State of Rhode Island

Journal of the Senate

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

Volume 151, No. 2

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Second Legislative Day

CALL TO ORDER

The Senate meets pursuant to recess and is called to order by The Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio, President of the Senate, at 4:16 o'clock P.M.

ROLL CALL

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 38 Senators present and 0 Senators absent as follows:

PRESENT –38: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Acosta, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Cano, Ciccone, de la Cruz, De Luca, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McKenney, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Valverde, and Zurier.

ABSENT - 0:

INVOCATION

The Honorable President, by unanimous consent, presents Senator Bissaillon to deliver the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The Honorable President, by unanimous consent, presents Senator Bissaillon, to lead the Senate in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Honorable President of the Senate presents the following communications:

State of Rhode Island

SENATOR
WALTER S. FELAG
District 10

51 Overhill Road Warren, Rhode Island 02885

Room 318 Rhode Island State House Providence, Rhode Island 02903

> RESIDENCE: 401-245-7521 OFFICE: 401-276-5599 FAX: 401-222-2967

sen-felag@rilegislature.gov

January 11, 2024

The Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio President of the Senate 318 State House Providence, RI 02903

Dear President Ruggerio:

Please be advised and let the record reflect that I will be absent from the chamber on Thursday, January 11, 2024. I would appreciate your recording my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Senator Louis P. DiPalma

Senate District -12

ODE ISLA Z Z Z ENATÉ

Senate Chamber

CHAIRPERSON Committee on Special Legislation & Veterans' Affairs

2ND VICE CHAIRPERSON Committee on Finance

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR

The Honorable President presents the following communication from His Excellency, The Governor, transmitting the following appointments and requesting the advice and consent of the Senate thereto:



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

January 11, 2024

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 16-32-2.2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees:

David Martirano

(Selected from a list provided by Speaker)

Vice Richard Humphrey

For a term expiring February 1, 2025

To this Appointment, I respectfully request your advice and consent.

Daniel J. McKee

Governor

Sincerly.

DJM/ecd

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Education.

IN THE SENATE Referred to the Committee on EDUCATION

JAN 1 1 2024



January 11, 2024

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 16-32-2.2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees:

Charles Fogarty

IN THE SENATE
Referred to the Committee on
EDUCATION

IAN 1 1 2024

For a term expiring February 1, 2027

To this Appointment, I respectfully request your advice and consent.

Sincerly

Daniel J. McKee Governor

DJM/ecd

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Education.



January 11, 2024

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 16-32-2.2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees:

Michael D. Fascitelli

IN THE SENATE Referred to the Committee on EDUCATION

JAN 1 1 2024

For a term expiring February 1, 2027

To this Appointment, I respectfully request your advice and consent.

In Fee

Sincerly.

Daniel J. McKee Governor

DJM/ecd

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader

Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903



January 11, 2024

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 16-32-2.2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees:

Monica Jean Garnes

For a term expiring February 1, 2027.

To this Appointment, I respectfully request your advice and consent.

IN THE SENATE Referred to the Committee on EDUCATION

JAN 1 1 2024

Reading Clerk

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee

Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Education.



January 11, 2024

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 16-32-2.2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees:

Joseph F. Matthews

IN THE SENATE Referred to the Committee on EDUCATION

JAN 1 1 2024

For a term expiring February 1, 2027.

To this Appointment, I respectfully request your advice and consent.

Sincerly

Daniel J. McKee

Governor

DJM/ecd

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Education.



January 11, 2024

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 37-2-59 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Architectural, Engineering, and Consulting Services Selection Committee:

Jerome Moynihan

Vice

Marcel Valois

to a term expiring on the first Tuesday in January, 2027.

To this Appointment, I respectfully request your advice and consent.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

IN THE SENATE

Referred to the Committee on
HOUSING AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

JAN 11 2024

Reading Clerk



January 11, 2024

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 37-2-59 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Architectural, Engineering, and Consulting Services Selection Committee:

Thomas Mullaney

Vice

Joseph Migneault

to a term expiring on the first Tuesday in January, 2027.

To this Appointment, I respectfully request your advice and consent.

IN THE SENATE

Referred to the Committee on Housing and Municipal Government

JAN 11 2024

Reading Clerk

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee

Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government.



January 10, 2024

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 39-18-2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority:

Vincent R. Masino

Vice Michelle Wilcox

For a term expiring April 1, 2025.

To this Appointment, I respectfully request your advice and consent.

IN THE SENATE
Referred to the Committee on
Housing and Municipal Government

JAN 11 2024

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

l/h Fee

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government.



January 10, 2024

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 39-18-2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority:

James J. Lombardi, III

Vice New Seat

For a term expiring April 1, 2027.

To this Appointment, I respectfully request your advice and consent.

IN THE SENATE
Referred to the Committee on
Housing and Municipal Government

JAN 11 2024

Agadina Clark

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee

Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATIONS

Senate Resolution No. 2030

BY Mack

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., ON JANUARY 15, 2024 {LC4069/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Mack requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Mack moves passage, seconded by Senators Acosta, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Cano, Ciccone, de la Cruz, De Luca, DiMario, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, McKenney, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Valverde, and Zurier.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

Senate Resolution No. 2032

BY Lawson, Lauria, Britto **ENTITLED,** SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF MILDRED G. MORRIS {LC3279/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Lawson requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Lawson moves passage, seconded by Senators Acosta, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Cano, Ciccone, de la Cruz, De Luca, DiMario, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McKenney, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Valverde, and Zurier.

The resolution is read and passed upon a rising vote.

