

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 Seventh day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.

Volume 152, No. 16

Tuesday, April 01, 2025

Sixteenth Legislative Day

CALL TO ORDER

The Senate meets pursuant to recess and is called to order by The Honorable Hanna M. Gallo, Senate President Pro Tempore, on at 4:17 o'clock P.M.

ROLL CALL

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 36 Senators present and 2 Senators absent as follows:

PRESENT –36: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

ABSENT – 2: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senator Quezada.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore, by unanimous consent, presents Senator Patalano to deliver the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

The Senate Journal of the Fourteenth Legislative Day of the 2025 proceedings is read in part.

Upon suggestion of Senator Patalano and by unanimous consent, further reading of the Journal is dispensed with and the Journal approved as recorded.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR

The Honorable President Pro Tempore 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**

March 24, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions Rhode Island General Laws § 42-99-4, I have made the following reappointment to the Convention Center Authority:

George Nee

For a term expiring June 30, 2027.

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Valarie Lawson, 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 Commerce.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

March 24, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions Rhode Island General Laws § 42-99-4, I have made the following reappointment to the Convention Center Authority:

R. Jeffrey Hirsh

For a term expiring June 30, 2029.

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Valarie Lawson, 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 Commerce.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

April 1, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 42-64-7.1 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation.

Jonathan N. Savage

For a term expiring June 1, 2029

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Vallarie J. Lawson, 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 Commerce.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE

April 1, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 42-64-7.1 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation.

Christopher H. Little, Esq.

For a term expiring June 1, 2028

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Vallarie J. Lawson, 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 Commerce.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE

April 1, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 42-64-7.1 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation.

Jeffrey E. Bogosian

For a term expiring June 1, 2028

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. McKee".

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Vallarie J. Lawson, 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 Commerce.

COMMUNICATION

The Honorable President Pro Tempore presents the following communication:

SENATOR
ANA B. QUEZADA
Deputy Majority Whip
District 2

P.O. Box 27666
Providence, Rhode Island 02907

Room 212
Rhode Island State House
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

sen-quezada@rilegislature.gov

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

Committee on Education

SECRETARY
Committee on Judiciary

April 1, 2025

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

Dear President Ruggerio:

Please be advised that I will be unable to attend Senate Session on Tuesday, April 1st and Thursday April 3rd, 2025.

I would appreciate you recording my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ana B. Quezada".

Ana B. Quezada
Deputy Majority Whip
District-2

Placed on file.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**Senate Resolution No. 933****BY** Tikoian, Ruggerio, Lawson**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION JOYOUSLY CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREATION OF THE RHODE ISLAND STATE POLICE DEPARTMENT
{LC426/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Tikoian requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Tikoian moves passage, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Tikoian and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber Colonel Weaver, Lt. Colonel Creamer, Major John Allen, Major Ronald Longolucco, Captain David Bassignani, Lt. Thomas Chabot, Colonel James Manni, Colonel Brendan Doherty, Major John LaCross, Lt. Michael Rosa, Lt. Douglas Newberg, former State Senator Lt. Cindy Armour Coyne, Lt. Kenneth Bowman, Niki DeCubellis, Daughter of Lt. David DeCubellis, Suzanne Poole-Balfour & Husband of Lt. Arnold L. Poole who was killed in the line of duty May 30th, 1934, Lori Tellier, Barbara Laird, Captain Kenneth Jones, and Captain Peter Chabot.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**Senate Resolution No. 934****BY** Ujifusa**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 171ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. -- JAPAN TREATY OF PEACE AND AMITY
{LC2352/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Ujifusa requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Ujifusa moves passage, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

Appendix

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2025:

1. **2025-S 918**
 BY DiPalma
 ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING DATE OF
 THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE GOVERNANCE
 STRUCTURE OF RHODE ISLAND'S PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

2. **2025-S 919**
 BY de la Cruz
 ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2025, AS
 "AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

3. **2025-S 920**
 BY de la Cruz
 ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2025, TO BE
 "PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

