

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. 18

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Eighteenth 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 4:15 o'clock P.M.

ROLL CALL

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 34 Senators present and 4 Senators absent as follows:

PRESENT –34: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

ABSENT – 4: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, Senators Ciccone, Quezada and Raptakis.

INVOCATION

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

The Senate Journals of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Legislative Days of the 2025 proceedings are read in part.

Upon suggestion of Senator Murray and by unanimous consent, further reading of the Journals are dispensed with and the Journals approved as recorded.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE**

Chairwoman Britto, from the Committee on Commerce, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

The Appointment of Christopher J. Fragomeni (Gubernatorial Appt) VICE Peter Willey to the East Providence Waterfront District for a term expiring March 31, 2029.

Placed on the Calendar.

The Reappointment of Jeffrey E. Bogosian to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation for a term expiring June 1, 2028.

Placed on the Calendar.

The Reappointment of Christopher H. Little, Esq. to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation for a term expiring June 1, 2028.

Placed on the Calendar.

The Reappointment of Jonathan N. Savage to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation for a term expiring June 1, 2029.

Placed on the Calendar.

The Reappointment of George Nee to the Convention Center Authority for a term expiring June 30, 2027.

Placed on the Calendar.

The Reappointment of R. Jeffrey Hirsh to the Convention Center Authority for a term expiring June 30, 2029.

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. 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}

Placed on the Calendar.

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Chairwoman LaMountain, from the Committee on Judiciary, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measure:

Senate Bill No. 618

(Dept. of Corrections)

BY Mack, Acosta, Zurier, Ujifusa, Euer, McKenney, LaMountain, Bissaillon, Dimitri

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- VITAL RECORDS

(Provides an exemption for certain incarcerated persons from the payment of fees for a first request for vital statistics from the department of health.)

{LC1366/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Bill No. 963**

BY Mack, Bissaillon, Zurier, Quezada, DiMario

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

LOCAL TAXES (Provides an 8% tax rate for those properties that are encumbered by a deed restriction for low-income housing set at 80% or 60% of adjusted median income established by HUD.)

{LC1613/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

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

April 9, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 42-102-2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the **Governor's Workforce Board**

Paul MacDonald
Labor Representative

For a term expiring January 1, 2028

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel J. McKee".

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Valarie 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 Labor and Gaming.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE

April 9, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 42-102-2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Governor's Workforce Board:

Jessica L. Key, MBA
(Rep of Higher Education)

Vice
Shannon Gilkey

For a term expiring January 1, 2027.

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Valarie 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 Labor and Gaming.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE

April 4, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 42-102-2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to Governor's Workforce Board

Tracey Jeter
Employer Representative

Vice
Rebecca Webber

For a term expiring January 1, 2028

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Michael J. McCaffrey, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Dennis L. Algieri, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Labor and Gaming.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE

April 9, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 42-102-2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Governor's Workforce Board:

Xaykham Khamsyvoravong

(Employer Representative)

Vice

David Chenevert

For a term expiring January 1, 2027.

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Valarie 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 Labor and Gaming.

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 10, 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 the Senate Session on Thursday, April 10th.

I would appreciate it if you could record 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 CONSIDERATIONS**Senate Resolution No. 964****BY** Gallo, Lawson, LaMountain, Pearson, Zurier**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2025, TO BE
"FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
{LC715/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator DiPalma requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

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

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

Senate Resolution No. 965**BY** Mack**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING "BLACK MATERNAL
HEALTH WEEK" ON APRIL 11TH - 17TH, 2025, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
{LC2763/1}

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, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

Senate Resolution No. 966**BY** Mack, Murray, Kallman, Pearson**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY

{LC2279/1}

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, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

Senators Mack, Pearson, Kallman, Bell, and Murray discuss the senate resolution.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

Senate Resolution No. 967**BY** Mack**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO THOSE FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS WHO LOST LOVED ONES IN THE JET SET CLUB TRAGEDY

{LC2760/1}

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, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

Senate Resolution No. 968**BY** Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE RONALD D. NEWMAN
{LC2714/1}

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, Bissailon, Britto, Burke, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

The resolution is read and passed upon a rising vote.

Appendix**CONSENT CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025:****1. 2025-S 962****BY** Dimitri**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF EDMÉE PARISI

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

2. 2025-H 5030**BY** McEntee**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES

Committee on Finance recommends passage in concurrence.