Senate Resolution No. 2031

BY Lawson, Lauria, Britto
ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF MARY JO POULIOT
{LC3277/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Lawson requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Lawson moves passage, seconded by Senators Acosta, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Cano, Ciccone, de la Cruz, De Luca, DiMario, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McKenney, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Valverde, and Zurier.

The resolution is read and passed upon a rising vote.

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Lawson and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Raymond Pouliot and Daniel Shea from East Providence.

Appendix

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024

1. The Reappointment of Diane Lynch (Familiar with Land Use & Community Planning Issues) to the Agricultural Land Preservation Committee for a term expiring January 1, 2029.

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

2. The Reappointment of Jonathan Reiner (Familiar with Land Use & Community Planning Issues) to the Agricultural Land Preservation Committee for a term expiring January 1, 2029.

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

3. The Appointment of Jayne L. Merner (Knowledge/Experience in Agriculture) VICE Martha Neal to the Agricultural Land Preservation Committee for a term expiring January 1, 2025.

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

4. The Appointment of Charles B. Allott, Esq. (Knowledge/Experience in Agriculture) VICE David Wallace to the Agricultural Land Preservation Committee for a term expiring January 1, 2026.

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

5. The Appointment of Joanne Riccitelli (Familiar with Land Use & Community Planning Planning Issues) VICE Everett Stuart to the Agricultural Land Preservation Committee for a term expiring January 1, 2026.

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

6. 2024-S2001

BY Ruggerio

ENTITLED,SENATE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2025

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

7. 2024-S2002

BY Lawson

ENTITLED,SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF VINCENT A. SPREMULLI

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

8. 2024-S2003

BY Lawson

ENTITLED,SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF PAUL J. GRIFFITH

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

9. 2024-S2004

BY Lawson

ENTITLED,SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF KAREN J. OLIVEIRA

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

10. 2024-S2005

BYLawson

ENTITLED,SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF IRIDE MARGIE DESROSIERS

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

11. 2024-S2006

BY Lawson

ENTITLED,SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF HECTOR J. BEAUPRE, JR.

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

Upon motion of Senator Pearson, seconded by Senator de la Cruz, the following measures on Today's Consent Calendar, by unanimous consent, are read and passed, upon a roll call vote:

YEAS – 37: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Acosta, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Cano, Ciccone, de la Cruz, De Luca, DiMario, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McKenney, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Valverde, and Zurier.

NAYS - 0:

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Euer and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Allison Plunkett, Senate committee on Judiciary Attorney.

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024

1. The Appointment of Neil D. Steinberg as Chair of the Life Science Hub of Rhode Island for a term expiring January 1, 2028.

Committee on Finance recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Senator Murray moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by Senators Acosta, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Cano, Ciccone, de la Cruz, De Luca, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McKenney, Miller, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Valverde, and Zurier.

Senators Murray and Kallman discusses the appointment.

The advice and consent of the Senate is given, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 36 members voting in the affirmative, and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 36: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Acosta, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Cano, Ciccone, de la Cruz, De Luca, DiMario, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McKenney, Miller, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Valverde, and Zurier.

NAYS - 0:

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Kallman and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Neil D. Steinberg.

TRANSMITTAL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Kallman announces that the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government will meet Tuesday, January 16th at 5:00pm.

Senator Raptakis announces that the Senate Committee on Special Legislation and Veteran's Affairs will meet Tuesday, January 16th at 5:00pm.

Senator Picard announces that the Senate Committee on Commerce will meet Thursday, January 18th at the rise of the senate in Room 211.

Senator Quezada announces that the Senate Committee on Education will meet Thursday, January 18th at the rise of the senate in Room 313.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Quezada and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber her granddaughter Zeliana Quezada.

RECESS

Upon the Motion of Senator Pearson, seconded by Senator de la Cruz, and upon suggestion of Senator Lawson the Senate stands in Recess at 4:45 o'clock P.M. *in memory of Mary Jo Pouliot and Mildred G. Morris*.

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Bill No. 2033

BY Sosnowski, DiMario, Valverde, Felag, Gu ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS (Provides that the center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences building at the University of Rhode Island be named as "Joseph '56 Ruby DeChristofaro Center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences.") {LC3949/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

BY F. Lombardi, Ruggerio, Ciccone, Britto, Acosta, Zurier, LaMountain, Burke, McKenney, Picard

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS-BILL REYNOLDS MEDIA WORK ROOM (Designates the media room at the Amica Mutual Pavilion as the "Bill Reynolds Media Work Room.") {LC4033/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 2035

BY Murray, Kallman, Sosnowski, Euer, Mack, Bell, Gallo ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- NET-METERING (Allows a property owner with eligible net-metering systems with a master meter to allocate excess net metering credits to any meter on the property.) {LC3498/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 2036

BY Murray, Kallman, Sosnowski, DiMario, Euer, Acosta, Mack, Bissaillon ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (Directs PUC to extend utility termination moratorium for gas/electricity from April 15 to May 1, of each year with discretion to respond to emergency/economic conditions/customers needs.) {LC3495/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 2037

BY Ujifusa, Quezada, Miller, Zurier, Lawson, Valverde, DiMario, Acosta, Mack, Gallo **ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENTS OF STATE GOVERNMENT (State websites to comply with WCAG 2.2 standards by July 1, 2026.) {LC3840/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

BY Cano, DiMario, Bissaillon, Gallo, Lawson, Pearson, Murray, Lauria, Valverde, Quezada ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RHODE ISLAND EARLY EDUCATOR COMPENSATION STABILIZATION ACT (Directs the departments of human services and education to work together to sustain and strengthen existing workforce development and compensation programs for educators working in licensed child care and early learning programs statewide.)
{LC4137/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

Senate Bill No. 2039

BY de la Cruz, Rogers, E Morgan, Paolino, DeLuca, Zurier ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- INNOVATION ZONE SCHOOLS (Allows for a public school/group of public schools to implement an innovation plan through the local school board, approved by the state board and subject to review by the local school board as well as the department of elementary and secondary education.) {LC3757/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

Senate Bill No. 2040

BY Ujifusa, Lauria, Felag

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TRANSPORTATION OF SCHOOL PUPILS BEYOND CITY AND TOWN LIMITS (Removes the towns of Warren and Bristol from school bus district Region III and places Warren and Bristol in school bus district Region V.)

