (\$24.00) per hour.) {LC5012/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 7772

BY Sanchez, Corvese, Tanzi, Lima, Fellela, Ajello, Handy, Serpa, Read, Azzinaro
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES -- HEALTHCARE WORKER OVERTIME PAY (Requires all health care workers who are employed on any Sunday or holiday, to be compensated at the rate of time and one-half.) {LC5010/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 7773

BY Potter, Craven, Read, Edwards, Bennett
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- WORKERS' COMPENSATION -- PROCEDURE (Amends the workers' compensation reimbursement provisions related to the liability of third person for damages.) {LC5155/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 7774

BY Speakman, Cortvriend, Casey, Shekarchi, Giraldo, Alzate, Spears, Boylan, Kazarian, Donovan
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE (Amends the state building code and would require that the state adopt the 2024 International Residential Code and prohibit the state building committee from adopting amendments for one to four residential dwelling units until 2030.) {LC5049/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7775

BY Slater
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Exempts from taxation the real and tangible personal property of MAP Behavioral Health Services, Inc. and MAP Development Corporation, located in the city of Providence.) {LC4859/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7776

BY Cortvriend, McNamara, Kazarian, Spears
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- ACQUISITION OF LAND (Provides that cities or towns may, by ordinance, designate "special ways" throughout the city or town which would be subject to alternative regulations to preserve its cultural, historic or scenic character.) {LC3967/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7777

BY McNamara, Read, Shanley, Solomon, Hopkins, Bennett
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS-- WARWICK MUNICIPAL COURT (Expands the jurisdiction of the city of Warwick municipal court.) {LC3173/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7778

BY Noret, Morales, Azzinaro, Read, Fascia, Shallcross Smith, Biah, Messier, Serpa, Fellela
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING (Amends the current law on low-income housing to include moderate-income housing and eliminates the income percentages used to determine qualifications for low or moderate income housing.) {LC4937/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7779

(Portsmouth)

BY Cortvriend, McGaw

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES (Permits but not directs a municipality to establish, by ordinance, certain requirements regarding accessory dwelling units regarding ownership for 5 years, non-family ADUs to be rented at affordable rates and limit size to 1,000 sq. ft.) {LC5088/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7780

BY Craven, Bennett, O'Brien

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES {LC4972/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

House Bill No. 7781

BY Stewart, Kazarian, Cruz, Alzate, Morales, Kislak, Tanzi, Donovan, Potter, Handy

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.) {LC4793/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

House Bill No. 7782

(Board of Elections)

BY Boylan, Knight, Kazarian, Dawson, Shallcross Smith, Tanzi, Speakman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES (Increases from seven (7) days to nine (9) days the period of time in which a request for a recount of the votes cast can be made to the board of elections. No certificates of election may be issued, until the recount if any is completed.) {LC4582/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7783

BY Newberry, Corvese

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- AGREEMENT AMONG THE STATES TO ELECT THE PRESIDENT BY NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE (Repeals authorizing Rhode Island to join an interstate compact, which would allow Presidents and Vice Presidents to be elected by a national popular vote rather than the electoral college.) {LC4523/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7784**BY** Newberry**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- FEDERAL ELECTIVE OFFICERS

(Changes the manner by which presidential electoral college electors are elected and create a system of grouping of municipalities of equal populations, one of each of Rhode Island's electoral votes.)

{LC3962/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7785**BY** Newberry, Chippendale, Nardone, Place**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL STATE OFFICES-NON-

PARTISAN ELECTION OF ATTORNEY GENERAL (Provides for the non-partisan election of the attorney general, commencing with the 2030 election.) {LC3597/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7786**BY** Newberry, Chippendale, Nardone, Place**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL STATE OFFICERS -- NON-

PARTISAN ELECTION OF SECRETARY OF STATE (This joint resolution proposes an amendment to the State Constitution, Article IV, Section 1, that would allow a non-partisan election of the secretary of state, commencing with the 2030 election.) {LC3599/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7787**BY** Brien, Corvese, Chippendale, Noret, Hopkins**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS (Allows early voting

ballot application to be completed in person on an electronic poll pad. Voter then issued a ballot to be placed in a state-approved voting device.) {LC5045/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7788**BY** Stewart, Kislak, Speakman, Furtado, Cruz, Handy, Potter, Sanchez, Giraldo, Cotter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARIES FOR ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND FOR PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE

(Establishes the Ranked Choice Voting for Rhode Island Presidential Primaries and provides for new sections on ranked choice voting tabulation and results reporting.) {LC4925/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7789**BY** Boylan, Furtado, Potter, Serpa, Speakman, Kazarian, Caldwell, Tanzi, Handy**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- DEFINITIONS

AND GENERAL CODE PROVISIONS (Spells out requirements for operation of recreational vehicles, manual, electric or gas powered.) {LC3128/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7790**BY** Roberts**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- LIGHTING

EQUIPMENT AND REFLECTORS (Adds vehicles owned by the Rhode Island Disaster Medical Assistance Team, Inc. to the vehicles to be equipped with flashing lights.) {LC3583/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Resolution No. 7791

BY Newberry, Chippendale, Nardone, Place

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE, PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE -- COMBINING THE OFFICES OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR AND SECRETARY OF STATE (Proposes an amendment to the State Constitution, Article IV, Section 1, that would combine the offices of lieutenant governor and secretary of state, commencing with the 2028 election.)