Upon motion of Senator Lawson, 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, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**Senate Resolution No. 935****BY** Sosnowski, Ruggerio, Gallo, Lawson**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION JOYOUSLY CELEBRATING "URI DAY" AT THE RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE ON APRIL 1, 2025

{LC2461/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Sosnowski requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Sosnowski moves passage, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Thompson, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Sosnowski and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber from the University of Rhode Island; President Marc Parlange, Provost Barbara Wolfe, Margo Cook, Chair of URI Board of Trustees, Armand Sabitoni, Vice Chair of the URI Board of Trustees, Jim Fleming, Head Football Coach, Archie Miller, Head Basketball Coach, Tammi Reise, Head Women's Basketball Coach, David Caprio, Kristine Bovy, Maria Ducharme, Monica Garnes, Revaa Goyal, matthew Lenz, Joseph Matthews, Roby Luna, David Martirano, Cortney Nicolato, Yahaira "Jay" Placencia, Thomas Ryan, Robert Weygand, Michael Fascitelli, Charles Fogarty, Joseph Formicola, Michael Grey, Neil Kerwin, and Vahid Ownjazayeri.

Appendix**CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2025:****1. 2025-S 280****BY** Rogers**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Senator Rogers moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Felag, Gu, LaMountain, Lawson, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas and Zurier.

Senators Rogers, Bell and Euer discuss the act.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 31 members voting in the affirmative and 5 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 31: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, Senators Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Felag, Gallo, Gu, LaMountain, Lawson, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas and Zurier.

NAYS – 5: Senators Euer, Kallman, Lauria, Mack, and Valverde.

2. 2025-S 296**BY** Murray**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --
CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Felag, Gu, LaMountain, Lawson, McKenney, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas and Zurier.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 36 members voting in the affirmative and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 36: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

NAYS – 1: Senator Morgan.

3. 2025-S 303

BY Zurier

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE --
PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- FEES

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Senator Zurier moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Felag, Gu, LaMountain, Lawson, McKenney, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 37 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 37: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

4. 2025-S 354

BY Dimitri

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE --
COURTS -- COURT SECRETARIES, COURT REPORTERS, AND ELECTRONIC
COURT REPORTERS

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Senator Dimitri moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Felag, Gu, LaMountain, Lawson, McKenney, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, and Vargas.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 36 members voting in the affirmative and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 36: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

NAYS – 1: Senator Morgan.

5. 2025-H 5189

BY Knight

ENTITLED, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF BARRINGTON

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage in concurrence.

Senator Lauria moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Felag, Gu, LaMountain, Lawson, McKenney, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, and Vargas.

The act is read and passed, in concurrence, upon a roll call vote, with 37 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 37: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

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 Sosnowski announces that the Senate Committee on Commerce will meet today at the rise of the senate in Room 212.

Senator Raptakis announces that the Senate Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs will meet tomorrow at 4:30pm in Room 211.

Senator Lauria announces that the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services will meet today at the rise of the senate in the senate lounge.

Senator Patalano announces that the Senate Committee on Labor and Gaming will meet tomorrow at 4:00pm in Room 212.

Senator Felag announces that the Senate Committee on Finance will meet today at the rise of the senate in Room 211.

Senator Murray announces that the Senate Committee on Education will meet tomorrow at 4:00pm in Room 313.

Senator Bissaillon announces that the Senate Committee on Judiciary will meet today at the rise of the senate in Room 313.

Senator Britto announces that the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture will meet tomorrow at 4:00pm in the senate lounge.

