

## State of Rhode Island

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# Journal of the Senate

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**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.**

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Volume 152, No. 25

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

Twenty-fifth Legislative Day

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### CALL TO ORDER

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by The Honorable Valarie J. Lawson, President of the Senate, on at 4:08 o'clock P.M.

### ROLL CALL

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 34 Senators present and 3 Senators absent as follows:

**PRESENT –34:** The Honorable President Valarie Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

**ABSENT – 3:** Senators DiMario, Morgan and Pearson.

### INVOCATION

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

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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


**APPROVAL OF RECORD**

The Senate Journal of the Twenty-fourth Legislative Day of the 2025 proceedings is read in part.

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

**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Honorable President presents the following communications:

<p>SENATOR <b>ALANA M. DiMARIO</b> District 36</p> <hr/> <p>Room 308 Rhode Island State House Providence, Rhode Island 02903</p> <p>OFFICE: 401-276-5568 sen-dimario@rilegislature.gov</p>	<p>State of Rhode Island</p>  <p>Senate Chamber</p>	<p>CHAIR Permanent Legislative Commission On Child Care in Rhode Island</p> <hr/> <p>VICE-CHAIR Committee on Housing and Municipal Government</p> <hr/> <p>Committee on Finance</p> <hr/> <p>Committee on Environment &amp; Agriculture</p>
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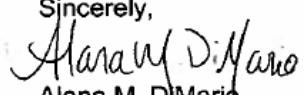
May 13, 2025

The Honorable Valarie J. Lawson  
President of the Senate  
State House, Room 318  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Madam President:

Please be advised that on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, I will be absent from Senate Session.

I would appreciate you recording my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal.  
Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
  
Alana M. DiMario  
Senator District ~ 36

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**

May 12, 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:

**James P. Ferrara**  
(Employer Rep)

Vice  
Susan Rittscher

For a term expiring January 1, 2026.

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee  
Governor

Cc: Honorable Valarie J. Lawson, Senate President  
Honorable Frank A. Ciccone, III, 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**

May 12, 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:

**Sean G. Morrone**  
(Employer Rep)

Vice  
Molly MaGee

For a term expiring January 1, 2027.

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee  
Governor

Cc: Honorable Valarie J. Lawson, Senate President  
Honorable Frank A. Coccone, III, 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**

May 9, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 5-37.7-5 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the **Health Information Exchange Commission**

**Atin Jindal, MD, MS**

Physician

Vice

Dr. Nichilas Grumbach

For a Term Commencing June 1, 2025

For a term expiring June 1, 2026

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee  
Governor

Cc: Honorable Valerie J. Lawton, Senate President  
Honorable Frank A. Ciccone, III, Senate Majority Leader  
Honorable Jesica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

**RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903**

Referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE**

May 12, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 39-1-4 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the **Public Utilities Commission**:

**Karen M. Bradbury**  
**Vice**  
**John Revens**

For a term expiring March 1, 2027.

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 Valarie J. Lawson, Senate President  
Honorable Frank A. Ciccone, III, 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**

May 5, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 42-64-8 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to Rhode Island Commerce Corporation

**Tracey Jeter**  
Vice  
David Chenervort

For a term expiring February 1, 2029

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee  
Governor

Cc: Honorable Valarie J. Lawson, Senate President  
Honorable Frank A. Ciccone, III, 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.

**NEW BUSINESS****Senate Resolution No. 1065****BY** Zurier

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 77TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL'S DAY OF INDEPENDENCE ON APRIL 30TH THROUGH MAY 1ST, 2025, AND REAFFIRMING THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN RHODE ISLAND, THE UNITED STATES, AND THE STATE OF ISRAEL  
{LC2884/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

**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. 313****BY** LaMountain, Lawson, Tikoian, Gallo, Felag, DiPalma, Dimitri, McKenney, Patalano

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- PUBLIC BUILDINGS (Authorizes and funds the painting of a portrait of the president of the senate and former presidents of the senate who may be living to be hung in the state house.)  
{LC418/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

**Senate Bill No. 364****BY** Bell, Felag, Bissaillon, Murray, Urso, Ujifusa, Lawson, Quezada

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES (Provides that exemptions to the prohibition of liquor licenses within two hundred feet (200') of schools or places of worship do not eliminate neighboring property owners' remonstrance rights to object to the license.)  
{LC279/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

**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}

Placed on the Calendar.