{LC4180/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

Senate Bill No. 2041

BY DeLuca, Paolino, E Morgan, Rogers, de la Cruz

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RIGHTS OF PARENTS AND GUARDIANS IN PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL INSTRUCTION ACT (Enables parents to review public school learning materials/object if the parent decides that the material is harmful. Also a parent may withdraw their student from the activity or class where the material is used and request an alternative assignment.)

{LC3688/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

BY Lauria, Valverde, Miller, Cano, DiMario, Gallo, Lawson, Euer, Bissaillon, Britto ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TRANSPARENCY IN ARTS EDUCATION ACCESS AND PROFICIENCY ACT (Establishes the Transparency in Arts Education Access and Proficiency Act to promote arts education.) {LC3775/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

Senate Bill No. 2043

BY Lauria, DiMario, Valverde, Miller, Cano, Murray, Lawson, Euer, Bissaillon, Britto **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- LONG-TERM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Adds climate change, sea-level rise and coastal resiliency to the analysis of data of the strategic plan for economic development policy.) {LC3773/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Environment and Agriculture.

Senate Bill No. 2044

BY de la Cruz, Rogers, E Morgan, Paolino, DeLuca, F. Lombardi, Ciccone, Lombardo, Burke, Raptakis

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- 2021 ACT ON CLIMATE (Incorporates ethical energy standards to the 2021 Act on Climate.) {LC3683/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Environment and Agriculture.

Senate Bill No. 2045

(General Treasurer)

BY Kallman, Lombardi, Ruggerio, Murray, Cano, Acosta, Rogers, McKenney, Euer, Mack ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE -- RHODE ISLAND RETIREMENT SAVINGS PROGRAM ACT (Establishes Rhode Island Secure Choice Retirement Savings Program to be administered by the general treasurer.) {LC3596/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2046

BY Acosta, Cano, Kallman, DiMario, Lawson, Mack, Gu, Quezada, Bell, Euer ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FEDERAL AID (Requires free breakfast and lunches to be provided for all elementary and secondary students attending public schools.) {LC3654/1}

BY Acosta, Mack, Cano, Zurier, Kallman, Murray

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (Adds the city of Central Falls as exempt from taxation for property acquired by an agency for redevelopment purposes.) {LC4131/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2048

BY Acosta, Mack, Cano, Bell, Quezada, Kallman, Euer, Murray ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- STATE AID (Includes municipal detention facility corporations as exempt from taxation, and requires that an amount equal to twenty-seven percent (27%) of all tax that would have been collected if the property was taxable be paid to the municipality annually.) {LC3653/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2049

BY de la Cruz, Rogers, DeLuca, Paolino, E Morgan, Ciccone, F. Lombardi, Burke, Lombardo **ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Reduces the sales tax rate to 5%.) {LC3673/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2050

BY DeLuca, E Morgan, Rogers, de la Cruz ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS PROGRAM (Requires general treasurer upon request from RIDE to establish education savings account to assist remote-learning students with educational support exempt from state income tax.)
{LC3689/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2051

BY Felag, F. Lombardi, Ciccone, Britto, Lombardo, Tikoian **ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts reusable bags from the state sales tax.) {LC3878/1}

BY de la Cruz, Picard, Ciccone, Burke, Lombardo, Raptakis, Rogers, DeLuca **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- BUSINESS CORPORATION TAX {LC3809/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2053

BY de la Cruz, Rogers, Paolino, E Morgan, Burke, Raptakis, DeLuca ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE BRIGHT TODAY SCHOLARSHIP AND OPEN ENROLLMENT EDUCATION ACT (Establishes a new educational program that allows students to enroll public and private schools of their choice.) {LC3684/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2054

BY Felag, Mack, Ciccone, Valverde, Sosnowski, Britto, Miller, Lombardo, Tikoian **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Increases the state earned-income credit as of January 1, 2025 to seventeen percent (17%) of the federal earned-income credit, not to exceed the amount of state income tax.) {LC3875/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Resolution No. 2055

BY Felag, F. Lombardi, Ciccone, Britto, Gallo, Lombardo, Tikoian **ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$15,200,000 TO BE USED TO PURCHASE PFAS-FREE FIREFIGHTING GEAR (Authorizes the appropriation of the sum of \$15,200,000 to cities and towns to purchase firefighter and rescue personnel protective gear which is PFAS free.) {LC3887/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2056

BY Felag, Cano, F. Lombardi, Britto, Lombardo, Tikoian ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Eliminates the sales tax on taxi services and pet care services.)
{LC3877/1}

BY Felag, Ujifusa, Tikoian, Rogers, E Morgan, de la Cruz, Lauria **ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Establishes ongoing two percent (2%) regionalization bonus to Education Equity and Property Tax Relief Act.) {LC3882/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2058

