

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 seven.

Volume 134, No.13

Wednesday, February 7, 2007

Thirteenth Legislative Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable Joseph A. Montalbano, President of the Senate, at 4:18 o'clock P.M.

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 Montalbano and Senators Algieri, Alves, Badeau, Bates, Blais, Breene, Ciccone, Connors, Cote, DaPonte, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gibbs, Goodwin, Issa, Jabour, Lanzi, Lenihan, Levesque, Maselli, McBurney, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Moura, Paiva Weed, Perry, Pichardo, Raptakis, Revens, Ruggerio, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Tassoni, Walaska.

ABSENT – 1: Senators Doyle.

INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

The Senate Journal of the Twelfth Legislative Day of the 2007 proceedings is read in part.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Senator Alves, from the Committee on Finance, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measure:

Senate Bill No. 9

BY Senators Paiva-Weed, Jabour, Alves, Goodwin, Perry

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION (codify the present policy of the division of taxation that in determining the domicile of a taxpayer, charitable contributions to Rhode Island organizations shall not be considered)

Read and ordered to be placed on the Calendar.

FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

House Bill No. 5143 SUB A

BY Senators Costantino, Crowley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION (technical changes)

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Resolution No. 224**

BY Senator Bates

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES AND AMENDING THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE CURRENT STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF LIBRARY SERVICES IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC1350/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Constitutional and Regulatory Issues

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 225

BY Senators Raptakis, Breene, Sheehan, Issa, Lenihan

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE AFFECTS OF UNFUNDED MANDATES ON THE EDUCATION AND FINANCES OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC1198/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Constitutional and Regulatory Issues

Also:

Senate Bill No. 226 (Business Regulation)

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - UNFAIR CLAIMS SETTLEMENT PRACTICES ACT (prohibit insurers from obtaining an estimate on agreed prices from unlicensed automobile repair shops) {LC1126/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Constitutional and Regulatory Issues

Also:

Senate Bill No. 227 (Business Regulation)

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SPORTS, RACING, AND ATHLETICS - BOXING AND WRESTLING (safety concerns) {LC1121/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Constitutional and Regulatory Issues

Also:

Senate Bill No. 228

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE (rental car agreement coverage) {LC1124/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 229

BY Senator Connors

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- CHECK CASHING (security measures)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 230

BY Senators Tassoni, Maselli, Doyle, McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- THE USE OF THE NAME OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (protect names of financial institutions) {LC1382/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 231**BY** Senators Miller, Walaska, McCaffrey, Sosnowski, Bates**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RHODE ISLAND ENERGY RESOURCES ACT (adopts goals, standards and procedures) {LC1487/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 232**BY** Senators Maselli, Moura, Issa, Walaska, Doyle**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS (affordable gas for public housing authorities) {LC1383/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 233 (Business Regulation)**BY** Senator Bates**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE (licensing of advisory organizations) {LC1119/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 234 (Business Regulation)**BY** Senator Breene**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- THE RHODE ISLAND LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION ACT (repeal certain sections applicable to insolvencies occurring before January 1, 1996) {LC1125/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 235 (Business Regulation)**BY** Senator Blais**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- AGENTS, BROKERS AND SOLICITORS (clarify the necessity for a surplus line broker to hold an insurance producer license, and would amend the date of filing of the tax certification to allow biennial renewals of surplus line broker licenses) {LC1122/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 236**BY** Senators Doyle, McBurney, Tassoni**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - WARRANTIES (expand the application of the lemon law warranty lease to include fire department motorized apparatus) {LC1291/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 237 (Business Regulation)**BY** Senators Breene**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SPORTS, RACING, AND ATHLETICS (define division of racing and athletics as it relates to the division of commercial licensing and racing and athletics) {LC1120/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 238 (Governor)**BY** Senator Blais**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - ESTABLISHMENT OF CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS (remove the current moratorium prohibiting the Board of Regents from granting final approval for any new charter schools to begin operations in the 2007-2008 school year) {LC1331/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Education

Also:

Senate Bill No. 239**BY** Senators Issa, Cote, Doyle, Badeau**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION (lift the moratorium of granting final approval for charter schools in Providence, Pawtucket, Central Falls and Woonsocket for the 2008-2009 school year) {LC1049/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Education

Also:

Senate Bill No. 240**BY** Senators Gibbs, Bates, Cote, Breene, Lenihan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION (continue the moratorium against granting final approval for new charter schools in school districts with less than 9,000 students enrolled/permit the granting of final approval in school districts with at least 9,000 students enrolled) {LC1029/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Education

Also:

Senate Bill No. 241 (Environmental Management)

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION - REGULATION OF BOATS (require any person on water skis/surfboard/similar device that is being towed behind a vessel/any person operating or onboard a canoe, kayak or vessel less than 14 feet in length/required to wear a life jacket approved by the U.S. Coast Guard) {LC1113/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 242 (Environmental Management)

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- WATER POLLUTION (require that all federally regulated underground storage tanks be inspected at least once in each 36 month period) {LC1114/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 243

BY Senator Gibbs

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - RHODE ISLAND CESSPOOL ACT OF 2007 (Rhode Island Cesspool Act of 2007)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 244

BY Senators Badeau, Cote, Bates, McBurney, Issa

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PROMOTION OF PAPER BAG USE (require that all retail establishments maintain receptacles for the recycling of plastic bags, including the obligation to empty and deliver the bags to a recycling facility) {LC1245/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 245

BY Senators Lenihan, Sheehan

ENTITLED, AN ACT AMENDING CHAPTERS 425 AND 530 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 2006 AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF NORTH KINGSTOWN TO FINANCE RENOVATIONS, ALTERATIONS, ADDITIONS AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS AND/OR RELATED EQUIPMENT

FOR THE WICKFORD MIDDLE AND THE DAVISVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND TO
ISSUE NOT MORE THAN \$20,100,000 BONDS AND NOTES THEREFOR

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 246

BY Senators Walaska, Alves

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (increase the personal needs allowance from fifty dollars to one hundred dollars per month for an inpatient in a nursing facility) {LC1489/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 247

BY Senators Raptakis, Blais, Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- TAX CLASSIFICATION (permit fire districts, as well as cities or towns, to adopt tax classification plans) {LC1214/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 248

BY Senators Raptakis, Sheehan, Cote, Lenihan, Maselli

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- ESTABLISHING AN OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL (establish the office of inspector general as an independent administrative agency charged with the purpose of preventing and detecting fraud, waste and abuse, and mismanagement in the expenditure of public funds) {LC1213/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 249

BY Senator Felag

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE - VETERANS - EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS (make all resident veterans eligible for free attendance at any public school of higher education on a space available basis) {LC1281/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 250 (Transportation)**BY** Senator Blais**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- STATE PURCHASES {LC1094/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 251**BY** Senator Levesque C**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES (pharmacies provide a list of 20 prescribed health maintenance drugs in electronic format to the department of health with current selling prices)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Also:

Senate Bill No. 252**BY** Senators Doyle, McBurney, Tassoni**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LICENSING OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES (repeal the section of law where the director of the Rhode Island state department of health has to establish a minimum level of uncompensated care on an annual basis to be provided by licensed home nursing care providers) {LC1365/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Also:

Senate Bill No. 253**BY** Senators Perry, Goodwin, Connors, Levesque C, Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - LONG-TERM CARE SERVICE AND FINANCE REFORM (authorize the dept. of human services to use "presumptive eligibility" screening to avoid unnecessary institutionalization of persons during the full established determination process for Medicaid community based care) {LC1370/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Also:

Senate Bill No. 254**BY** Senators Gallo, Fogarty P**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS (would require HMOs to reimburse providers for services rendered during the period of conditional credentials) {LC1395/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Also:

Senate Bill No. 255

BY Senators Miller, Perry, Pichardo, Metts, Levesque C

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR DEPENDENTS (provide that health care coverage terminating for a dependent at a specified age would give the insured the opportunity to continue the coverage) {LC1372/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Also:

Senate Bill No. 256

BY Senators Perry, Miller, Pichardo, Metts, Levesque C

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE (amend the definition of "unprofessional conduct" relative to the treatment of a beneficiary of health insurance relative to the Medicare Act and the charges resulting from said treatment) {LC1385/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Also:

Senate Bill No. 257

BY Senators Jabour, Doyle, Alves, Goodwin, McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PUBLIC HEALTH AND WORKPLACE SAFETY ACT (reduce the percentage of annual revenue by tobacco sales in the definition of a smoking bar from 50% to 30%) {LC1532/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Also:

Senate Bill No. 258

BY Senators Tassoni, Walaska, Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING (extend the expiration date of the Housing Act of 2004 Implementation Oversight Commission to March 31, 2009) {LC1336/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government

Also:

Senate Bill No. 259

BY Senators Tassoni, Maselli, Doyle, McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government

Also:

Senate Bill No. 260

BY Senator Levesque C

ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH TO ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND/OR NOTES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$3,000,000 TO FINANCE THE ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION OF A WIND TURBINE AT PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL AND/OR A WIND TURBINE AT PORTSMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government

Also:

Senate Bill No. 261

BY Senators Fogarty P, Gallo, Connors

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT (make changes to the laws relating to the Pascoag Utility District) {LC1181/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government

Also:

Senate Bill No. 262 (Transportation)

BY Senator Algieri

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - OPERATION OF BICYCLES (require any person transporting a child 6 years of age or younger with a bicycle to transport such child in a rear-mounted bicycle carrier and/or trailer that has met the standards of the American Society for Testing and Materials) {LC1102/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government

Also:

Senate Bill No. 263 (Transportation)

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - EXCISE ON MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAILERS (replace the director of the department of transportation or his/her designee from the vehicle value commission with the director of revenue or his/her designee) {LC1329/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government

Also:

Senate Bill No. 264

BY Senators Gibbs, Bates, Lenihan, Blais, Cote

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES (define a neighborhood electric vehicle and set out the standards by which such vehicles may operate in the state of Rhode Island) {LC1166/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government

Also:

Senate Bill No. 265

BY Senators Sheehan, Lenihan

ENTITLED, AN ACT CONCERNING TAX RELIEF FOR THE ELDERLY CITIZENS OF NORTH KINGSTOWN

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government

Also:

Senate Bill No. 266

BY Senator Levesque C

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES (permit an accessory family dwelling within a single family residence for the sole use of one or more members of the family of the occupant who is a person with a disability or is over the age of sixty-five (65) 3)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government

Also:

Senate Bill No. 267 (State Police)

BY Senators Gibbs, Algiere, Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS (give the Traffic Tribunal jurisdiction over the penalty for the nonpayment of a toll and make the penalty a traffic violation) {LC1104/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 268

BY Senators Maselli, McCaffrey, Tassoni, Moura, Cote

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RECORDING OF INSTRUMENT (require the city or town clerk or recorder of deeds to record, file and maintain copies of documents received pursuant to the provisions of section 34-13-6) {LC1381/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 269

BY Senators Walaska, McCaffrey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- DNA DETECTION OF SEXUAL AND VIOLENT OFFENDERS, AND FELONY ARRESTEES (would add felony arrestees under this chapter to the list of offenders who must submit a DNA sample)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 270 (State Police)

BY Senators Algieri, Bates, Breene, Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES -- RECKLESS DRIVING (make eluding or fleeing from traffic officers or police vehicles a felony) {LC1092/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 271

BY Senators Maselli, Cote, Raptakis, Felag

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION RELIEF ACT (prohibit the employment of, or harboring of illegal aliens) {LC1285/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 272 (Governor)

BY Senators Gibbs, Blais, Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (prohibit certain exercises of eminent domain authority for economic development purposes) {LC1093/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 273 (State Police)

BY Senator Algieri

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- LIGHTING EQUIPMENT AND REFLECTORS (impose a five hundred dollars (\$500) fine for operating a vehicle without a size, weight, and load limit permit or exceeding the permitted height or width restrictions) {LC1106/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 274 (Dept. of Corrections)

BY Senator Algieri

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- JAILS AND PRISONS (make it a felony for a prisoner to possess any portable electronic communication device) {LC1112/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 275 (Governor)

BY Senator Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - ELECTIVE MEETING {LC1499/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 276 (State Police)

BY Senator Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- LIE DETECTOR TESTS AS CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT (allow lie detector tests to be administered by law enforcement agencies to persons applying for employment as a law enforcement officer) {LC1096/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 277 (State Police)

BY Senator Algieri

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- EMERGENCY VEHICLES (require vehicles to maintain reduced speed when authorized emergency vehicles are displaying flashing lights) {LC1108/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 278 (Dept. of Corrections)

BY Senator Algieri

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - JAILS AND PRISONS (make it a criminal offense for any person to pass to any prisoner of the Adult Correctional Institution any article that has not been approved by the director of corrections {LC1111/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 279 (Dept. of Administration)