**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Upon suggestion of Senator DiPalma and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President, welcomes to the Chamber Rocky Kepenaar.

Upon suggestion of Senator Mack and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President, welcomes to the Chamber the Brown Women's Rugby Team; Rosalind Chou, Bridget Kahele, Kittery Ruiz, Nyrel Stroup, Adrianna Johnson, Akilah Cathey, Azina Alford, Olivia Baptiste, Layryssa Barbosa, Chayne Barksdale, Hannah Cabrera, Court Cummings, Kendall Cunningham, Asha Davis, Vaelntine Dethereux, Genie Dickins, Sophie Dornstein, Akil Dougherty, Lilia Duque, Jenna Lowery, Nicola Lynch, Priscilla Maalouf, Elizabeth Mahoney, Caitlin Maldoon, Tatum Muller, Julia Murray, Lily Nowak, Anna O'Leary, Tarn Reilly, Jiya Sandhu, Sadie Wilson, and Jordan Wiseman.

**IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION****Senate Resolution No. 1066**

**BY** de la Cruz

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE ELEANOR SLATER HOSPITAL--ZAMBARANO CAMPUS ON THE RECOGNITION OF "ZAMBARANO DAY" ON MAY 13, 2025  
{LC2907/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator de la Cruz requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator de la Cruz moves passage, seconded by Senator Tikoian.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Upon suggestion of Senator de la Cruz and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President, welcomes to the Chamber Louis Cerbo, Deputy Director, Elizabeth Silvestre, Chief of Staff, Brett Johnson, CEO, Jennifer McCarthy, Administrator of the Zambarano Campus, Randal Edgar, Public Information Officer, Linda Reilly, Chief Community Relations Officer, Christine Kettelle, Supervisor of the Therapeutic Recreation Department, Kristin Raimond, Chief Implementation Aide, Jose Brandon, patient, Amy Drake, patient, and Amma Pelletier, Assistant Chief Nursing Officer.

**IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION****Senate Resolution No. 1067****BY** Gu, Ujifusa**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING MAY OF 2025, AS "ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
{LC2811/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Gu requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Gu moves passage, seconded by Senator Tikoian.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Upon suggestion of Senator Ujifusa and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President, welcomes to the Chamber Phanida Phivilay, Phouangphet Oupravanh, Khamfeung Thongsavath, Savanh Chantharangsy, Abbot Wern Sipasouck.

**IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION****Senate Resolution No. 1068****BY** Tikoian, Lawson, Ciccone, Patalano, Appollonio**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING MAY 11 THROUGH MAY 17, 2025, TO BE "NATIONAL POLICE WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ALL THE POLICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE LINE OF DUTY  
{LC2798/1}

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 Senator Ciccone.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

**Senate Resolution No. 1069****BY** Lawson

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND TAIWAN WHILE SUPPORTING ENHANCED BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN AND TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY  
{LC2774/1}

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 Senator Ciccone.

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, welcomes to the Chamber Director General Charles Liao, Chin Hsu, Deputy Director Ms. Lena Hsiao, Administrative Assistance, Doris Chuang, National Anthem singer.

Upon suggestion of Senator de la Cruz and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President, welcomes to the Chamber Daniel Fitzgerald, Kelsey Theroux

**Appendix****CONSENT CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025:****1. 2025-S 1064****BY** Mack**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE BROWN WOMEN'S RUGBY TEAM ON WINNING THE WOMEN'S RUGBY COLLEGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

Upon motion of Senator Ciccone, 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 – 34:** The Honorable President Valarie Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

**NAYS – 0:****Appendix****CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025:****1. 2025-S 84 SUB A****BY** Raptakis**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- CASUALTY INSURANCE RATING

Committee on Commerce recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

Senator Raptakis moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

Senator Raptakis, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack,

McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier offers the following written motion to amend:

**FLOOR AMENDMENT**

**TO**

**2025 -- S 0084 SUBSTITUTE A**

**AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- CASUALTY INSURANCE RATING**

Madam President:

I hereby move to amend 2025 -- S 0084 SUBSTITUTE A, entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- CASUALTY INSURANCE RATING", as follows:

1. On page 3, lines 24 and 25, by deleting all of the language, and by inserting in place thereof the following:

"(g) No group, carrier, or company providing personal lines insurance as defined in § 27-14.5-1 shall assess any premium surcharge or penalty against an insured inquiring about the specific terms of their policy. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent an insurance group, carrier, or company from assessing a premium surcharge, change in rating, or penalty as a result of a policy change or loss."

