

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 Sixth day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty Six.

Volume 153, No. 21

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

Twenty-First Legislative Day

CALL TO ORDER

The Senate meets pursuant to recess and is called to order by The Honorable Valarie J. Lawson, President of the Senate, at 4:23 o'clock P.M.

ROLL CALL

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 37 Senators present and 1 Senator absent as follows:

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

ABSENT – 1: Senator Valverde.

INVOCATION

The Honorable President, by unanimous consent, presents the Reverend Father Philip Zymaris from the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church in Pawtucket to deliver the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

The Senate Journal of the Twentieth Day of the 2026 proceedings is read in part.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Honorable President of the Senate presents the following communications:

<p>SENATOR BRIDGET VALVERDE District 35</p> <hr/> <p>Room 122 Rhode Island State House Providence, Rhode Island 02903</p> <p>OFFICE: 401-276-5561 sen-valverde@rilegislature.gov</p>	<p>State of Rhode Island</p>  <p>Senate Chamber</p>	<p>Committee on Health & Human Services</p> <hr/> <p>Committee on Education</p>
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March 31, 2026

The Honorable Valarie Lawson
President of the Senate
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street, 3rd Floor, Room 316
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Madam President:

Please be advised and let the record reflect that I will be absent from the Chamber Tuesday, March 31, 2026.

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

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Bridget Valverde
Senator District #35

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

March 5, 2026

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions Rhode Island General Laws § 42-75-3, I have made the following reappointment to the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts:

David Kim

For a term expiring March 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 Education.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

March 5, 2026

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions Rhode Island General Laws § 42-75-3, I have made the following reappointment to the Rhode Island State Council of the Arts :

Amy Leidtke

For a term expiring March 1, 2029.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "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 Education.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

March 5, 2026

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions Rhode Island General Laws § 42-75-3, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts:

Kara Kunst
Vice
Suzanne Augenstein

For a term expiring March 1, 2029.

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 Education.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE

March 5, 2026

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions Rhode Island General Laws § 42-75-3, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island State Arts Council:

Maggie Anderson
Vice
Marisa Angell Brown

For a term expiring March 1, 2029.

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 Education.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

March 5, 2026

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions Rhode Island General Laws § 42-75-3, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island State Council of the Arts.:

Michael Rose
Vice
Dominique Alfandre

For a term expiring March 1, 2029.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Daniel J. McKee'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

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 Education.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

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

The Appointment of Associate Justice Joseph A. Montalbano VICE Presiding Justice Alice B. Gibney as Presiding Justice of the Rhode Island Superior Court

Placed on the Calendar.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**Senate Resolution No. 3172**

BY Ujifusa

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 172ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN TREATY OF PEACE AND AMITY
{LC5871/1}

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 The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Raptakis, Quezada, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

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 Consul General Seiichiro Takahashi, Honorary Consul Steve Aveson, Consul Keisuke Kawamura, Consul Chieko Yoshida, and Vice Consul Hideo Takahashi.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**Senate Resolution No. 3175****BY** Raptakis**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING MARCH 25, 2026, AS THE 205TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY AND CELEBRATING DEMOCRACY IN GREECE AND THE UNITED STATES
{LC3470/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Raptakis requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

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

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senators Raptakis, Tikoian, Gallo, Urso, Dimitri, Patalano, Euer and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President, welcomes to the Chamber Consul General of Greece Boston Symeon Tegos , Yanna Darillis, George Psipsikas (Yanna's Husband), Commander George Kapnisis, Hellenic Navy, Ahepa President George Conklin, Konstantino Conklin, Trikoulis Family, From the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church: Father Nicholas Lanzourakis, Father Andrew George, Cranston Teacher Koula Rougas, Dr. Savas Rougas, Kyriaki and Icholas Rougas, Grandchildren of Koula Rougas, Annunciation Church Language School Teacher Ioanna Chrysanthopoulos, Symeon Tegan, Consul General. Charles Holder, Newport Mayor, Dr. Donna Raptakis, Senator Raptakis' Wife, Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, Parish Council President Paul Kallis, Dr. Fotini Dionisopoulos, Joan Milas, From Assumption Greek Orthodox Church: Father Philp Zymaris, Andrea Vastis, Principal Panayiota Vastis, Pawtucket Teacher Sophia Augoustakis, Pawtucket Teacher Stavroula Papavasileiou, Patrolman Charles Psilopoulos, Providence Police Officer Trent Hastings, Brown University Interim Vice President for Public Safety and Chief of Police, Hugh Clements.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER*Doctor Yanna Darilis, MS, ND, Ph.D. addresses the senate chamber.*