RECESS

Upon the Motion of Senate Majority Whip Tikoian, seconded by Senate Majority Leader Lawson, the Senate stands in Recess at 5:02 o'clock P.M.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Bill No. 936**

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

BY Dimitri, Appollonio, Thompson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- AN ACT ADOPTING THE FEDERAL SECURE AND FAIR ENFORCEMENT FOR MORTGAGE LICENSING ACT OF 2009 (Prohibits an individual who is licensed as both a Rhode Island real estate agent and mortgage loan originator to be compensated for both the sale of the property and the origination or referral of the loan in securing the property.)
{LC1779/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 937**BY** Dimitri, Ciccone

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS (Requires that the basic education program data collection information for students that attend career and technical education schools be charged to the receiving school district and not the sending school district.)
{LC2643/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

Senate Bill No. 938**BY** Sosnowski, Britto, DiMario, Murray, McKenney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- LICENSING (Authorizes the taking of green crabs subject to certain conditions and a license fee of ten dollars (\$10.00).)
{LC2663/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Environment and Agriculture.

Senate Bill No. 939**BY** Bissaillon

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR PACKAGING AND PAPER ACT (Creates the extended producer responsibility for packaging and paper program for the recycling of packaging and paper products.)
{LC2567/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Environment and Agriculture.

Senate Bill No. 940**BY** Bissaillon, Lawson, Tikoian, DiPalma, Ciccone, Thompson, Britto, Patalano, Urso, Dimitri

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- HISTORIC PRESERVATION TAX CREDITS 2013 (Amends sections of law relative to historic tax credits including increasing the maximum project credit and implementing requirements relative to following prevailing wage requirements.)
{LC1980/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 941**BY** McKenney, Murray, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Lawson, LaMountain**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- CONTINUING CARE PROVIDER REGISTRATION AND DISCLOSURE (Allows continuing care providers to provide care in an individual's home, subject to the same disclosures and requirements as continuing care provided in a facility.)

{LC2174/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 942**BY** Bissaillon, Burke, Mack, Gu, DiMario, LaMountain**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Makes certain technical amendments /clarifications to the statutes relating to the assessment of real property and the timing and process to appeals thereof.)

{LC2682/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 943**BY** Dimitri, Tikoian, Patalano, Vargas, Thompson, Ciccone, Bissaillon, Urso, Burke, Appollonio**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- INSURANCE ON MULTI-UNIT DWELLINGS -- TENANT RELOCATION INSURANCE (Requires certain landlords to obtain insurance to cover alternate living accommodations for displaced tenants due to fire or disaster.)

{LC2646/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 944**BY** Thompson, Murray**ENTITLED**, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF WOONSOCKET (Validates and ratifies the amendments to the Woonsocket Home Rule Charter which were approved by the electors of the city of Woonsocket on November 5, 2024.)

{LC2661/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 945

(Attorney General)

BY DiPalma, Tikoian, de la Cruz, Raptakis, McKenney, Ciccone, Bissaillon, Lawson, Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- RHODE ISLAND BID RIGGING ACT (Establishes the Rhode Island Bid Rigging Act.)
{LC2535/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 946

(Attorney General)

BY Bissaillon, Lawson, Tikoian, LaMountain, DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (Specifies that it is unlawful for any person under the age of eighteen (18) to possess a firearm.)
{LC2207/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 947

(Attorney General)

BY Sosnowski, Tikoian, LaMountain, Patalano, Raptakis, Ciccone, Burke, Britto, Appollonio, Murray**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- ACCIDENTS AND ACCIDENT REPORTS (Provides for a single, increased range of penalties for all driving offenses which result in serious bodily injury or death.)
{LC2205/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 948

(Attorney General)

BY Quezada**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- EXPUNGEMENT OF CRIMINAL RECORDS (Allows a law enforcement agency to consider expunged records when issuing a license or permit to carry a pistol or revolver.)
{LC2210/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 949

(Attorney General)

BY Quezada

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- COUNTY GRAND JURIES (Permits grand juries to issue reports and provides for a process for review and acceptance by the superior court for dissemination to the public.)
{LC2213/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 950

(Attorney General)

BY Patalano, Tikoian, Ciccone, LaMountain, Dimitri, Burke, Appollonio, Thompson, Britto, Gallo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- KIDNAPPING (Establishes the crime of attempted kidnapping of a minor.)
{LC2203/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 951

(Attorney General)

BY LaMountain

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- STATE CRIME LABORATORY COMMISSION (Establishes the Rhode Island state crime laboratory within the department of attorney general.)
{LC2536/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 952

(Attorney General)

BY Tikoian, McKenney, Burke, Appollonio, Patalano, Dimitri, Urso, Quezada, Rogers, de la Cruz

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- CREDIT CARD CRIME ACT (Adds "debit cards" to the section of law relating to fraudulent use of credit cards.)
{LC2202/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 953

(Secretary of State)

BY Dimitri, Appollonio, Patalano, Thompson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS (Exempts emergency mail ballots from the requirement to have certain wording regarding "mail voters" on the ballot.)