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Raptakis

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LC000493/2

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The motion to amend prevails upon a roll call vote with 33 Senators voting in the affirmative, 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS – 33:** The Honorable President Valarie Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

**NAYS – 0:**

Senator Raptakis moves passage of the act, as amended, seconded by Senators Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

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

**YEAS – 34:** The Honorable President Valarie Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

**NAYS – 0:**

**2. 2025-S 85 SUB A**

**BY** Lawson

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- GROCERY STORES

Committee on Commerce recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

Senator Britto moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, and Patalano.

The bill marked Substitute “A” is read and passed and the original bill indefinitely postponed, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 31 members voting in the affirmative and 3 members voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS – 31:** The Honorable President Valarie Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

**NAYS – 3:** Senators de la Cruz, Paolino, and Rogers.

**3. 2025-S 238 SUB A****BY** McKenney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LIBRARIES -- THE FREEDOM TO READ ACT

Committee on Education recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

Senator McKenney moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Murray, Patalano, Quezada, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

The bill marked Substitute “A” is read and passed 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 Valarie Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Patalano, Quezada, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

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

**4. 2025-S 771 SUB A****BY** Murray**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

Committee on Education recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

The bill marked Substitute “A” is read and passed and the original bill indefinitely postponed, by unanimous consent, 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 Valarie Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

**NAYS – 0:**

**5. 2025-S 114****BY** Valverde**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS --  
DEFENDING AFFORDABLE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS ACT

Committee on Health &amp; Human Services recommends passage.

Senator Valverde moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Vargas and Zurier.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 33 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative and 1 member abstaining as follows:

**YEAS – 33:** The Honorable President Valarie Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

**NAYS – 0:**

**ABSTAINED -1:** Senator Bissaillon.

**6. 2025-S 263****BY** DiMario**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS  
INSURANCE POLICIES

Committee on Health &amp; Human Services recommends passage.

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

**NAYS – 0:**



**7. 2025-S 271 SUB A****BY** Urso**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- BENEFIT DETERMINATION AND UTILIZATION REVIEW ACT

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

Senator Urso moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

The bill marked Substitute “A” is read and passed and the original bill indefinitely postponed, by unanimous consent, 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 Valarie Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissailon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

**NAYS – 0:**

**8. 2025-S 343 SUB A****BY** Tikoian**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- THE GOOD SAMARITAN OVERDOSE PREVENTION ACT OF 2016

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

Senator Tikoian moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

The bill marked Substitute “A” is read and passed and the original bill indefinitely postponed, by unanimous consent, 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 Valarie Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissailon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

**NAYS – 0:**

**9. 2025-S 462 SUB A****BY** Murray**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HARM  
REDUCTION CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND PILOT PROGRAM

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Burke, Ciccone, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Quezada, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed and the original bill indefinitely postponed, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 27 members voting in the affirmative and 7 members voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS – 27:** The Honorable President Valarie Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Quezada, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

**NAYS – 7:** Senators de la Cruz, Dimitri, Paolino, Patalano, Raptakis, Rogers, and Thompson.

**10. 2025-S 468****BY** DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- PRESCRIPTION  
DRUG COST PROTECTION

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

*Upon suggestion of Senator Tikoian and without objection, ordered to be placed on the Calendar for Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.*

**11. 2025-S 475 SUB A****BY** Dimitri**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS REQUIRED AT PUBLIC PLACES AND HEALTHCARE FACILITIES -- DAVID CASEY ACT

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

Senator Dimitri moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed and the original bill indefinitely postponed, by unanimous consent, 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 Valarie Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, Vargas and Zurier.