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**Senate Resolution No. 3173****BY** Paolino**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE COURAGE, HEROISM, AND COMPASSION OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO RENDERED AID DURING THE LYNCH ARENA SHOOTING IN PAWTUCKET
{LC6264/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Paolino requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Paolino moves passage, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senators Paolino, de la Cruz, Famiglietti, Tikoian, McKenney, and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President, welcomes to the Chamber Marcelle Boyes, Jaxon Boyes, Head Coach of the Blackstone Valley Schools Hockey Team Chris Librizzi, Juliann Riley, and Mayor of North Providence, Charles A. Lombardi.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**Senate Resolution No. 3174****BY** de la Cruz, Famiglietti**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE BLACKSTONE VALLEY SCHOOLS (BVS) BOYS CO-OP TEAM ON WINNING THE RHODE ISLAND DIVISION II HIGH SCHOOL STATE HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP
{LC6228/1}

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 The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senators de la Cruz, Famiglietti, and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President, welcomes to the chamber the Blackstone Valley Schools Boys Co-Op Ice Hockey Team and 2026 Rhode Island Division II Boys Ice Hockey Tournament Champions: Nick Rivard, Michael Mon, Drew Silva, Jaxon Boyes, Nick Bianchi, Preston Manning, Tommy Decataldo, Thomas Fournier, Brody Laliberte, Avery Hueston, Martin Yopopulus, Caden Rudek, Jameson Cordeiro, Alex Gosselin, Benjamin Brooks, Chloe Corey, Joey Palmer, Tyler Amore, Jason Scott, Logan Lang, Matt Palmer, Team Captains Jacob Faria, Cam Governo, Declan St. Vincent, Alex Pickering, and Colin Dorgan. Coaching Staff; Chris Librizzi, Chris Lambert, Nick Gustafson, Michael Cienava, and Seth Wowk.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Bill No. 3176**

(by request)

BY Zurier

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- CROOK POINT BRIDGE AUTHORITY ACT (Creates the Crook Point Bridge Authority for the purpose of maintain the Crook Point Bascule Bridge and any property related thereto.)
{LC4023/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Appendix**CONSENT CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026:****1. 2026-S 3171****BY** Euer

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF CHARLES J. LARANJO

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

2. 2026-H 7005**BY** Boylan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage in concurrence.

3. 2026-H 7045**BY** Donovan

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

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage in concurrence.

4. 2026-H 7047**BY** McGaw

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

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage in concurrence.

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

NAYS – 0:

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026:

1. *The Appointment of Stefan Pryor VICE Elizabeth M. Tanner, Esq. as Secretary of Commerce*

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

Senator Gallo moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, and Zurier.

Senators Bell and Mack discuss the advice and consent.

The advice and consent of the Senate is given, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 28 members voting in the affirmative, and 7 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 28: The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Appollonio, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Patalano, Quezada, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

NAYS – 7: Senators Bell, de la Cruz, Euer, Morgan, Paolino, Pearson, and Rogers.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senators LaMountain, Britto and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President, welcomes to the chamber Leslie Lloyd Ocean, Julietta Georgakis, Jiselle Mahoney, Susanne Augenstein, and Stefan Pryor.

2. *The Appointment of David E. Barrett VICE Robert Weygand to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2029.*

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

Senator Gallo moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Patalano, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

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

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

NAYS – 0:

3. *The Reappointment of Leonard L. Lopes to the Narragansett Bay Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2029.*

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

Senator Gallo moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

The advice and consent of the Senate is given, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 35 members voting in the affirmative, and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS – 1: Senator Bell.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Sosnowski and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President, welcomes to the chamber Leonard L. Lopes.

4. 2026-S 2253**BY Britto****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS**

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, 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 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS – 0:

5. 2026-S 2576**BY Felag****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES**

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Patalano, Pearson, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, and Zurier.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 36 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS – 0:

6. 2026-S 2577**BY** Ujifusa**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Urso, and Zurier.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 36 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS – 0:**7. 2026-S 2141****BY** Zurier**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- FEES

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Rogers, Sosnowski, 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 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS – 0:

- 8. 2026-S 2142**
BY LaMountain
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --
EMINENT DOMAIN

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Patalano, Pearson, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 32 members voting in the affirmative and 4 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 32: The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

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

- 9. 2026-S 2145**
BY LaMountain
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- COMMERCIAL
SEXUAL ACTIVITY

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, and Zurier.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 34 members voting in the affirmative and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS – 1: Senator Acosta.