BY Senator Bates

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES - REGULATION OF SALES (modify the penalties for underage persons who transport alcoholic beverages in a motor vehicle) {LC1101/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 280

BY Senators Gibbs, Perry, Miller, Pichardo, Sosnowski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- PARENTAL AND FAMILY LEAVE -- DOMESTIC PARTNERS (provide domestic partner's and related others with the benefits of the parental and family medical leave act) {LC1030/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 281

BY Senators Levesque C, Perry, Miller, Connors, Metts

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- GRAND JURIES (require the prosecutor in any grand jury proceeding to notify the grand jury of any exculpatory evidence)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 282 (Corrections)

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS (eliminate the assistant director (adult services), deputy assistant director; and associate director of the Rhode Island Airport Police department from being exempt from license and permit restrictions of weapons) {LC1109/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 283

BY Senators Gibbs, Bates, Cote, Blais, Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES (require every person, before they receive their ballot, to produce either 1 form of identification with their name, address and photograph, or 2 forms of identification that bear the name and address of that person) {LC1400/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 284 (State Police)

BY Senators Algieri, Bates, Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - AGGRESSIVE DRIVING (add laned roadway to the definition of aggressive driving) {LC1110/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 285

BY Senators Perry, Levesque C, Miller, Connors, Metts

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- ARREST (would require the electronic recording of custodial interrogations in their entirety in cases where the potential sentence is one of life imprisonment)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 286

BY Senators Cote, Badeau, Bates, Tassoni, McCaffrey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- ACQUISITION OF LAND (prohibit the state municipalities and related entities from using eminent domain to acquire private property to confer a private benefit on a particular private entity, subject to certain provisions of the general and public laws) {LC1374/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 287

BY Senators Perry, Levesque C, Connors, Metts, Pichardo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- IDENTIFICATION AND APPREHENSION OF CRIMINALS (establish procedures for identification lineups in criminal investigations)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 288

BY Senators Perry, Levesque C, Miller, Connors, Pichardo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - PROVIDING FOR THE PRIVACY OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS (prevent any state or local government agency from denying any right, benefit, or privilege provided by law to an individual who refuses to disclose his or her social security number) {LC1290/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 289**BY** Senator Levesque C**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION FOR THOSE WRONGFULLY CONVICTED (innocent persons convicted of crimes can recover damages against the state)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 290**BY** Senators Doyle, McBurney, Tassoni**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES (increase penalties for sexual assault when victim is elderly)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 291 (Corrections)**BY** Senator Blais**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT (classification of inmates to comport with case law) {LC1105/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 292**BY** Senators Tassoni, McBurney, Doyle**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY (establish the Rhode Island Fire Safety Commission for purposes of appointing the State Fire Marshal) {LC1353/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 293**BY** Senators Gibbs, Bates, Cote, Blais, Breene**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES (submit to the electors a non-binding referendum concerning the removal of master levers and straight party ballot marks) {LC1306/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 294**BY** Senators Gibbs, Bates, Cote, Blais, Breene**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS AND VOTING EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES (allow a candidate to inspect recount ballots) {LC1398/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 295**BY** Senators Connors, Perry**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES (procedures for adoption rules) {LC1396/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 296**BY** Senators Bates, Badeau, Cote, Tassoni, Ruggerio**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - WORKERS' COMPENSATION - GENERAL PROVISIONS (expand the jurisdiction of the workers' compensation act to certain workers who suffer a job-related injury outside the territorial limits of the state of Rhode Island) {LC1430/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 297**BY** Senator Badeau**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - UNDERGROUND UTILITY CONTRACTORS (guidelines for licensing underground utility contractors)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 298**BY** Senators Perry, Metts, Pichardo, Revens, Miller**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 299 (Business Regulation)**BY** Senators Bates, Breene**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - RHODE ISLAND INSURERS' INSOLVENCY FUND (increase the covered claim amount under the RI Insurers' Insolvency Fund from \$300,000 to \$500,000) {LC1504/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 300**BY** Senator Badeau**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW - GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS (eliminate the provision of law permitting the use of a photocopy or other reasonable facsimile of an original sales slip when redeeming a rebate) {LC1583/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 301**BY** Senators Walaska, McCaffrey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY (authorize the board of accountancy to issue and renew permits for certified public accountants and practice units for a 3 year period to coincide with the present 3 year reporting of continuing education and peer review) {LC1340/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 302**BY** Senator Walaska**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- INSURANCE (require when an insurance carrier cancels or terminates a certified policy, notice of cancellation or termination of the insurance so certified would be filed with the division of motor vehicles) {LC1599/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 303**BY** Senators Miller, Perry, Revens, Bates, Moura**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS (require the public utilities commission to establish incentive rates for electricity generated from renewable energy resources) {LC1247/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 304