{LC1331/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 954**BY** Euer, Sosnowski, Britto, Appollonio, McKenney, Thompson, Burke, Valverde, Kallman, Lauria**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- LICENSES GENERALLY (Establishes and funds the SafeRide program, which provides transportation, free of charge, to persons suspected of having a blood alcohol concentration that prohibits legal operation of a vehicle.)

{LC2204/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 955**BY** Dimitri, Bissaillon**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- CHILDREN (Prohibits a minor from soliciting or possessing an indecent visual depiction from another minor.)

{LC2605/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 956

(Attorney General)

BY LaMountain**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL (Establishes a bureau of public protection within the department of attorney general.)

{LC2529/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 957**BY** Ciccone, DiPalma, Bissailon, Dimitri, LaMountain, McKenney, Burke**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- COURT CLERKS' INCENTIVE PAY (Extends the incentive pay plan to all full-time court clerks, including the traffic tribunal, who meet the eligibility requirements. It would also repeal § 8-4.1-6 regarding additional credit for a master's degree.)
{LC2648/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor and Gaming.

Senate Resolution No. 958**BY** Lawson**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION JOYOUSLY CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF PACE-RI
{LC2625/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 959**BY** Ciccone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- WORKPLACE PSYCHOLOGICAL SAFETY ACT (Protects bullying/psychological abuse in workplace inflicted upon employees by employers/co-employees/provides civil remedies to affected employees/fines against employers/imprisonment/fines against co-employees.)
{LC2724/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor and Gaming.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

Chairwoman Gallo, from the Committee on Education, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

The Reappointment of Maria Ducharme to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2028.

Placed on the Calendar.

The Reappointment of Cornelius Kerwin to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2028.

Placed on the Calendar.

The Reappointment of Matthew Lenz (Senate President Appointment) to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2028.

Placed on the Calendar.

The Reappointment of Roby Luna to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2028.

Placed on the Calendar.

The Reappointment of David Martirano to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2028.

Placed on the Calendar.

The Reappointment of Yahaira (Jay) Placencia to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2028.

Placed on the Calendar.

Senate Resolution No. 177

BY Acosta, Gallo, Lawson, Valverde, Euer, Zurier, Appollonio, Murray, Bissaillon, Quezada
ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE, PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION -- RIGHT TO AN ADEQUATE EDUCATION (Amends the constitution to guarantee Rhode Island residents with equal opportunity to receive an education that is adequate, equitable and meaningful and provides judicial enforcement of this provision.)
{LC708/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 394

BY Gallo, Lawson, LaMountain, Pearson, Zurier, Valverde, Kallman, Lauria, Vargas, Urso
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RHODE ISLAND PREKINDERGARTEN EDUCATION ACT (Establishes guidelines for the expansion of high-quality public prekindergarten education programs for children ages three (3) and four (4) to increase children's school readiness.)
{LC719/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

Chairwoman Sosnowski, from the Committee on Environment and Agriculture, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measure:

Senate Bill No. 241

BY Felag, Sosnowski, DiMario, Lauria, Valverde, Kallman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- CONSUMER PFAS BAN ACT OF 2024 (Prohibits a manufacturer from manufacturing, knowingly selling, offering for sale, distributing for sale or distributing for use in the state any firefighting personal protective equipment containing intentionally-added PFAS as of January 1, 2027.)
{LC976/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Chairman DiPalma, from the Committee on Finance, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

House Bill No. 5030

BY McEntee, Tanzi, Spears, Fogarty

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Grants the town council of the town of South Kingstown the authority to enact a homestead exemption ordinance.)
{LC448/1}

Placed on the Consent Calendar.