10. 2026-S 2147 SUB A**BY** Burke**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARY ELECTIONS

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

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, LaMountain, McKenney, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Vargas, and Zurier.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed and the original bill indefinitely postponed, by unanimous consent, in concurrence, upon a roll call vote, with 34 members voting in the affirmative and 2 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS – 2: Senators Morgan, and Paolino.

11. 2026-S 2148 SUB A**BY** Gu**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES

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

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, LaMountain, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Vargas, and Zurier.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed and the original bill indefinitely postponed, by unanimous consent, in concurrence, upon a roll call vote, with 36 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS – 0:

12. 2026-S 2149**BY** McKenney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS--WARWICK MUNICIPAL COURT

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, LaMountain, McKenney, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, 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 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS – 0:

13. 2026-S 2160**BY** LaMountain**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- RHODE ISLAND NONCOMPETITION AGREEMENT ACT

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Lauria, McKenney, Murray, Patalano, Pearson, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 32 members voting in the affirmative and 4 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 32: The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

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

14. 2026-S 2281**BY** Patalano**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, LaMountain, Lauria, McKenney, Patalano, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 35 members voting in the affirmative and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS – 1: Senator Morgan.

15. 2026-S 2401 SUB A**BY** Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS

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

Senator Gallo moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, LaMountain, Murray, Pearson, Quezada, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

Senator Gallo, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, LaMountain, Murray, Pearson, Quezada, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier offers the following written motion to amend:

FLOOR AMENDMENT

TO

2026 -- S 2401 SUBSTITUTE A

AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS

Madam President:

I hereby move to amend 2026 -- S 2401 SUBSTITUTE A, entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS", as follows:

- 1. On page 2, line 8, by deleting the language "court" and by inserting in place thereof the language "division".

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Gallo

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 LC004296/2
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The motion to amend prevails upon a roll call vote with 35 Senators voting in the affirmative, 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS – 0:

Senator Gallo moves passage of the act, as amended, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Vargas, and Zurier.

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

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

NAYS – 0:

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Gallo and by unanimous consent, the Honorable Senate President, welcomes to the chamber from the City of Cranston Councilman Andy M. Andujar - Ward 3.

16. 2026-S 3036 SUB A

BY Bissaillon

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE --
EXPUNGEMENT OF CRIMINAL RECORDS

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

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, Dimitri, DiPalma, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Quezada, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

The bill marked Substitute “A” is read and passed and the original bill indefinitely postponed, by unanimous consent, in concurrence, upon a roll call vote, with 34 members voting in the affirmative and 2 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS – 2: Senators Morgan, and Patalano.

17. 2026-S 2650**BY** Ciccone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COUNCIL ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

Committee on Education recommends passage.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Dimitri, DiPalma, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 32 members voting in the affirmative and 4 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 32: The Honorable President Valarie J. Lawson, Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Famiglietti, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Vargas, and Zurier.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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

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 DiMario announces that the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government will meet at the Rise of the Senate in Room 212.

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.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Senator Tikoian, seconded by Senator Ciccone, and upon suggestion of Senator Burke the Senate adjourns at 6:04 o'clock P.M.

HELENA S. REID
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix**INVOCATION****REVEREND FATHER PHILIP ZYMARIS**

O Lord Almighty, we raise our heart, mind & soul to you in prayer as we commemorate the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary along with the observance of the War of Independence for the nation of Greece in the modern era, (1821, inaugurated on March 25), which has become in our current days a celebration of Greek and American Democracy.

We adore you as our Creator on this day as you entered the womb of your blessed mother, setting in motion the beginning of our salvation and our freedom from enslavement to sin.

We offer thanksgiving prayers as well for the regeneration and liberation of the nation of Greece from its political enslavement which re-established democratic principles in the mother-land of Democracy.

Show us all to be worthy of this freedom, strengthen us in safe-guarding it and preserve us in peace and harmony.

Furthermore we pray today for the elected officials of the State of RI and Providence Plantations and the members of this chamber. Protect, guide and guard each of them and their families, bless them with good health and sound minds, that they may lead us in the right direction as they serve and minister to its citizens.

For you are the source of life, our protector and savior and to you we ascribe glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Appendix**CONSENT CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026:****1. 2026-H 7005****BY** Boylan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage in concurrence.

2. 2026-H 7045**BY** Donovan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage in concurrence.

3. 2026-H 7047**BY** McGaw**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 THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026:

1. *The Appointment of Associate Justice Joseph A. Montalbano VICE Presiding Justice Alice B. Gibney as Presiding Justice of the Rhode Island Superior Court.*

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

2. **2026-S 2385**
BY Bissaillon
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE -- PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

3. **2026-S 2462**
BY Ujifusa
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.