3. 2025-H 5703**BY** Fogarty**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO THE KINGSTON WATER DISTRICT -- BONDS

Committee on Finance recommends passage in concurrence.

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

NAYS – 0:

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.

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

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 34 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 34: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:**2. 2025-S 844****BY** DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION

Committee on Finance recommends passage.

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

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 35 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 35: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

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.

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

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 34 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 34: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

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.

Senator LaMountain moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, DiMario, Dimitri, Euer, Felag, Gu, Kallman, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, Murray, Patalano, Pearson, Thompson, Tikoian, and Zurier.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed in concurrence and the original bill indefinitely postponed, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 30 members voting in the affirmative and 4 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 30: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, DiMario, Dimitri, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Patalano, Pearson, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

NAYS – 4: Senators de la Cruz, Morgan, Paolino, and Rogers.

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

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

Senator DiMario announces that the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government will meet today at the rise of the senate in Room 212.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Euer and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber Autumn Guillotte, Erica Hammond, and Paul MacDonald.

Upon suggestion of Senator de la Cruz and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber Thomas and Marie Fontneau.

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

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

Senate Bill No. 720

BY Ciccone, Bissaillon, Felag, Mack, Quezada, Vargas

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Authorizes the Providence city council to set the veterans tax exemption limit to an amount determined by the city council via ordinance or resolution.)

{LC1618/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

House Bill No. 5694**BY** Cortvriend, Finkelman, Carson, Spears**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Allows the town of Middletown to adopt a tax classification plan for residential real estate which divides the class into non-owner and owner-occupied properties with separate tax rates.)

{LC1759/1}

Placed on the Consent Calendar.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Bill No. 969****BY** Euer, Appollonio, McKenney, Sosnowski, Zurier, Vargas, Lauria, DiMario, Murray, Kallman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (Changes utility company billing practices so that when a gas electric utility changes their customer billing, they are required to file a copy of the new bill with the PUC for approval, with a complete explanation of the changes.)

{LC259/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 970**BY** Murray, Thompson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- ESTATES IN REAL PROPERTY (Prohibits restrictive covenants related to grocery stores.)

{LC1922/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 971**BY** Gallo, Urso, McKenney, Murray, Valverde, Mack, Bissaillon**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RHODE ISLAND

PREKINDERGARTEN EDUCATION ACT (Establishes a prekindergarten seat finder to support families in accessing high quality early childhood education programs for three (3) and four (4) year old children.)

{LC2684/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

Senate Bill No. 972

BY Ujifusa, Zurier, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Gallo, Valverde, Murray, Pearson, DiMario, Bell
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TRANSPORTATION OF SCHOOL PUPILS BEYOND CITY AND TOWN LIMITS (Amends the composition of school bus districts within the state to provide transportation to students in grades kindergarten through 12.)
{LC2765/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

Senate Bill No. 973

BY Ciccone, Bissaillon, LaMountain, Felag, Tikoian, Burke, Appollonio
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- INSURANCE BENEFITS (Entitles correctional officers with twenty-five (25) years of service and who are at least fifty-five (55) years of age to a non-Medicare-eligible retiree health care insurance benefit.)
{LC2677/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 974

BY Lawson, Bissaillon, Tikoian, Lauria, DiMario, Euer, Urso, Felag, Murray, Gallo
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- TEMPORARY DISABILITY INSURANCE --CONTRIBUTIONS (Increases the taxable wage base for TDI claims from \$38,000 to \$100,000 or the annual earnings needed by an individual to qualify for the maximum weekly benefit amount and the maximum duration under chapters 39 through 41 of this title.)
{LC2731/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 975

BY de la Cruz, Valverde, Rogers
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (Provides medical assistance coverage for medical services provided qualifying eligible recipients for community based care.)
{LC2674/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 976**BY** Ciccone, Dimitri, Britto, Gu, Urso

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- MEDICAL AESTHETIC PRACTICES SAFETY ACT (Mandates cosmetic medical procedures be performed by a physician, PA, APRN, or delegated to a qualified non-physician, non-PA or non-APRN under the supervision of a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse.)
{LC2644/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 977**BY** DiPalma, Vargas, Thompson, Murray

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Provides recommended air quality standards for schools. Further requires the department of education incorporate indoor air quality testing as part of the school building authority needs assessment.)
{LC2707/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 978**BY** Britto, McKenney, Ciccone, Felag, Murray, Patalano, Thompson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE (Requires the state building commissioner to implement electronic permitting for any category of state or local permit authorized under state law to significantly impact the expediency of construction and development.)
{LC1521/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 979**BY** Kallman, Urso, Acosta

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Amends Pawtucket property tax classification system.)
{LC2737/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 980**BY** DiMario, Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS

(Increases the landing fee for the town of New Shoreham from fifty cents (\$.50) to one dollar and seventy-five cents (\$1.75).)

