

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Journal of the Senate

JANUARY SESSION of the General Assembly begun and held at the State House in the City of Providence on Tuesday, the second day of January in the year of Our Lord two thousand and one.

Volume 128, No. 3 Thursday, January 4, 2001 Third Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, Charles J. Fogarty, at 4:02 o'clock P.M.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 48 Senators present and 2 Senators absent as follows:

PRESENT - 48: Senators Algieri, Alves, Badeau, Bates, Blais, Breene, Caprio, Celona, Cicilline, Coderre, Connors, Cote, Damiani, DaPonte, Donelan, Enos, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Garabedian, Gibbs, Goodwin, Hunter, Igliozi, Irons, Issa, Izzo, Kells, Kelly, Lenihan, McBurney, McDonald, Montalbano, Paiva Weed, Parella, Perry, Polisena, Raptakis, Revens, Roberts, Roney, Ruggerio, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Tassoni, Walaska, Walsh, Walton.

ABSENT - 2; Senators Graziano, McCaffrey.

INVOCATION

His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, by unanimous consent, presents Senator Hunter, to deliver the invocation.

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, by unanimous consent, presents Senator Hunter, to lead the Senate in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF RECORD

The Senate Journal of Wednesday, January 3, 2001 proceedings is read in part.

Upon suggestion of Senate Majority Leader Irons and by unanimous consent, further reading of the Journal is dispensed with and the Journal approved as recorded.

GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senate Majority Leader Irons and Senators Coderre, Alves, DaPonte, Algieri, Blais, Sosnowski, Kelly, McDonald and Gibbs, and by unanimous consent, His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, welcomes to the Chamber Jeanne Moore, who is retiring as Vice President of Governmental Affairs at the University of Rhode Island, and Andrea Hopkins.

Upon suggestion of Senate Majority Leader Irons, and by unanimous consent, His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, welcomes to the Chamber Mary Messier of Pawtucket and her son, Seth, who will be serving as a Senate page this year.

COMMUNICATION

His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, presents the following communication:

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
SENATE CHAMBER

January 4, 2001

His Honor, Charles J. Fogarty

Lieutenant Governor Room 114, State House
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Lt. Governor Fogarty;

Pursuant to the Rules adopted at the Democratic Caucus on November 9, 2000, I am making the following appointments to the Majority Leadership for the 2001-2002 Legislative Session:

Thomas R. Coderre
Senate Majority Whip

Robert T. Kells
Deputy Majority Whip

Dominick J. Ruggerio
Senior Deputy Majority Leader

J. Michael Lenihan
Senior Deputy Majority Leader

Michael J. Damiani
Deputy Majority Leader

Joseph M. Polisena
Deputy Majority Leader

John M. Roney
Deputy Majority Leader

V. Susan Sosnowski
Deputy Majority Leader

Donna Walsh
Deputy Majority Leader

Charles D. Walton

Deputy Majority Leader

Sincerely,

WILLIAM V. IRONS

Senate Majority Leader

Received and ordered to be placed on file.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
SENATE CHAMBER

January 4, 2001

His Honor, Charles J. Fogarty Lieutenant Governor Room 114, State House
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Lt. Governor Fogarty;

Pursuant to Section 5.2 of the Senate Rules, I am making the following appointments to the Senate Standing Committees:

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Joseph A. Montalbano, Chairperson
Michael J. McCaffrey, Vice Chairperson
Robert T. Kells, Secretary
James M. Donelan
Catherine E. Graziano
David V. Iglizzi
J. Michael Lenihan
John F. McBurney, III
Patrick T. McDonald
Rhoda E. Perry
Joseph M. Polisena
John C. Revens, Jr.
John M. Roney
Donna Walsh
Charles D. Walton
Mary A. Parella (R)

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Frank T. Caprio, Chairperson
Stephen D. Alves, Vice Chairperson
Walter S. Felag, Jr., Secretary
Aram G. Garabedian
Deputy Chairperson for
Human Resources and Transportation
Daniel J. Issa
Deputy Chairperson for
General Government and Education
M. Teresa Paiva Weed
Deputy Chairperson for
Public Safety and Environment
Roger R. Badeau
J. Clement Cicilline
Daniel P. Connors
William Enos
Maryellen Goodwin
Thomas J. Izzo
Leonidas P. Raptakis
Dominick J. Ruggerio
Leo R.Blais(R)
June N. Gibbs (R)

SENATE CORPORATIONS COMMITTEE

John A. Celona, Chairperson
William A. Walaska, Vice Chairperson
Michael J. Damiani, Secretary
Marc A. Cote
Deputy Chairperson for
Manufacturing Issues
Elizabeth H. Roberts
Deputy Chairperson for Health Issues
Thomas R. Coderre
Daniel DaPonte
Paul W. Fogarty
Hanna M. Gallo
Brian M. Hunter
Paul S. Kelly
James C. Sheehan
V. Susan Sosnowski
John J. Tassoni, Jr.
David E. Bates (R)
Kevin A. Breene (R)

SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

Catherine E. Graziano, Chairperson

Elizabeth H. Roberts, Vice Chairperson
Donna Walsh, Secretary
Frank T. Caprio
John A. Celona
J. Clement Cicilline
Aram G. Garabedian
Thomas J. Izzo
Robert T. Kells
Joseph A. Montalbano
Rhoda E. Perry
Joseph M. Polisena
John M. Roney
James C. Sheehan June N. Gibbs (R) Leo R. Blais(R)

SENATE SPECIAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

Maryellen Goodwin, Chairperson
Daniel J. Issa, Vice Chairperson
Leonidas P. Raptakis, Secretary
Stephen D. Alves
Thomas R. Coderre
Daniel P. Connors
Walter S. Felag, Jr.
Hanna M. Gallo
Paul S. Kelly
J. Michael Lenihan
Michael J. McCaffrey
Patrick T. McDonald
William A. Walaska
Charles D. Walton
David E. Bates (R)
Mary A. Parella (R)

SENATE LABOR COMMITTEE

Roger R. Badeau, Chairperson
Dominick J. Ruggerio, Vice Chairperson
V. Susan SosnowsKi, Secretary
Marc A. Cote
Michael J. Damiani
Daniel DaPonte
James M. Donelan
William Enos
Paul W. Fogarty
Brian M. Hunter
David V. Iglioizzi
John F. McBurney, III
M. Teresa Paiva Weed
John C. Revens, Jr.
John J. Tassoni, Jr.
Kevin A. Breene (R)

Sincerely,

WILLIAM V. IRONS
Senate Majority Leader

Received and ordered to be placed on file.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
SENATE CHAMBER

His Honor, Charles J. Fogarty

January 4, 2001

Lieutenant Governor
Rhode Island Senate Chamber StateHouse
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Lt. Governor Fogarty:

Please be advised that I will be absent from the Senate session on Tuesday, January 9, 2001 as I will be out of state on Senate business.

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

Thank you.

Sincerely,

ELIZABETH H. ROBERTS
Senator, District 11

Received and ordered to be placed on file.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR

His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, 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 AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, PROVIDENCE

Lincoln Almond
Governor

January 4,2001

To the Honorable, the Senate:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Article 10, Section 4 of the Rhode Island Constitution entitled Judicial Selection, I have made the following appointment as Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court:

Frank J. Williams of Richmond
VICE
Chief Justice Joseph R. Weisberger

To this appointment, I request your advice and consent.

Sincerely,

LINCOLN ALMOND
Governor

Read and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, PROVIDENCE

Lincoln Almond
Governor

January 3, 2001

To the Honorable, the Senate;

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Article 10, Section 4 of the Rhode Island Constitution entitled Judicial Selection, I have made the following appointment as Associate Justice of the Rhode Island Superior Court:

Edwin J. Gale of Wakefield
VICE
Associate Justice Thomas H. Needham

To this appointment, I request your advice and consent.

Sincerely,

LINCOLN ALMOND
Governor

Read and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

FROM THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

(01-H 5010) An Act relating to state affairs and government.

Read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

(01-H 5006) Joint Resolution inviting His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Honorable Senate to join the House of Representatives in Grand Committee for the purpose of electing a Secretary of State.

Senate Majority Leader Irons requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Upon motion of Senate Majority Leader Irons, seconded by Senator Coderre, and by unanimous consent, read and passed, in concurrence, under suspension of the rules, upon a voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Senators Enos, Cicilline and McDonald present (01-S 12) An Act relating to sexual assault.

Read and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senator Blais presents (01-S 13) An Act relating to school and municipal playground safety.

Read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senators Walsh and Sosnowski present (01-S 14) An Act relating to education - establishment of regional school districts.

Read and referred to the Committee on Corporations.

Senator Blais presents (01-S 15) An Act relating to notaries public and justices of the peace.

Read and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

TRANSMITTAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Senate Majority Leader Irons, seconded by Senator Algieri, the Senate adjourns at 4:14 o'clock P.M.

RAYMOND T. HOYAS, JR. Secretary of the Senate

Appendix

INVOCATION

SENATOR BRIAN M. HUNTER

Lord, grant to those in this chamber reverent spirits, devout hearts, and wise minds so that we may enact and execute those measures which will strengthen our State and benefit our people. Amen.

As always, your [comments](#) concerning this page are welcomed and appreciated.

Thank you for stopping by!