BY Felag, Sosnowski, F. Lombardi, Ciccone, Raptakis, Britto, Gallo, Lombardo, Tikoian ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Increases the federal adjusted gross income threshold for modification for taxable social security income. Amends references to federal adjusted gross income as pertains to modification of taxable retirement income from certain pension plans or annuities.) {LC3888/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2059

BY Murray, Pearson, Sosnowski, Acosta, Euer, Bissaillon ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RELIEF OF INJURED AND DECEASED FIRE FIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS (Extends injured-on-duty (IOD) benefits to police officers and firefighters that suffer from diagnosed post-traumatic stress disorders, except under certain conditions.) {LC3500/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2060

BY Gallo, Miller, F. Lombardi, LaMountain
ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CRANSTON TO ISSUE NOT TO
EXCEED \$40,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER
EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE AND/OR
ACQUISITION OF LAND AND BUILDINGS, CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION,
IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, LANDSCAPING, FURNISHING AND/OR
EQUIPPING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE CITY,
SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF STATE HOUSING AID AT A REIMBURSEMENT RATE OR
STATE SHARE RATIO OF NOT LESS THAN 50% AT THE TIME OF ISSUANCE
(Authorizes the City of Cranston to issue not to exceed \$40,000,000 general obligation bonds.)
{LC3950/1}

BY E Morgan, de la Cruz, Ruggerio, Paolino, Acosta, Ciccone, Burke, DeLuca, Rogers, Tikoian **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Allows a modification to federal adjusted gross income for all social security income for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2025.) {LC3725/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2062

BY Miller, Euer, Ujifusa, Lauria, DiMario, F. Lombardi ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Removes the exemption from the state hotel tax for residences rented in their entirety. Effective 1/1/2025.) {LC4087/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2063

BY Ujifusa, Mack, Gu, Ciccone, Lawson, Kallman, Miller, Valverde, Murray, Pearson **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.) {LC3667/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2064

BY Tikoian, Pearson, Gallo, Burke, LaMountain, Lawson, Felag, Euer, Lombardo, Ciccone **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- ESTATE AND TRANSFER TAXES – LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Increases the net taxable estate exemption to four million dollars (\$4,000,000) for deaths that occur on or after January 1, 2025.) {LC3947/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2065

BY Paolino, Rogers, E Morgan, DeLuca, de la Cruz, F. Lombardi, Gallo, Pearson, Tikoian, Raptakis

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- ESTATE AND TRANSFER TAXES--LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Increases the net taxable estate exemption to three million six hundred thousand dollars (\$3,600,000) on January 1, 2025. Also increases the exemption by one million dollars (\$1,000,000) on January 1 per year thereafter.) {LC3721/1}

BY Cano, DiMario, Lawson, Kallman, Lauria, Acosta, Euer, Britto, Zurier, Miller ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS -- COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (Appropriates \$1,875,000 for the creation of a 9-8-8 suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline within the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals (BHDDH).) {LC3831/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2067

BY Sosnowski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Amends modifications to income tax for residents to now include an exemption for a foreign service officer's pension.) {LC3641/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2068

BY Gallo, Lombardo, Picard

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts the trade-in value of pickup trucks weighing fourteen thousand pounds (14,000 lbs.) or less from sales and use tax.) {LC3964/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2069

BY Murray, Lauria, Valverde, DiMario, Euer, Miller ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS

(Caps the total amount that a covered person is required to pay for a covered prescription asthma inhaler to twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per thirty (30) day supply.) {LC3496/1}

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Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2070

BY Zurier, Sosnowski, Miller, Gallo, DiMario, Lauria ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Prohibits an insurance company from imposing any cost-sharing requirements for any diagnostic or supplemental breast examinations.) {LC3434/1}

Senate Resolution No. 2071

BY Miller, Valverde, Lauria, DiMario, Ujifusa

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE MEDICAID SECTION 1115 DEMONSTRATION WAIVER REQUESTS AND RENEWALS (This joint resolution would approve an amendment to a Medicaid section 1115 demonstration waiver and renewals regarding a pilot proposal to reduce the number of days behaviorally complex patients spend in acute care facilities.)

{LC3813/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2072

BY DiMario, Cano, Lawson, Valverde, Miller, Pearson, Lauria, Bissaillon, Euer, Murray ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE HEALTHCARE SERVICES FUNDING PLAN ACT (Amends RI's existing Healthcare Services Funding Plan Act by adding an account relating to a new Psychiatry Resource Network to fund RI's present PediPRN and MomsPRN, as well as similar programs which may be added by regulation in the future.) {LC3501/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2073

BY Miller, Valverde, Lauria, DiMario, Ujifusa

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE POLICIES (Provides a special enrollment period for applicants for Medicare Part B. Also prohibits state insurance carriers from denying/imposing conditions on new enrollees or discriminate on price based upon health status/claims experience/preexisting conditions.) {LC3814/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2074

BY Miller, Valverde, Lauria, DiMario, Ujifusa ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- EMBRYO SAFETY AND STORAGE (Creates the "Embryo Safety and Storage Act of 2024." The act requires the department of health to regulate and license embryo storage facilities.) {LC3825/1}

BY Miller, Valverde, Pearson, Lawson, Ruggerio, Lauria, DiMario, Ujifusa ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (Requires the secretary of the executive office of health and human services to present to the general assembly a plan for the realignment of state hospitals into a department of hospitals no later than July 1, 2024.) {LC4038/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2076

BY Lawson, Lauria, Euer, Britto, Pearson, Gallo, Miller, DiMario, Bissaillon, Cano ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Removes the sunset provision of all statutory law requiring coverage for the treatment of pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections and pediatric acute onset neuropsychiatric syndrome.) {LC3465/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2077