**NAYS – 0:**

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Upon suggestion of Senator Dimitri and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President, welcomes to the Chamber Betsey Casey.

**12. 2025-S 688****BY** Murray**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

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

**NAYS – 0:**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

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

Senator Murray announces that the Senate Committee on Education will meet tomorrow at 4:00pm in Room 212.

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

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

Senator Dimitri announces that Credit Union Day will meet at the rise in the Bell Area.

### **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Upon suggestion of Senator Tikoian and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President, welcomes to the Chamber Brennan O' Connor, Senior at North Providence High School.

**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.

**NEW BUSINESS****Senate Bill No. 1070**

(General Treasurer)

**BY** Ciccone, DiPalma

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- RHODE ISLAND INFRASTRUCTURE BANK (Authorizes the Rhode Island infrastructure bank to establish a fund to provide financial assistance to local government units for resiliency and stormwater abatement projects.)  
{LC2931/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 1071**

(Dept. of Revenue)

**BY** Burke, Appollonio, Patalano, Thompson, Raptakis

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- NONTRANSPARENT WINDSHIELD AND WINDOWS (Provides penalties for second and subsequent violations of installing and possessing a vehicle with sun screening materials in violation of this section.)  
{LC1760/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 1072**

(Secretary of State)

**BY** LaMountain

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- NOMINATION OF PARTY AND INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES (Makes several amendments to provide for an online nomination paper portal for election nomination papers.)  
{LC2422/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 1073**

**BY** Dimitri, Patalano, Britto, Tikoian, Ciccone, Appollonio, Thompson, Burke, Raptakis, de la Cruz

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- ARREST (Makes it unlawful for a person in the custody of the department of corrections to use any force or weapon to resist a lawful request or directive.)

{LC2902/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Resolution No. 1074**

**BY** Rogers

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF "NATIONAL EMS WEEK" ON MAY 18-24, 2025, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

{LC2578/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion of Senator Tikoian, seconded by Senator Ciccone, the Senate adjourns at 5:19 o'clock P.M.

**HELENA S. REID**  
*Secretary of the Senate*

**Appendix****INVOCATION****SENATOR WALTER S. FELAG, JR.**

Dear Lord, We thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve as public servants for this great state. As the days get longer, and the pressures of our legislative duties compete with our own personal lives, grant us the wisdom and patience to work together for the benefit of all our citizens. Amen.

Appendix

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025:

1. **2025-S 1065**

**BY** Zurier

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 77TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL'S DAY OF INDEPENDENCE ON APRIL 30TH THROUGH MAY 1ST, 2025, AND REAFFIRMING THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN RHODE ISLAND, THE UNITED STATES, AND THE STATE OF ISRAEL

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

2. **2025-S 1074**

**BY** Rogers

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF "NATIONAL EMS WEEK" ON MAY 18-24, 2025, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.



Appendix  
CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025:

1. *The Reappointment of Kimberly R. Ahern to the Rhode Island Cannabis Control Commission for a term expiring May 17, 2031.*

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

2. **2025-S 468**  
**BY** DiPalma  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- PRESCRIPTION  
DRUG COST PROTECTION

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

3. **2025-S 23**  
**BY** Zurier  
**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE  
COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
POTENTIAL CHANGES IN LEGISLATION/OVERSIGHT OF THE ACT ON  
CLIMATE

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends passage.

4. **2025-S 269**  
**BY** Murray  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PREVENTION  
AND SUPPRESSION OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES -- HIV/AIDS

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

5. **2025-S 495 SUB A**  
**BY** Gu  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --  
THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

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

6.     **2025-S 828**  
       **BY** Ciccone  
       **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RELIEF OF  
       INJURED AND DECEASED FIRE FIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS

Committee on Labor & Gaming recommends passage.

7.     **2025-S 959 SUB A**  
       **BY** Ciccone  
       **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS --  
       WORKPLACE PSYCHOLOGICAL SAFETY ACT

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

8.     **2025-S 313 SUB A**  
       **BY** LaMountain  
       **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS --  
       PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends indefinite  
postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

9.     **2025-S 364**  
       **BY** Bell  
       **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL  
       LICENSES

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

10.    **2025-S 989**  
       **BY** Euer  
       **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL  
       LICENSES

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.