

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.14

Tuesday, February 13, 2007

Fourteenth Legislative Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable Joseph A. Montalbano, President of the Senate, at 4:05 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: Senator Doyle

INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

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

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

GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Goodwin and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Joseph Walsh, former Minister of Agriculture, Dick O'Sullivan, Chairman of Irish Greyhound and Thoroughbred Racing Board, along with Dan Ryan from Pawtucket.

Upon suggestion of Senator Jabour and Perry and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Samuel Zurier of Providence.

FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

House Resolution No. 5335

BY Lewiss, Dennigan, Savage, Slater, Jacquard

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 (The Karla Harry Commission on Libraries in Rhode Island)

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

Also:

House Bill No. 5338

BY Fox, Sullivan, Brien, Kilmartin, Story

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION (establish a special house commission to study issues regarding water use, supply, and distribution in this state)

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

Also:

House Bill No. 5013

BY Shanley, Lally, Walsh, Caprio D

ENTITLED, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN

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

Also:

House Resolution No. 5066

BY Naughton, Kilmartin, Corvese, Petrarca, Shanley

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO PAY CERTAIN CLAIMS

Received and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

House Bill No. 5099 as amended

BY Gallison, McNamara, Kilmartin, Corvese, Lima

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - - HEALTH CARE FACILITIES STAFFING (establish a maximum workday for certain hourly wage employees and provide penalties for violations)

Received and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

House Bill No. 5213

BY Ajello, Handy

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (join Christopher N. Harrison and Carolyn Murray)

Received and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

House Bill No. 5149

BY Lally, Shanley, Caprio D

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (join Kathleen Manning and Philip Shute)

Received and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

House Bill No. 5212

BY Rice

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (join Jae Elizabeth Strommer and Thomas Loring Rowe)

Received and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

House Bill No. 5089

BY Jackson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (join Rachael Aria Omansky and Jonathan Yuhon Chou in marriage)

Received and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

House Bill No. 5128

BY Gablinske, Gallison, Mattiello

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (join Susan Dallaire Masse and James Leo Archy in marriage)

Received and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

House Bill No. 5148

BY Pacheco

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (join RenTe Williams and Jesse Ruprecht)

Received and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

House Bill No. 5075

BY Coderre E, Kilmartin

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (join Adam Freedman and Lucia Couto)

Received and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

House Bill No. 5053

BY Mattiello

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGE (join Elizabeth May McEleney and Michael Newton)

Received and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

House Bill No. 5076

BY Mumford, Gorham, Watson, Loughlin

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (join Jacqueline McLaughlin and David L. Colicci)

Received and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

House Bill No. 5036

BY Long

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF KTB, INC.

Read and ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar

Also:

House Bill No. 5035 as amended

BY Senators Long

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE FOR THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF NEWPORT MASONIC FOUNDATION

Read and ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar

Also:

House Bill No. 5012 SUB A

BY Senators Shanley, Lally, Walsh, Caprio D

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF WAKEFIELD BUILDING & INVESTMENT CORP.

Read and ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar

Also:

House Bill No. 5011

BY Rose, Melo

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF M.T.J., INC.

Read and ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar

COMMUNICATION

The Honorable President presents the following communication:

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
STATE HOUSE**

February 13, 2007

Honorable Joseph A. Montalbano
President of the Senate
318 State House
Providence, RI 02903

Dear President Montalbano:

Please accept this letter as notification that I will be unable to attend Senate Session today, Tuesday, February 13, 2007, due to being away on business.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

James E. Doyle, II
Senator – District 8
Pawtucket

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

APPOINTMENTS

The Honorable President presents the following communication transmitting the following appointment:

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
STATE HOUSE**

January 30, 2007

Honorable Joseph A. Montalbano
President of the Senate
318 State House
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mr. President:

It is my pleasure to inform you that I have appointed the Honorable Leo R. Blais of Coventry, Rhode Island as the Deputy President Pro Tempore – Minority, for the 2007-2008 legislative session.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Algieri
SENATE MINORITY LEADER

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Senator McCaffrey, from the Committee on Judiciary, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

Senate Bill No. 95

BY Senator Algieri

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (allow Reverend Peter Monahan to join Kelly Chapman and Jonathan Davis in marriage)

Read and ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar

Also:

Senate Bill No. 203

BY Senators Felag, Bates

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Richard Huddleston Baker to join Amanda Green and Andrew Helming in ma)

Read and ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Resolution No. 354

BY Senator Sosnowski

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE JOHN S. HERNANDEZ {LC1945/1}

Senator Sosnowski requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Sosnowski moves passage, seconded by the entire Senate.