BY de la Cruz, Raptakis, Rogers, DeLuca, Paolino, E Morgan, Ciccone, F. Lombardi, Lombardo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RIGHTS OF NURSING HOME PATIENTS (Amends the law on nursing home minimum staffing requirements in order that any penalty incurred in calendar years 2022 and 2023 would be abated.) {LC3691/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2078

BY de la Cruz, Picard, Ciccone, F. Lombardi, Burke, Lombardo, Paolino, Raptakis, DiMario, Rogers

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- DISCLOSURE OF PRICES -- MEDICAL FACILITY ITEMS (Provides a procedure requiring that healthcare facilities maintain a list with all standard charges for all Medical facility items.) {LC3690/1}

BY Rogers, de la Cruz, Paolino, DeLuca, Miller

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- AUTHORIZATION FOR THE USE OF BUPRENORPHINE (Encourages and authorizes the department of health to adopt rules and regulations that lead to the more liberal utilization of buprenorphine.) {LC3759/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2080

BY DeLuca, E Morgan, Rogers, de la Cruz

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- COVID-19

VACCINATION MANDATE PROHIBITED (Prohibits a private employer from mandating a COVID-19 vaccination upon any full-time, part-time, or contract employee without providing individual exemptions that allow an employee to opt out of such mandate.) {LC3703/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2081

BY DeLuca, Paolino, E Morgan, Rogers, de la Cruz ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RELIGIOUS FREEDOM RESTORATION ACT (Prohibits eliminating religious exemption regarding mandatory health injections or inoculations and an unlawful employment practice.) {LC3731/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2082

BY Murray, Lauria, Valverde, Euer, Bell, Miller, Bissaillon ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Caps amount payable for 30 day supply of equipment/supplies for insulin administration/glucose monitoring at \$25 or equipment designed to last more than 30 days with no deductible commencing January 1, 2025.) {LC3494/1}

BY Lawson, Lauria, Valverde, Miller, Cano, DiMario, Murray, Euer, Bissaillon, Britto ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- NURSES (Amends the conditions upon which a nurse would be exempt from certain licensing requirements to include eligibility to practice, before taking and receiving results of the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).) {LC3470/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2084

BY Lauria, Lawson, Valverde, Miller, Cano, DiMario, Murray, Euer, Bissaillon, Britto ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - CATASTROPHIC ILLNESS IN CHILDREN RELIEF FUND (Establishes Children's Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund to provide finance assistance to families for medical expenses not covered by state or federal programs or insurance contract.) {LC3469/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2085

BY Raptakis, Felag, Valverde, Murray, Sosnowski, Bissaillon, Gu, F. Lombardi ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE – ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Increases insurance coverage for hearing aids from one thousand five hundred dollars to two thousand dollars, per ear, every three years for all people regardless of age.) {LC3388/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2086

BY Ujifusa, Miller, Valverde, DiMario, Gu, Acosta, Mack, Gallo, Bissaillon, McKenney **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Prohibits healthcare entities from interfering with a patient's right to choose to obtain a clinician-administered drug from their provider or pharmacy of choice.) {LC4126/1}

BY Miller, Valverde

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- ALCOHOLISM (Requires the dept of behavioral healthcare/developmental disabilities/hospitals to coordinate with the DOH to propose revisions to chapter 1.10 and 10.1 of title 23, including updates and revisions of statutory language and evidence-based best practices.) {LC3811/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2088

BY Euer, Lauria, Lawson, Cano, DiMario, Murray, Sosnowski, Pearson ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Requires every individual or group health insurance contract effective on or after January 1, 2025, to provide coverage to the insured and the insured's spouse and dependents for all FDA-approved contraceptive drugs, devices and other products.) {LC4050/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2089

BY Felag, Picard, Lombardo, Tikoian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING (Amends the definition of "low and moderate income housing" to include housing secured by a federal government voucher or subsidy.) {LC3880/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 2090

BY Ruggerio, Pearson, DiMario, Sosnowski, Miller, Felag, Lawson, Lauria, Burke, Mack ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- REAL ESTATE SALES DISCLOSURES (Requires radon testing within one year of any residential real estate transaction and the installation of a radon mitigation system if unsafe radon levels are present, at the seller's expense.) {LC3460/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

BY Valverde, Sosnowski, Gu

ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVEMENT, RENOVATION, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF A NEW HIGH SCHOOL, ATHLETIC FACILITY, AND OTHER SCHOOL FACILITIES IN THE TOWN AND ALL EXPENSES INCIDENT THERETO, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, COSTS OF DESIGN, DEMOLITION, ATHLETIC FIELDS, LANDSCAPING AND PARKING AND ALL ATTENDANT EXPENSES, INCLUDING ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL AND OTHER PROJECT-RELATED CONSULTING COSTS (Authorizes town of South Kingstown to issue not more than \$150,000,000 bonds and notes to finance the acquisition/construction/improvement/renovation/furnishing/equipping of a new high school/athletic facility/other school facilities in the town.) {LC3574/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 2092

BY Sosnowski, Valverde, Gu

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Exempts from taxation the real and tangible personal property of the Johnnycake Center Realty Corporation, a domestic nonprofit corporation, located in South Kingstown.) {LC3834/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 2093

BY Kallman, Miller, Valverde, Acosta, Murray, Bell, Gu, Mack, Cano, Rogers 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.) {LC3509/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2094

BY F. Lombardi, Ciccone, Felag, Britto, Lombardo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- LIGHTING EQUIPMENT AND REFLECTORS (Authorizes designated state and local election officials with supervisory responsibility over polling locations the use of amber flashing safety lights on their vehicles.)