{LC3963/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Resolution No. 7792

BY Handy, Fogarty, Cortvriend, Potter, Edwards, McEntee, Donovan, Kazarian

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION RESCINDING PREVIOUS ARTICLE V CONVENTION APPLICATIONS (Rescinds any prior applications to the United States Congress from the Rhode Island General Assembly to call for a convention to amend the United States Constitution.)

{LC4869/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 7793

BY Caldwell, McEntee, Batista, Potter, Spears, Casimiro, Kazarian, Boylan, Kislak, Speakman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FEDERAL AID (Establishes a statewide "healthy school meals for all" universal school breakfast and lunch program in Rhode Island public schools phased in over 3 years.) {LC4850/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7794

BY Giraldo, Alzate, Shallcross Smith, Cruz, Sanchez

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE RHODE ISLAND FAMILY HOME--VISITING ACT (Changes annual reporting requirements for the state's family home-visiting program and also impacts appropriation and spending of funds in order to access maximum federal funding for these programs.) {LC5120/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7795

BY Fogarty, Donovan, McEntee, Shanley, Handy, Shallcross Smith, Kazarian, Carson, McGaw, Speakman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (Provides that services provided by graduate student interns who work under a supervisory protocol would be eligible to be paid from Medicaid reimbursement.) {LC5177/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7796

BY Tanzi, Cotter, Handy, Fogarty, Shallcross Smith, Ajello, Donovan, Spears, Lombardi, Kislak

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- JOINT COMMISSION TO

STUDY WAYS TO MAXIMIZE REVENUE FOR CHILD WELFARE AND CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES (Establishes a twenty-seven (27) member joint commission to study ways to maximize revenue for child welfare and children's behavioral health services.)

{LC5096/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7797

(General Treasurer)

BY Giraldo, Stewart, Voas, Potter, Alzate, Handy, Sanchez

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROBATE PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE --

UNCLAIMED INTANGIBLE AND TANGIBLE PROPERTY (Funds the Rhode Island baby bonds trust program without the use of taxpayer dollars through an annual allocation of unclaimed property remittances.) {LC4645/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7798

BY Newberry, Place, Nardone

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- FIRST TIME HOME BUYER SAVINGS

PROGRAM ACT (Establishes the first time home buyer savings program act. Allows modifications to federal adjusted gross income for \$50,000 in contributions and \$150,000 of interest and dividends included in federal adjusted gross income.) {LC3587/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7799

BY Shallcross Smith, Boylan, Corvese, Kislak, Fellela, DeSimone, Fogarty, Nardone, Furtado, Lombardi

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

AND MONITORING OF CHILD DAYCARE PROVIDERS (Amends the law so that child daycare providers would be required to renew their licenses every two (2) years, instead of the current yearly renewal requirement.) {LC4985/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7800

BY Cortvriend, Carson, Handy, Boylan, McGaw, Kazarian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- RHODE ISLAND

INFRASTRUCTURE BANK (Allows local government recipients of grant funds from the Rhode Island infrastructure bank's OSCAR fund and resilient Rhode Island infrastructure fund to use monies for insurability planning.) {LC3143/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 7801

BY Santucci, Hopkins, Nardone, Paplauskas, Chippendale, Place, Roberts, Fascia

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL

EMPLOYEES (Increases the number of days a retired municipal employee could work in a calendar year without interruption of pension benefits to ninety (90) days or its equivalent of six hundred thirty (630) hours.) {LC5044/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7802

BY O'Brien, McNamara, Craven, Azzinaro, Corvese, Fellela, Noret, McEntee, Donovan, Read
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RELIEF OF INJURED AND DECEASED FIRE FIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS (Adds probation officer and parole officer to the list of public safety employees that are entitled to their full salary if they are injured and become disabled as a result of performance of their job duties.) {LC5032/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7803

BY Slater, Bennett
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- HOUSING -- STATE-FUNDED RENTAL SUBSIDY PROGRAM (Establishes the state-funded rental subsidy program.) {LC4726/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7804

BY Caldwell, McEntee, O'Brien
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- CIGARETTE, OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS, AND ELECTRONIC NICOTINE-DELIVERY SYSTEM PRODUCTS (Reduces the cigarette tax imposed by 75% for any modified risk tobacco product as defined in § 21 U.S.C. 387 k as a tobacco product sold/distributed to reduce the harm/risk of tobacco-related disease associated with commercially marketed tobacco products.) {LC4807/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7805

BY Serpa, Fellela, Costantino, Read, Fascia, Ackerman, Corvese
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Establishes phased reduction of personal income tax rates.) {LC5092/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance
(For Co-sponsorship removal requests, see Journal of 3-26-2026, pages 2, 3, and 4.)