BY Senators Lenihan, Sheehan, Cote, Breene, Blais

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE (ENFORCEMENT) {LC1348/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Constitutional and Regulatory Issues

Also:

Senate Bill No. 305 (National Guard)

BY Senators Algieri, Tassoni, Pichardo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- DECORATIONS (add an additional period of service to give the adjutant general the authority to award the RI defense service medal for service from September 11, 2001 to a date to be determined) {LC1435/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Constitutional and Regulatory Issues

Also:

Senate Bill No. 306 (Business Regulation)

BY Senator Bates

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SPORTS RACING AND ATHLETICS -- MUTUEL BETTING AND LICENSE FEES (amend the general laws relating to concessioners, vendors, and pari-mutuel totalizator companies/by changing the licensing period from an annual license to a "rolling" three year license/altering the fee schedule) {LC1466/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Constitutional and Regulatory Issues

Also:

Senate Bill No. 307

BY Senators Felag, Tassoni, Badeau, Lanzi, Gallo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- DISABLED VETERANS (extend to veterans who have a "Disabled Veteran" license plate all the rights and privileges of handicapped persons without displaying the disability parking privilege placard) {LC1633/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Constitutional and Regulatory Issues

Also:

Senate Bill No. 308**BY** Senators Felag, Tassoni, Badeau, Lanzi, Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (permit the registrar of motor vehicles to issue veterans' plates to eligible motorcycles) {LC1629/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Constitutional and Regulatory Issues

Also:

Senate Bill No. 309**BY** Senators Ciccone, Ruggerio, Maselli**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- ATHLETIC DIRECTORS (require that all athletic directors hold the position full-time as athletic administrators) {LC1222/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Education

Also:

Senate Bill No. 310**BY** Senator Levesque C**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS (repeal the provisions of the General Laws permitting school committees to seek additional appropriations by bringing an action in the Rhode Island Superior Court)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Education

Also:

Senate Bill No. 311**BY** Senator Lenihan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- MENHADEN MANAGEMENT AREA (prohibit the use of purse seining for the harvesting of menhaden) {LC1357/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 312 (Environmental Management)**BY** Senators Blais, Felag**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- PENALTIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL VIOLATIONS (increase the maximum administrative penalty from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per environmental violation) {LC1506/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 313**BY** Senators Miller, Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE (prohibit the taking, killing, destroying, pursuing or molesting of any wild bird along the west shore of the Providence River from Gaspee Point to Fields Point) {LC1248/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 314**BY** Senators Ciccone, Badeau, Ruggerio**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- OPTIONAL RETIREMENT FOR MEMBERS OF POLICE FORCE AND FIREFIGHTERS (amend the formula for determining a police officer's or firefighter's final compensation for retirement purposes by basing said compensation on the annual compensation earned during the last year of service)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 315**BY** Senator Moura**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - RELIEF OF INJURED AND DECEASED FIRE FIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS (add permanent environmental police officers or criminal investigators of the DEM to the definition of "police officer" to qualify them for receiving benefits under chapter 45-19) {LC1445/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 316**BY** Senators Revens, Bates**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- ESTATE AND TRANSFER TAXES {LC75/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 317**BY** Senators Connors, Goodwin, Maselli**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM -- CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS (amend the language from "registered nurse" to "licensed health care professional" and would increase the permissible part-time pay to \$15,000 per calendar year for retired RI governmental employees) {LC1221/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 318

BY Senators Breene, Blais, Sosnowski, Lenihan, Raptakis

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - PERSONAL INCOME TAX (provide for a state income tax credit of 10% of the cost of the installing of a cistern on one's property located in the state) {LC1423/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 319

BY Senators Felag, Tassoni, Badeau, Lanzi, Gallo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS (create a new Department of Veterans' Affairs to assume control of veterans' affairs in Rhode Island) {LC1632/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 320