{LC4208/1}

BY F. Lombardi, Ciccone, Felag, Britto, Lombardo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (Provides that parents and guardians of children with disabilities in private school have the same rights and remedies as parents/guardians of children in public school.) {LC4211/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2096

BY Ruggerio, Pearson, Acosta, Mack, Gallo, Tikoian, LaMountain, Kallman, Cano, Britto **ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' BILL OF RIGHTS {LC3848/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2097

BY Ciccone, Burke, Felag, Britto, F. Lombardi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARIES FOR ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND FOR PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE (Would amend certain signature requirements and deadlines regarding primaries for election of delegates to national conventions for presidential preference.) {LC4060/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2098

BY Ruggerio, Pearson, Tikoian, Burke, Gallo, Sosnowski, Murray, Lauria, Lawson **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- TRIAL (Requires prosecutorial consent in order for a defendant to waive a jury trial.) {LC3850/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2099

BY Raptakis

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Timothy Conlon to join Sarah Conlon and Andrew Proulx in marriage on or about March 22, 2024, within the City of Newport, Rhode Island.) {LC3915/1}

BY Acosta, Cano, Kallman, Euer, Bissaillon, Mack, Britto, Gu, Quezada, Ujifusa ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- GENERAL PROVISIONS (This act would further delineate the definitions of felony, misdemeanor and petty misdemeanor.) {LC3658/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2101

BY Acosta, Euer, Zurier, Mack, Cano, Gu, Quezada, Bell, Murray ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS (Establishes a three (3) day transmittal period after the deadline for local boards to accept mail ballot applications, if delivered via the postal service.) {LC3657/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2102

BY DeLuca, de la Cruz

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- BAIL AND RECOGNIZANCE (Requires that whenever a person is charged with possession of a firearm with alteration of identification marks, the alteration would create a rebuttable presumption that the person is a danger to the safety of the community.) {LC3715/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2103

BY de la Cruz, Ciccone, Burke, Lombardo, Raptakis, Rogers, DeLuca ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (Provides the review and appeal process for individuals applying for a permit or license to carry a handgun with the licensing authority or attorney general.) {LC3679/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2104

BY de la Cruz, F. Lombardi, Lombardo, Rogers, E Morgan, DeLuca **ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- CHILDREN (Prohibits the distribution, transfer, or possession of any material that depicts a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct and is obscene and lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.) {LC3677/1}

BY de la Cruz, F. Lombardi, Burke, Lauria

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- ELECTRONIC INFORMATION AND DATA PRIVACY ACT (Requires law enforcement agencies to obtain search warrants for electronic information, data, location information and other identifying information of subscribers and customers, except in specified circumstances.) {LC3681/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2106

BY de la Cruz, Ciccone, Lombardo, Rogers, E Morgan, DeLuca ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LICENSING OF HEALTHCARE FACILITIES (Requires healthcare facilities that perform abortions meet the license requirements of similar healthcare facilities and allows the department of health to conduct unannounced inspections.) {LC3676/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2107

BY DeLuca, E Morgan, Rogers, de la Cruz

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (Allows reciprocal concealed carry permits from out of state to be valid in Rhode Island, which is either authorized by the attorney general or subject to other reciprocal restrictions.) {LC3700/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2108

BY DeLuca, Paolino, Rogers, de la Cruz

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (Permits Rhode Island residents, 21 years of age or older, to carry a concealed handgun, without a permit.) {LC3734/1}

BY de la Cruz, Ciccone, Lombardo, Burke, Rogers, DeLuca ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RHODE ISLAND PAIN-CAPABLE UNBORN CHILD PROTECTION ACT (Creates the Rhode Island Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, prohibiting the performance or induction of an abortion of an unborn child capable of feeling pain, unless necessary to prevent serious health risk to the unborn child's mother.)
{LC3682/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2110

BY de la Cruz, F. Lombardi, Raptakis, E Morgan, Rogers, DeLuca, Paolino, Ciccone, Burke, Lombardo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- INDICTMENTS, INFORMATIONS AND COMPLAINTS (Provides for a 10 year statute of limitations for the violation of second degree sexual assault.) {LC3675/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2111

BY de la Cruz, Ciccone, Lombardo, Burke, Rogers, DeLuca ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- CAUSES OF ACTION (Provides for a cause of action against an individual or entity that prohibits the possession of firearms on real property, except residences, by an individual that is authorized and licensed to carry a firearm.) {LC3674/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2112

BY de la Cruz, Bissaillon, F. Lombardi, McKenney, Zurier, Rogers, E Morgan, Paolino, DeLuca, Burke

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LICENSING OF HEALTHCARE FACILITIES (Requires all state licensed health care facilities to convert the powering of their operations from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources. DOH to promulgate rules and regulations to implement the requirements.) {LC3510/1}

BY Acosta, Mack, Bell, Kallman, Murray

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF POLICE ROBOT TECHNOLOGY (Prohibits on-duty/off-duty law enforcement officer from utilizing any robot/police robot dog/UAV, whether armed/unarmed, within the scope of their employment as well as police departments from purchase/procurement of any robots/UVAs/police robot dogs.) {LC4128/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2114

BY DeLuca, de la Cruz, Paolino, Rogers, E Morgan, Burke, Raptakis, Acosta, Ciccone ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- INSPECTOR GENERAL (Establishes the office of inspector general as an independent administrative agency charged with the responsibility to investigate, detect, and prevent fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement in the expenditure of public funds.) {LC3680/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2115