{LC2721/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 981**BY** Zurier, Britto**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- ENERGY FACILITY SITING ACT (Allows for measures to advance the undergrounding of certain utility cables and to have the same funded through utility rate increases to the cities of Providence and East Providence.)

{LC2703/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 982**BY** Ruggerio, Lawson, LaMountain, Britto, McKenney, Bissaillon**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LEAD POISONING PREVENTION ACT (Ensures public access to lead service lines to determine the existence of lead within the water connection. This act also ensures mitigation measures and replacement lines are consistent with the current version of 40 C.C.R. 141 Subpart I.)

{LC2363/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 983**BY** Patalano, Tikoian, LaMountain, Lawson, DiPalma, Ciccone, Thompson, Burke, Appollonio, Britto**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- STATE POLICE (Creates the PURPLE alert state system to aid in the search for a missing adult with a serious physical, behavioral health, neurological disabilities or medical condition.)

{LC2713/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 984**BY** Britto, McKenney, Dimitri, Ciccone, Felag, Murray, Patalano, Thompson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- THE RHODE ISLAND HEMP THC-INFUSED BEVERAGES ACT (Authorizes the sale of THC-infused beverages to be regulated by the DBR division of commercial licensing. It also establishes licensing and an endorsement process for wholesale and retail THC-infused beverages.)
{LC2704/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 985**BY** Britto, Thompson, Appollonio**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- LIABILITY INSURANCE -- RENTAL VEHICLE COVERAGE (Restricts private vehicle property damage insurance coverage for a rental passenger vehicle, to the named insured and drivers listed on that private policy, unless the designated driver is specifically excluded.)
{LC2651/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 986**BY** DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- MAINTENANCE OF PRIVATE EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY (Provides that the cost of maintaining and repairing or restoring an easement or right-of-way shall be shared by each owner of a benefited property and their costs shall be determined by and commensurate with the municipal appraisal of each property.)
{LC2705/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 987**BY** DiPalma, Gallo, Lawson, Ciccone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COUNCIL ON ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION (Provide protection for the rights of professional, administrative and secretarial employees of the department of education to collectively bargain over all terms and conditions of employment.)
{LC2706/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor and Gaming.

Senate Bill No. 988

BY Appollonio, Acosta, Mack, Lauria, Kallman, Thompson, Dimitri, Urso, Vargas, Pearson
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL
OBSERVANCE -- WORK ON HOLIDAYS AND SUNDAYS (Includes Dr. Martin Luther
King, Jr.'s Birthday as a holiday.)
{LC2571/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor and Gaming.

Senate Bill No. 989

BY Euer
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES
(Allows for the issuance of a Class T liquor license by the town of Jamestown.)
{LC2750/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 990

BY Dimitri, Thompson, Patalano, Burke, Britto, Appollonio, Tikoian
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY
PROVISIONS -- SAFEGUARDING AMERICAN VETERAN EMPOWERMENT ACT
("SAVE ACT") (Establishes the "safeguarding American veteran empowerment act".)
{LC2267/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 991

(Lieutenant Governor)

BY Britto
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY
PROVISIONS -- PROTECTING RHODE ISLANDERS FROM COERCIVE ECONOMIC
TACTICS AT GROCERY STORES (Creates a new chapter to protect Rhode Island consumers
from coercive tactics at grocery stores.)
{LC1923/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A message from the House of Representatives transmits with announcement of passage, of the following measures:

House Bill No. 5307

(City of Providence)

BY DeSimone, Biah, Azzinaro, Ajello, Diaz, Slater, Hull

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Authorizes the Providence city council to set the veterans tax exemption limit to an amount determined by the city council via ordinance or resolution.)
{LC972/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 591 SUB A