BY Senators Miller, Perry, Jabour, Metts, Levesque C

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$150,000 TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES {LC1380/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 321

BY Senators Moura, Metts, Miller, Perry

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- TAX ON GAINS FROM THE SALE OR EXCHANGE OF LAND (create a new tax on gains from the sale or exchange of land as well as establish a very comprehensive framework to calculate and implement its enforcement) {LC1355/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 322

BY Senator Levesque C

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF STATE PROPERTY (establish a system for the public disclosure and management of state properties by the state properties committee, and the secretary of state shall compile and make available all lists for public inspection)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Government Oversight

Also:

Senate Bill No. 323 (Administration)

BY Senators Blais, Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LIBRARIES -- THE RHODE ISLAND INFORMATION RESOURCES MANAGEMENT BOARD (repeal the chapter entitled "The Rhode Island Information Resources Management Board") {LC1441/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Government Oversight

Also:

Senate Bill No. 324 (Business Regulation/OHIC)

BY Senators Bates, Miller, Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- SMALL EMPLOYER HEALTH INSURANCE (allow a small employer health insurance carrier to vary adjusted community rates based upon tobacco usage) {LC1457/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Also:

Senate Bill No. 325

BY Senators Perry, Gallo, Levesque C, Goodwin, Miller

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- COVERAGE FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE (specify that reimbursement for professional providers for mental illness coverage shall be comparable to the amount paid for similar medical services) {LC1389/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Also:

Senate Bill No. 326 (Health)

BY Senator Gibbs

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (permit the department of health to establish annual license renewal dates for assisted living residences and health care facilities through the regulatory process) {LC1432/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Also:

Senate Bill No. 327

BY Senator Revens

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE (provide that every health insurance plan/contract or policy/issued/renewed in this state provide coverage of an unmarried child under the age of 25 years/financially dependent upon parent(s) regardless of such child is a student)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Also:

Senate Bill No. 328

BY Senators Miller, Revens, Levesque C, Goodwin, Gallo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - RIGHTS OF NURSING HOME PATIENTS (extend privacy for visits by domestic partners) {LC1039/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 329 (State Police)

BY Senators Blais, Alves

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS (provide law enforcement officials with the authority to obtain noncontent information from internet service providers pursuant to an administrative subpoena authorized by the superintendent of state police or the attorney general) {LC1452/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 330

BY Senators Lenihan, Sheehan, Cote

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - PROCEDURE GENERALLY GOVERNMENTAL TORT LIABILITY - DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL (require that the RI attorney general provide a legal defense to members of the state boards and commissions when sued for acts performed within the scope of state service) {LC1346/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 331

BY Senators Raptakis, Maselli, Walaska, Blais, Jabour

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSES (felony to operate a motor vehicle when an individual's license to operate is suspended, revoked, or cancelled for operating under the influence of a narcotic drug or intoxicating liquor or refusing to submit to a chemical test) {LC1293/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 332 (Environmental Management)**BY** Senators Blais, Breene, Felag**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT (increase the monetary penalties, both civilly and criminally from \$10,000 to \$25,000, for violations of hazardous waste restrictions) {LC1493/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 333**BY** Senators Raptakis, Maselli, Walaska, Blais, Jabour**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSES (require the license plates of a vehicle be confiscated if the owner was arrested for driving while their license was suspended, revoked or cancelled for refusing to submit to a chemical test) {LC1294/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 334 (Health)**BY** Senators Blais, Gibbs, Breene**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- CAUSES OF ACTION (grant immunity to licensed health care workers who render emergency assistance during a declared health care emergency) {LC1503/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 335**BY** Senator Revens**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLES REPARATIONS ACT (require law enforcement agencies who issue tickets for lack of evidence of financial responsibility to withhold traffic citation to the traffic tribunal for one business day to allow the motorist opportunity to submit evidence of financial responsibility)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 336 (Governor)**BY** Senators Algieri, Breene**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO I-195 REDEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2002 (repeal chapter 37-22 entitled "The I-195 Redevelopment Act of 2002" in its entirety) {LC1500/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 337 (Transportation)

BY Senators Blais, Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY (clarify that any rights of purchase, lease or reversion contained in any statutory condemnation provision of the general laws is subject to the Marketable Record Title Act) {LC1458/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 338 (Human Services)