The resolution is read and passed, upon a rising vote.

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 355

BY Senator Alves

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 5-9, 2007 AS "SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC1529/1}

Senator Alves requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Alves moves passage, seconded by the entire Senate.

The resolution is read and passed, upon a voice vote.

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 356

BY Senators Goodwin, McCaffrey, Jabour, Connors, McBurney

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE OPENING OF THE FAD+ IRISH PUB & RESTAURANT AT LINCOLN GREYHOUND PARK

Senator Goodwin requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Goodwin moves passage, seconded by the entire Senate.

The resolution is read and passed, upon a voice vote.

Also:

Senate Bill No. 357

BY Senator Revens

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY - RENAMING RELOCATED QUAKER LANE (Ginsu Lane)

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 358 (National Guard)

BY Senator Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- NATIONAL GUARD (eliminate the requirement that National Guard chaplains be regularly ordained ministers)

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

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 359

BY Senators Revens, Montalbano J

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE (LEGISLATIVE POWER)

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

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 360

BY Senators Gibbs, Bates, Perry

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION AMENDING THE JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A PERMANENT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON CHILD CARE IN RHODE ISLAND {LC2061/1}

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

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 361**BY** Senators Tassoni, Bates, Jabour, Ciccone, Badeau**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO MAKE A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF THE IMPACT OF MANDATES ON RHODE ISLAND'S SCHOOL DISTRICTS {LC2040/1}

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

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 362**BY** Senators DaPonte, Moura**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A CAP OF \$20,000 ON THE COST OF EDUCATING EACH INDIVIDUAL SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENT AT THE LOCAL LEVEL {LC2063/1}

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

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 363**BY** Senators DaPonte, Moura**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO FULFILL ITS COMMITMENT OF FORTY PERCENT (40%) FEDERAL FUNDING IN ITS REAUTHORIZATION OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (20 U.S.C. 1400 ET SEQ.) {LC2066/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 364**BY** Senator McCaffrey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS - COMMUNITY OBLIGATIONS AND BANKING OFFENSES (require that all regulated institutions would monitor and install security cameras if they provide a deposit box for deposits made after the institutions normal business hours in order to provide security to depositors) {LC1905/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 365 (Business Regulation)**BY** Senator Blais**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE (create the Rhode Island Title Insurers Act for the regulation and supervision of title insurance companies operating in the state) {LC1118/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 366

BY Senator Alves

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- PURCHASE AND SALE OF PRECIOUS METALS (second hand dealers buying or receiving, for the purpose of selling, gold, precious stones and precious metals to first obtain a license/holding period for precious metals would be increased from 7 to 14 days) {LC1607/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 367 (Business Regulation)

BY Senator Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - VOLUNTARY RESTRUCTURING OF SOLVENT INSURERS (definition of commercial run-off insurer to include a Rhode Island domestic insurance company) {LC1496/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 368 (Business Regulation)

BY Senator Bates

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- DOMESTIC INSURANCE CARRIERS (set standards for insurance company boards of directors as well as certain subcommittees of the board) {LC1449/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 369