House Bill No. 5703

BY Fogarty, McEntee, Tanzi, Shallcross Smith, Carson, Donovan, Spears, Cotter, Caldwell, Cortvriend

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE KINGSTON WATER DISTRICT -- BONDS (Increases the maximum amount of the Kingston water district bonding authority from four million dollars (\$4,000,000) to fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000).)
{LC1706/1}

Placed on the Consent Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 844**BY** DiPalma

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Exempts from taxation the real and tangible personal property of the Friends of Little Compton Wellness Center, Inc.)
{LC2476/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

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

Senate Resolution No. 632**BY** Sosnowski, DiMario, Valverde, Euer, Kallman, Pearson

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR, THE DIRECTOR OF THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (RIDOT), AND THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO EXPLORE INCREASING THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY'S (MBTA) EVENING SERVICE TO THE WICKFORD JUNCTION/PROVIDENCE/STOUGHTON LINE ON WEEKDAYS AND INITIATING A WEEKEND SCHEDULE
{LC2228/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR & GAMING

Chairman Ciccone, from the Committee on Labor, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measure:

Senate Bill No. 126**BY** LaMountain, Dimitri, Thompson, Vargas, Patalano, Urso, Appollonio, Bissailon, Murray, Ciccone

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- LABOR RELATIONS ACT -- EMPLOYEE FREE SPEECH RIGHTS (Protects employees free speech regarding political or religious matters.)
{LC415/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

CALL TO ORDER

The Senate meets pursuant to recess and is called to order by the Honorable Hanna M. Gallo, Senate President Pro Tempore, on Tuesday, April 08th at 4:12 o'clock P.M

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Senator Lawson, seconded by Senator de la Cruz, and the Senate adjourns at 4:13 o'clock P.M.

HELENA S. REID
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix

INVOCATION

SENATOR TODD M. PATALANO

Guide us, Lord, towards a deeper understanding of the needs of the people of our State; may we be instrumental in serving those needs. Let us work to improve the lives of those who have no voice in their government. Amen.

Appendix

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 08, 2025:

1. **2025-S 958**
 BY Lawson
 ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION JOYOUSLY CELEBRATING THE 20TH
ANNIVERSARY OF PACE-RI

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

Appendix
CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 08, 2025:

1. ***The Reappointment of Maria Ducharme to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2028.***

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

2. ***The Reappointment of Cornelius Kerwin to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2028.***

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

3. ***The Reappointment of Matthew Lenz (Senate President Appointment) to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2028.***

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

4. ***The Reappointment of Roby Luna to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2028.***

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

5. ***The Reappointment of David Martirano to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2028.***

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

6. ***The Reappointment of Yahaira (Jay) Placencia to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2028.***

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

7. **2025-S 177**

BY Acosta

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE, PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION -- RIGHT TO AN ADEQUATE EDUCATION

Committee on Education recommends passage.

8. **2025-S 394**

BY Gallo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RHODE ISLAND PREKINDERGARTEN EDUCATION ACT

Committee on Education recommends passage.

Appendix

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025:

1. **2025-H 5030**
 BY McEntee
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT
 OF LOCAL TAXES

Committee on Finance recommends passage in concurrence.

2. **2025-H 5703**
 BY Fogarty
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE KINGSTON WATER DISTRICT --
 BONDS

Committee on Finance recommends passage in concurrence.