House Bill No. 7806

BY Finkelman, Paplauskas, Phillips, Brien
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM -- CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS (Allows retired state employees to be reemployed by a municipality with no restrictions and with no loss of their existing retirement benefits.) {LC5391/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7807

BY Shallcross Smith, Boylan, Corvese, Kislak, Fellela, DeSimone, Fogarty, Nardone, Furtado, Lombardi
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts meals served in licensed childcare centers from taxation.) {LC4979/1}
02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7808

BY Boylan, Potter, Alzate, Handy, Tanzi, Cortvriend, Speakman, Biah, Spears

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts from sales tax energy storage systems, as defined in § 39-33-1.) {LC5075/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7809

(Dept. of Revenue)

BY Marszalkowski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- STATE TAX OFFICIALS (Extends the timeframe for the division of taxation to review nonresident contractor cases and provide a specific penalty for noncompliance with the statute's withholding requirements.) {LC4983/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 7810

BY Shallcross Smith, McEntee, Fellela, Serpa, Cruz, Noret, Ackerman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- STATE TAX OFFICIALS (Caps delinquent tax interest rate at 12%. Prohibits audits beyond 3 years from date of tax filing, 7 years for fraudulent filings, and in no event beyond 10 years from date of filing or required filing date, whichever is later.) {LC5299/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Resolution No. 7811

BY Biah, O'Brien, Phillips, Slater, Furtado, Alzate, Stewart, McNamara, Boylan, Speakman

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 TO ONWARD WE LEARN IN SUPPORT OF RHODE ISLAND GEAR UP (Appropriates the sum of \$500,000 to Onward We Learn in support of Rhode Island GEAR UP.) {LC5191/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Resolution No. 7812

BY Paplauskas, Potter, Fascia, Quattrocchi, Bennett, Handy, McNamara, Lima

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$3,500,000 FOR THE MESHANTICUT LAKE PAVED WALKING PATH IN CRANSTON (Authorizes the appropriation of the sum of \$3,500,000 for the Meshanticut Lake paved walking path in Cranston.) {LC4695/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Resolution No. 7813

BY Carson

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$10,000,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT PUBLIC EDUCATION (Authorizes the appropriation of the sum of \$10,000,000 to the Rhode Island Foundation, to generate funds to support public education through distributions to local education agency foundations. The funds would be disbursed over 5 years.) {LC3212/1}

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**TRANSFER OF BILLS
COMMITTEE ON CORPORATIONS**

Chairman Solomon, for the Committee on Corporations, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of transfer to the Committee on Health and Human Services:

House Bill No. 7720

BY Fogarty, Handy, McEntee, Shanley, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Kazarian, Carson, McGaw, Speakman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RHODE ISLAND HEALTHCARE TRANSACTION OVERSIGHT ACT (Requires a healthcare entity to submit written notice to the attorney general and the department of health of any material change transaction at least 180 days prior to that transaction.) {LC4407/1}

02/18/2026 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7721

BY Fogarty, McEntee, Shanley, Ajello, Tanzi, Shallcross Smith, Kazarian, Carson, McGaw, Speakman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RHODE ISLAND BAN ON THE CORPORATE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE ACT (Establishes the Rhode Island Ban on the Corporate Practice of Medicine Act.) {LC5118/1}

02/18/2026 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 7725

(Dept. of Transportation)

BY Shanley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES GENERALLY (Requires every vehicle that operates in intrastate commerce be permanently marked with a US DOT Number effective April 1, 2027.) {LC5112/1}

02/18/2026 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

For Co-sponsorship removal request, see Journal of 3-12-2026, page 2.

Added to Co-sponsorship is Representative Shanley.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING**

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

House Bill No. 7043 SUB A

BY Azzinaro, Kennedy, Phillips, Corvese

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES (Liquor licenses in Westerly required to have liability insurance.) {LC3381/A/1}

02/19/2026 Placed on House Calendar (02/26/2026)

House Resolution No. 7228 SUB A

BY Handy, Fogarty, Boylan

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION

DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE CREATION OF A STATEWIDE WHOLE-HOME REPAIRS PROGRAM (Extends the reporting date of the special legislative commission to study and provides recommendations for the creation of a statewide whole-home repairs program from January 5, 2026, to June 30, 2026, and said commission expires on August 30, 2026.) {LC3964/A/1}
02/19/2026 Placed on House Calendar (02/26/2026)

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:47 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Ajello, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Mary Magavern Worrell; on motion of Representative Chippendale, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Hon. Richard "Rippy" Serra; on motion of Representative Kislak and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Zacory P. Richardson, seconded by Leader Blazejewski and Majority Whip Kazarian the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTOPHER G. PAPLAUSKAS

Dear Lord, we thank you for the opportunity to educate all our people of the great contributions of African Americans to our country. We ask you to encourage everyone to set aside stereotypes and use this month to highlight the greatness of Black History. Despite the odds and against all odds, African Americans can now rightfully claim their true place in American history. Amen.

APPENDIX

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026:

1. 2026-H 7228 SUB A

BY Handy

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE CREATION OF A STATEWIDE WHOLE-HOME REPAIRS PROGRAM

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

2. 2026-H 7043 SUB A

BY Azzinaro

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

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

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Thursday, February 19, 2026

Updated: Monday, February 23, 2026