BY Murray, Pearson, Tikoian, Lauria, Quezada, McKenney, Euer, Mack, Miller ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- VICTIM'S RIGHTS (Amends the current requirement of payment of initial filing fee/service of process costs when the victim of crime is still owed restitution at the expiration of the case/seeks to enforce the civil judgment entered at the time of the criminal disposition.) {LC3499/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2116

BY Kallman, Valverde, McKenney, Acosta, Mack, Lauria, DiMario, Bissaillon, Miller, Cano **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO DELINQUENT AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN -- PROCEEDINGS IN FAMILY COURT (Prohibits any questioning of a juvenile who is suspected of delinquent or criminal behavior, unless the parent of guardian of the juvenile is present, or unless an attorney is present or the juvenile and their parents have waived their presence.) {LC3515/1}

BY DeLuca, Paolino, E Morgan, Rogers, de la Cruz ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (Limits the governor to one thirty (30) day renewal of a declaration of emergency without a joint resolution of the general assembly.) {LC3713/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2118

BY Zurier, Euer, F. Lombardi, McKenney, Tikoian, Bissaillon, LaMountain, Quezada **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- JUDICIAL SELECTION (Requires individuals seeking a judicial nomination to reapply to JNC every 5 years and make those individuals selected as finalists, eligible only for the court in which they applied and were chosen during the five years following their selection.) {LC3502/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2119

BY Tikoian, Pearson, Gallo, Burke, LaMountain, Felag, Euer, Lombardo, Ciccone, Britto ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- LABOR RELATIONS ACT (Allows governmental employee union contracts to contain specific references to specific health insurance companies.) {LC4187/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

Senate Bill No. 2120

BY Ciccone, Burke, Britto, F. Lombardi ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- ELECTRICIANS (Clarifies the types of electrical services that require an electrical contractor's license.) {LC3628/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

BY Lawson, Ruggerio, Pearson, Bissaillon, Lauria, DiMario, Euer, Gallo, Cano, Miller ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- TEMPORARY DISABILITY INSURANCE -- GENERAL PROVISIONS (Includes siblings, grandchildren, care recipient for temporary caregiver benefits of 12 weeks/Increases weekly dependent's allowances from \$10 to \$20 or 7% of benefit rate whichever is greater. Effective January 1, 2025.) {LC3484/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

Senate Bill No. 2122

BY Acosta, Cano, Quezada, Mack, Ciccone, Zurier, Gu, Bell, Kallman, Euer ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CORPORATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS, AND PARTNERSHIPS -- WORKERS' COOPERATIVES (Clarifies the role of a workers' cooperative to allow it to operate as a hiring hall under certain circumstances.) {LC3655/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

Senate Bill No. 2123

BY Acosta, Cano, Kallman, Mack, Ciccone, Zurier, Gu, Quezada, Bell ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- PAYMENT OF WAGES (Requires employer to furnish items and conditions of employment and a pay stub explaining how wages were calculated/reasons for deductions/allows the employee to file a court action against employer for violation.) {LC3656/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

Senate Resolution No. 2124

BY Raptakis, Ciccone, F. Lombardi, Lombardo, Britto, Burke, LaMountain, Quezada, Tikoian **ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND REVIEW RHODE ISLAND'S MINIMUM WAGE {LC3281/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

BY Kallman, Ciccone, F. Lombardi, Tikoian, Sosnowski, Bissaillon, Ruggerio, Miller, Cano **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- PAYMENT OF WAGES (Provides employees with civil administrative remedies against contractors, subcontractors involved in the contract with joint/severable liability imposed on contractors or subcontractors. Effective 9/1/2024.) {LC4064/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

Senate Bill No. 2126

BY Felag, F. Lombardi, Britto, Raptakis, Ujifusa, Gallo, Lombardo, Tikoian ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE -- DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE (Provides that the fifth day in April in each year be designated as "Rhode Island Gold Star Spouses Day" with appropriate exercises in public places and with flags flown at half-staff over the state house.) {LC3881/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 2127

BY Lawson, Lauria, Felag, Euer, Britto, Pearson, Gallo, Murray, DiMario, Bissaillon ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- MANUFACTURING AND WHOLESALE LICENSES (Allows manufacturer-wineries to sell up to three (3) drinks of wine for on-site consumption or three (3) bottles of wine for off-site consumption or three (3) bottles of wine for off-site consumption.) {LC3466/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 2128

BY Felag, F. Lombardi, Ciccone, Lombardo, Tikoian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- POSTING OF VETERANS' BENEFITS AND SERVICES (Requires employers in the state with more than 50 employees to display a poster containing basic information on veterans' benefits and services be created and distributed by the DLT in consultation with the office of veterans services.) {LC3884/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

BY Burke, F. Lombardi, McKenney, LaMountain, Tikoian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES --

REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Permits Dyslexia Advocacy Rhode Island plates to be issued for passenger or commercial vehicles upon the satisfaction of the required criteria relative to the number of plates ordered.)

{LC3836/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 2130

BY Rogers, de la Cruz

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF LINE BAPTIST CHURCH OF FOSTER, RHODE ISLAND {LC4044/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

Senate Resolution No. 2131

BY Murray

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF TAMMY L. DENIER-RHODES {LC3937/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

Senate Resolution No. 2132

BY Murray

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF GAIL E. BOOTLAND TANCRELL {LC3944/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

Senate Resolution No. 2133

BY Murray

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF DIANE M. COLERICK {LC3943/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

BY Gallo, Lombardo, Picard

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts from sales tax the trade-in values of motorcycles as well the proceeds received as a result of an unrecovered stolen or total loss of a motorcycle.) {LC3961/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

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

The Appointment of Vincent R. Masino VICE Michelle Wilcox to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority for a term expiring April 1, 2025.