Appendix
CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025:

- 1. 2025-S 241**
BY Felag
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- CONSUMER PFAS BAN ACT OF 2024

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends passage.
- 2. 2025-S 844**
BY DiPalma
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION

Committee on Finance recommends passage.
- 3. 2025-S 632**
BY Sosnowski
ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR, THE DIRECTOR OF THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (RIDOT), AND THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO EXPLORE INCREASING THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY'S (MBTA) EVENING SERVICE TO THE WICKFORD JUNCTION/PROVIDENCE/STOUGHTON LINE ON WEEKDAYS AND INITIATING A WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.
- 4. 2025-S 126 SUB A**
BY LaMountain
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- LABOR RELATIONS ACT -- EMPLOYEE FREE SPEECH RIGHTS

Committee on Labor & Gaming recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 8.13 of the Rules of the Senate for the Years 2025-2026, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

☐ 2025-H

☒ 2025-S

(Bill Number)

Consent Calendar

(Advice & Consent, Order of Business, or Amendment Number)

* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

☒ APPROVE

☐ DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

Dominick J. Ruggerio
Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio

Date 04/01/2025

Senate District 4

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island

County of Providence

On this 1st day of April, 2025, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio, personally known to me to be the person whose name is signed on this document in my presence.

Helena S. Reid
Notary Public Signature

Helena S. Reid
Notary Public Printed

15385
Notary ID

12/21/2027
Commission Expiration



RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE
MAJORITY LEADER/MINORITY LEADER

4-1-25
Date

Jm
Initials

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

4-1-25
Date

Rm
Initials

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 8.13 of the Rules of the Senate for the Years 2025-2026, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

☐ 2025-H

☒ 2025-S 280

(Bill Number)

(Advice & Consent, Order of Business, or Amendment Number)

* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

☒ APPROVE

☐ DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

Dominick J. Ruggerio
Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio
Senate District 4

Date 04/01/2025

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island

County of Providence

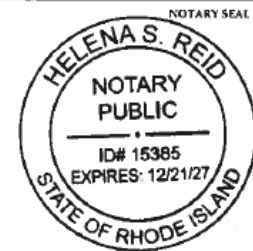
On this 1st day of April, 2025, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio, personally known to me to be the person whose name is signed on this document in my presence.

Helena S. Reid
Notary Public Signature

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4-1-25 Jm
Date Initials

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

4-1-25 hmr
Date Initials

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 8.13 of the Rules of the Senate for the Years 2025-2026, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

☐ 2025-H

☒ 2025-S 296

(Bill Number)

(Advice & Consent, Order of Business, or Amendment Number)

* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

☒ APPROVE

☐ DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

Dominick J. Ruggerio
Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio

Date 04/01/2025

Senate District 4

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island

County of Providence

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Initials

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

4-1-25
Date

hm
Initials

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 8.13 of the Rules of the Senate for the Years 2025-2026, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

☐ 2025-H

☒ 2025-S 303

(Bill Number)

(Advice & Consent, Order of Business, or Amendment Number)

* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

☒ APPROVE

☐ DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

Dominick J. Ruggerio

Date 04/01/2025

Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio

Senate District 4

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island

County of Providence

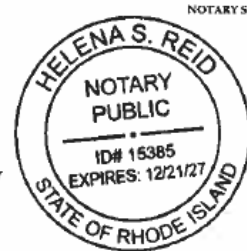
On this 1st day of April, 2025, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio, personally known to me to be the person whose name is signed on this document in my presence.

Helena S. Reid
Notary Public Signature

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Date

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Initials

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

4-1-25
Date

km
Initials

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 8.13 of the Rules of the Senate for the Years 2025-2026, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

☐ 2025-H

☒ 2025-S 354

(Bill Number)

(Advice & Consent, Order of Business, or Amendment Number)

* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

☒ APPROVE

☐ DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

Dominick J. Ruggerio
 Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio
 Senate District 4

Date 04/01/2025

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island

County of Providence

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4-1-25 Jm
 Date Initials

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE
 SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

4-1-25 hn
 Date Initials

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 8.13 of the Rules of the Senate for the Years 2025-2026, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

☐ 2025-H 5189

☒ 2025-S

(Bill Number)

(Advice & Consent, Order of Business, or Amendment Number)

* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

☒ APPROVE

☐ DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

Dominick J. Ruggerio
 Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio
 Senate District 4

Date 04/01/2025

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island

County of Providence

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 Date

hsr
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