BY Senators Blais, Gibbs, Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS -- CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT (replace certain references to the dept of administration with references to the dept of human services, office of child support services, in regard to the pursuit of child support payments) {LC1464/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 339

BY Senators Miller, Perry, Levesque C

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ACT -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND ABORTIONS (require general public assistance/medical assistance benefits to be provided/victims of rape or incest, for the performance of abortions)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 340

BY Senators Lenihan, Sheehan, Cote, Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- CAUSES OF ACTION (provide a cause of action for violations of the Rhode Island constitution) {LC1347/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 341

BY Senators Lenihan, Sheehan, Cote, Breene, Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS (amend the access to public records law by expanding these circumstances when an award of attorneys' fees may be made and by mandating that most requests for the search and retrieval of public records be complied within three (3) days of the request) {LC1341/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 342

BY Senator Felag

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- DISTURBANCE OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLY (would make it a misdemeanor to disrupt a military funeral or memorial service) {LC1631/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 343

BY Senator Badeau

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- WORKERS' COMPENSATION -- BENEFITS (provide that a reduction in weekly compensation shall not be delayed for more than ninety (90) days after maximum medical improvement has been found) {LC1579/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 344

BY Senator Badeau

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- WORKERS' COMPENSATION -- PROCEDURE (would provide that no petition would be filed during the pendency of a nonprejudicial memorandum of agreement or up until the notification that payments have terminated) {LC1575/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 345

BY Senator Badeau

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - WORKERS' COMPENSATION -- BENEFITS (require that before an injured worker, receiving weekly total workers' compensation benefits, can receive an annual increase to new dependency benefits allowance, the worker must be totally disabled for at least 52 consecutive weeks) {LC1570/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 346

BY Senators Connors, Goodwin, Maselli

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- ESTABLISHMENT OF CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS (provide recognition of an employee organization designated by the authorization

cards of sixty percent (60%) of its employees as the exclusive representative in the 2 unit for collective bargaining purposes) {LC1360/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 347

BY Senator Badeau

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - WORKERS' COMPENSATION -- BENEFITS (provide that, with respect to workers' compensation benefits, neither party filing a petition to show a recurrence or decrease of incapacity be required to document a comparative change of condition) {LC1573/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 348 (Governor)

BY Senator Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - LABOR RELATIONS ACT (prohibit any collective bargaining agreement for teachers, state, city and town employees from including a choice for health care services provider as an item eligible for bargaining) {LC1425/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 349

BY Senator Moura

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES (repeal the sections of the general laws requiring Rhode Island residency for appointments to a noncompetitive branch and/or tenure in classified positions)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 350

BY Senator Badeau

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - WORKERS' COMPENSATION - BENEFITS (expand the obligation of a receiving workers' compensation to report earnings of all types) {LC1571/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 351**BY** Senator Badeau**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- WORKERS' COMPENSATION -- PROCEDURE (provide an employer or insurer with notice and opportunity to accept a workers' compensation claim) {LC1572/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 352**BY** Senators Cote, Maselli, Blais, Badeau, Raptakis**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS (require all nongovernmental employers within the state to apply to participate in the extended federal basic employment verification pilot program and to participate if accepted) {LC1190/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 353**BY** Senator Badeau**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - WORKERS COMPENSATION - BENEFITS (require workers who claim disfigurement to wait one year from the disfiguring event before filing a petition for benefits) {LC1577/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Sosnowski announces that the Committee on Environment and Agriculture will meet today, at the rise of the Senate, in the Senate Lounge of the State House.

Senator Sosnowski announces that the Committee on Government Oversight will meet today, at the rise of the Senate, in the Senate Lounge of the State House.

Senator Paiva Weed announces that the Senate will not meet tomorrow.

EXTENSION OF DEADLINE

Upon suggestion of Senator Paiva Weed, and without objection, the deadline for submitting legislation is extended to Thursday, February 15, 2007.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Senator DaPonte, seconded by Senator Algieri, the Senate adjourns at 4:23 o'clock P.M.

RAYMOND T. HOYAS, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix**INVOCATION****SENATOR PAUL E. MOURA**

Eternal Father, open our hearts and minds for Your divine light upon our daily duties. May we proceed with the courage to make righteous decisions. Amen.

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2007:

1 2007-S 9

BY Paiva-Weed

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION

Committee on Finance recommends passage.