BY Felag, DiPalma, Lauria, Raptakis, Tikoian, Euer

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO RENAMING THE NEW SAKONNET RIVER BRIDGE, AQUIDNECK ISLAND (Names the new Sakonnet River Bridge as the “Staff Sergeant Christopher Potts Sakonnet River Bridge.”)
{LC2126/A/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

House Bill No. 5051 SUB A

BY Azzinaro, Edwards, Fellela, Casimiro, Corvese

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO RENAMING THE NEW SAKONNET RIVER BRIDGE, AQUIDNECK ISLAND (Names the new Sakonnet River Bridge as the “Staff Sergeant Christopher Potts Sakonnet River Bridge.” This act would take effect upon passage.)
{LC445/A/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Senator Lawson, seconded by Senator de la Cruz, and upon suggestion of Senator Sosnowski the Senate adjourns at 5:08 o'clock P.M. *in memory of Ronald D. Newman.*

HELENA S. REID
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix**INVOCATION****SENATOR MELISSA A. MURRAY**

Let us pledge today to recommit ourselves to ensuring that every person feels safe, respected, and free to be their authentic selves. And in a world that too often tests our compassion, let us choose to be an ally.

Appendix

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025:

1. **2025-H 5694**
 BY Cortvriend
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT
 OF LOCAL TAXES

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage in concurrence.

Appendix
CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025:

- 1. *The Appointment of Christopher J. Fragomeni (Gubernatorial Appt) VICE Peter Willey to the East Providence Waterfront District for a term expiring March 31, 2029.***

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

- 2. *The Reappointment of Jeffrey E. Bogosian to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation for a term expiring June 1, 2028.***

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

- 3. *The Reappointment of Christopher H. Little, Esq. to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation for a term expiring June 1, 2028.***

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

- 4. *The Reappointment of Jonathan N. Savage to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation for a term expiring June 1, 2029.***

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

- 5. *The Reappointment of George Nee to the Convention Center Authority for a term expiring June 30, 2027.***

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

- 6. *The Reappointment of R. Jeffrey Hirsh to the Convention Center Authority for a term expiring June 30, 2029.***

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

7. **2025-S 720**
 BY Ciccone
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO
 TAXATION

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

8. **2025-S 618**
 BY Mack
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- VITAL RECORDS

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

9. **2025-S 959**
 BY Ciccone
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS --
 WORKPLACE PSYCHOLOGICAL SAFETY ACT

Committee on Labor & Gaming recommends passage.

10. **2025-S 591 SUB A**
 BY Felag
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO RENAMING THE NEW SAKONNET RIVER
 BRIDGE, AQUIDNECK ISLAND

Ordered to be placed on the Calendar for passage in concurrence.

11. **2025-H 5051 SUB A**
 BY Azzinaro
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO RENAMING THE NEW SAKONNET RIVER
 BRIDGE, AQUIDNECK ISLAND

Ordered to be placed on the Calendar for passage in concurrence.

Appendix**TRANSMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR ON THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025****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}

Transmitted to the Governor.

House Bill No. 5189**BY** Knight, Boylan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF BARRINGTON (Validates and ratifies the amendments to the Barrington Home Rule Charter which were approved by the electors of the town of Barrington on November 5, 2024.)

{LC896/1}

Transmitted to the Governor.

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}

Transmitted to the Governor.

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

Date 04/10/2025

Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio

Senate District 4

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island

County of Providence

On this 10th 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

4-10-25
Date

JR
Initials

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

4-10-25
Date

ksr
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 241

(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 04/10/2025

Senate District 4

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island

County of Providence

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MAJORITY LEADER/MINORITY LEADER

4-10-25
Date

Jm
Initials

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

4-10-25
Date

ksr
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 844

(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 04/10/2025

Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio

Senate District 4

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island

County of Providence

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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

4-10-25
Date

JR
Initials

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

4-10-25
Date

ksr
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 632

(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 04/10/2025

Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio

Senate District 4

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island

County of Providence

On this 10th 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.

NOTARY SEAL



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

4-10-25 *Jm*
Date Initials

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

4-10-25 *hsr*
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 126 SUB A

(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 04/10/2025

Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio

Senate District 4

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island

County of Providence

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MAJORITY LEADER/MINORITY LEADER

4-10-25 JM
Date Initials

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

4-10-25 hsr
Date Initials