Placed on the Calendar for Thursday, January 18th.

The Appointment of James J. Lombardi, III to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority for a term expiring April 1, 2027.

Placed on the Calendar for Thursday, January 18th.

The Appointment of Jerome Moynihan VICE Marcel Valois to the Architectural, Engineering and Consulting Services Selection Committee for a term expiring January 5, 2027.

Placed on the Calendar for Thursday, January 18th.

The Appointment of Thomas Mullaney VICE Joseph Migneault to the Architectural, Engineering and Consulting Services Selection Committee for a term expiring January 5, 2027.

Placed on the Calendar for Thursday, January 18th.

COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL LEGISLATION AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Chairman Felag, from the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

Senate Bill No. 2033

BY Sosnowski, DiMario, Valverde, Felag, Gu ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT

COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS (Provides that the center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences building at the University of Rhode Island be named as "Joseph '56 Ruby DeChristofaro Center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences.") {LC3949/1}

Placed on the Calendar for Thursday, January 18th.

Senate Bill No. 2034

BY F. Lombardi, Ruggerio, Ciccone, Britto, Acosta, Zurier, LaMountain, Burke, McKenney, Picard

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS-BILL REYNOLDS MEDIA WORK ROOM (Designates the media room at the Amica Mutual Pavilion as the "Bill Reynolds Media Work Room.") {LC4033/1}

Placed on the Calendar for Thursday, January 18th.

PROCEEDINGS IN JOINT SESSION

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

The Honorable, President of the Senate, Dominick J. Ruggerio in the Chair.

CALLED TO ORDER

The Joint Session is called to order at 6:47 o'clock P.M.

Upon suggestion of The Honorable, President of the Senate, and by unanimous consent, the reading of the roll of the Senate and the roll of the House of Representatives is dispensed with, there being a quorum of the Senate and a quorum of the House of Representatives present, therefore a quorum of the Joint Session.

The Honorable, President of the Senate, by unanimous consent, appoints Senators Gallo, Lawson, LaMountain, Mack, Burke, Britto and Representatives Ackerman, Carson, Diaz, Fenton Fung, Marszalkowski, Shallcross Smith to escort His Excellency, the Governor, Dan McKee and guests to the Chamber.

Joint Session attends while The Honorable Paul A. Suttell and the Members of the Judiciary enter the Chamber.

Joint Session attends while members of the Presidents of the Rhode Island Public Institutions of Higher Education enter the Chamber.

Joint Session attends while the Mayors, Town Administrators and Municipal Leaders enter the Chamber.

Joint Session attends while members of the Directors of the Executive Departments and Quasi Public Agencies enter the Chamber.

Joint Session attends while The First Lady of the State of Rhode Island, Mrs. Susan McKee and Daughter Kara McKee, enter the Chamber.

Joint Session attends while the Honorable James A. Diossa, General Treasurer, enters the Chamber.

Joint Session attends while the Honorable Peter Neronha, Attorney General, enters the Chamber.

Joint Session attends while the Honorable Gregg M. Amore, Secretary of State, enters the Chamber.

Joint Session attends while the Honorable Sabina Matos, Lieutenant Governor, enters the Chamber.

Joint Session attends while the Honorable Seth Magaziner, United States Representative for Rhode Island's 2nd Congressional District, enters the Chamber.

Joint Session attends while His Excellency, the Governor, Dan McKee, enters the Chamber.

The Honorable, President of the Senate, presents His Excellency, the 76th Governor of the State of Rhode Island, Dan McKee, to the Joint Session.

The Governor, Dan McKee delivers his State of the State Address.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Speaker Shekarchi, seconded by Senator Majority Leader Pearson, and by unanimous consent, Joint Session adjourns and the two Houses separate at 7:50 o'clock P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The Senate meets pursuant to recess and is called to order by the Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio, President of the Senate, on Thursday, January 18th at 4:16 o'clock P.M

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Senator Pearson, seconded by Senator de la Cruz, and the Senate adjourns at 4:17 o'clock P.M.

HELENA S. REIDSecretary of the Senate

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024:

1. 2024-S 2130

BY Rogers

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF LINE BAPTIST CHURCH OF FOSTER, RHODE ISLAND

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

2. 2024-S 2131

BY Murray

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF TAMMY L. DENIER-RHODES

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

3. 2024-S 2132

BY Murray

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF GAIL E. BOOTLAND TANCRELL

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

4. 2024-S 2133

BY Murray

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF DIANE M. COLERICK

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024:

1. The Appointment of Vincent R. Masino VICE Michelle Wilcox to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority for a term expiring April 1, 2025.

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

2. The Appointment of James J. Lombardi, III to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority for a term expiring April 1, 2027.

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

3. The Appointment of Jerome Moynihan VICE Marcel Valois to the Architectural, Engineering and Consulting Services Selection Committee for a term expiring January 5, 2027.

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

4. The Appointment of Thomas Mullaney VICE Joseph Migneault to the Architectural, Engineering and Consulting Services Selection Committee for a term expiring January 5, 2027.

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

5. 2024-S 2033

BY Sosnowski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

6. 2024-S 2034

BY F. Lombardi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS-BILL REYNOLDS MEDIA WORK ROOM

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

INVOCATION

SENATOR JACOB BISSAILLON

PRAY that my family may find in me what yours found in you: friendship and courage, cheerfulness and charity, diligence in duties, counsel in adversity, patience in pain- their good servant, and God's first. Amen.