BY Senator Walaska

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- LICENSED ACTIVITIES (allow the department of business regulations to participate in the Conference of State Bank Supervisors (CSBS) and the American Association of Residential Mortgage Regulators (AARMR) national licensing system) {LC1337/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 370**BY** Senator Walaska**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (amend the law regarding agency relationships in residential real estate transactions) {LC1339/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 371**BY** Senators Pichardo, Walaska, Bates**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO RHODE ISLAND HOME LOAN PROTECTION ACT (limit a borrowers recovery against a purchaser of assignee of a high cost home loan to the amount necessary to extinguish the borrowers liability under the loan plus cost, including reasonable attorneys' fees) {LC2077/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 372 (by request)**BY** Senators Walaska, Sosnowski, Lenihan, Bates, Miller**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL GREENHOUSE GAS INITIATIVE ACT (mandate Rhode Island's implementation of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, an agreement among nine northeast states to limit the emission of greenhouse gases into the environment) {LC2115/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 373**BY** Senator Connors**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY (change the definition of majority in the term of ownership of voting rights from 67% to 51%) {LC2054/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 374**BY** Senators Gibbs, Bates, Blais**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- EXCAVATION NEAR UNDERGROUND UTILITY FACILITIES -- COSTS {LC1468/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 375

BY Senator McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (create the Uniform Multiple Person Accounts Act whereby a party would designate during their lifetime persons to inherit bank accounts) {LC1983/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 376 (Health)

BY Senator Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION - PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES (require cross-connection control devices to be installed on multiple user water systems according to a specific schedule) {LC1460/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 377

BY Senators Tassoni, Jabour, Ciccone, Badeau

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS (require electric transmission and electric distribution companies to conduct periodic equipment inspections. Such companies would also be required to submit a periodic report to the Public Utilities Division regarding the status of such inspections) {LC2074/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 378

BY Senator McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FIDUCIARIES -- POWERS OF FIDUCIARIES -- TRUSTS (allow corporate trustees to terminate any trust valued at less than \$200,000/the current level for termination is \$100,000) {LC1377/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 379**BY** Senator McBurney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FIDUCIARIES -- QUALIFIED DISPOSITIONS IN TRUST (make technical amendments to the qualified dispositions in trust act) {LC1535/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 380**BY** Senator McBurney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- UNFAIR SALES PRACTICES (would prohibit retail stores from issuing coupons with an expiration date less than 30 days from date of issue) {LC1592/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 381**BY** Senators Badeau, McBurney, Cote, Ciccone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY (initiate a low costs loan program for the installation or sprinkler systems in places of assembly) {LC1763/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 382**BY** Senators Badeau, McBurney, Cote, Ciccone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS - UNFAIR SALES PRACTICES (would not limit food and beverage rebates to one per household) {LC1778/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 383**BY** Senators Sheehan, Sosnowski, Goodwin, Walaska, Ruggerio**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW - GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS - CREDIT CARD LENDING (would prohibit credit card lenders from charging interest greater than the prime rate plus 10% or 24% whichever rate is lower) {LC1494/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 384**BY** Senators Miller, Pichardo, Levesque C, Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS (amend the Comprehensive Energy Conservation, Efficiency and Affordability Act with respect to customers eligible for the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) {LC1543/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 385**BY** Senator DaPonte**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- CONSTRUCTION OF PORT FACILITIES (allow the director of the department of environmental management, after consultation with the state properties committee, to renew or extend leases in the port of Galilee) {LC1563/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 386 (Business Regulation)**BY** Senator Blais**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - INSURANCE PRODUCERS - PRODUCER LICENSING ACT (eliminate the requirement that a business entity obtain a separate insurance producers license in addition to the license obtained by the individual insurance producer) {LC1116/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 387 (Business Regulation)**BY** Senator Blais**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE --- CLAIM ADJUSTERS (define "public adjusters" in accordance with the NAIC Model Act, and would allow the insurance commissioner to set the application fees and requirements by regulation) {LC1450/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 388 (Elderly Affairs)**BY** Senator Breene**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY - REVERSE MORTGAGES (create new requirements and guidelines in the application process for mortgagors offering reverse loan mortgages) {LC1497/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 389 (Business Regulation)

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- LIFE INSURANCE (extend a consumers right to examine a policy from 10 to 30 days, and require that life insurance policies contain provisions addressing grace periods, incontestability and suicide) {LC1448/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Corporations

Also:

Senate Bill No. 390

BY Senators Bates, Gibbs, Tassoni

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LIBRARIES - OFFICE OF STATE LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES (create the Library of Rhode Island Network (LORI) where public libraries would share catalogs, databases and services) {LC1928/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Education

Also:

Senate Bill No. 391

BY Senators Moura, DaPonte

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN (give a presumption of validity to a school district in hearings before the dept of elementary and secondary education when a school district determines that a child is no longer a resident of that district for purposes of public education) {LC2064/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Education

Also:

Senate Bill No. 392

BY Senators Gallo, Fogarty P

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION (prohibit the purchase and sale of academic degrees wherein the degree is obtained on the basis of a combination of a payment of a fee and the attainment of academic credit for so-called life experiences, without the applicant undertaking any coursework) {LC1839/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Education

Also:

Senate Bill No. 393

BY Senators Gallo, Connors, Fogarty P, Sosnowski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - ESTABLISHMENT OF CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS (permit any career/technical charter public schools which enroll special education students

from outside the school district with verifiable IEP's to receive from the sending district the average per pupil special education cost of the sending district) {LC1683/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Education

Also:

Senate Bill No. 394

BY Senators Issa, Maselli

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

(provide that the discipline for any public school student who is in possession or use of alcohol, drugs or weapons/posed on a case-by-case basis pursuant to guidelines promulgated by the school committee for that district) {LC1708/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Education

Also:

Senate Bill No. 395

BY Senators Tassoni, Jabour, Ciccone, Badeau

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- FUR-BEARING ANIMALS

(prohibit the use, set, place or maintenance of a steel jawed leghold trap for any fur-bearing animal) {LC1820/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 396 (Environmental Management)

BY Senator Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE - FUR-BEARING ANIMALS (permit the catching of fur bearing animals by the use of foothold-type traps) {LC1490/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 397 (Environmental Management)

BY Senator Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

REMEDIATION AND REUSE (provide civil penalties against any person, firm or business that violates the provisions of this chapter or the rules, regulations and orders issued pursuant thereto) {LC1495/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 398**BY** Senator Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY -- RIGHT TO FARM (narrow the definition of an "agricultural operation," "farm", "farming operation," and "farmer" by narrowing and refining the definitions of those terms) {LC1835/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 399**BY** Senators Sosnowski, Levesque C, Raptakis, Tassoni, Breene**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY -- NOTIFICATIONS TO FARMERS (require the division of agriculture to establish a list by city and town of agricultural operations by March 1 of each year and would provide a copy of said list to each city and town by April 15 of each year) {LC2059/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 400**BY** Senator Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AERONAUTICS -- AIR QUALITY MONITORING ACT (change the date to procure air quality monitors from January 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008) {LC1906/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 401**BY** Senators Alves, Ciccone, McBurney, Levesque C**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- BUSINESS CORPORATION TAX (change the definition of net income for any taxable year for any corporate taxpayer to include any deductions required to be added back to net income) {LC1826/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 402**BY** Senators Maselli, Alves, Walaska**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RHODE ISLAND RESOURCE RECOVERY CORPORATION (require the resource recovery corporation to pay the town of Johnston \$1,000,000 per year, which funds would be deposited in a restricted account within the town's general fund) {LC1283/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 403 (Health)

BY Senator Gibbs

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- CIGARETTE TAX (prohibit persons distributing cigarettes from inducing a person to buy more than one pack or carton of cigarettes) {LC1461/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 404 (Administration)

BY Senator Bates

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- STATE PURCHASES (allow Rhode Island and nonprofit corporations to participate in the master price agreement contracts) {LC1433/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 405

BY Senators McCaffrey, McBurney, Jabour

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO JUDICIAL PENSIONS {LC301/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 406

BY Senators Alves, Ciccone, McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAWS - GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS - UNFAIR SALES PRACTICES (increase the markup of the sale of tobacco products to 12% at retail outlets and 3% at wholesale establishments in order to cover in part the cost of doing business) {LC1760/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 407

BY Senators Alves, McBurney, Maselli

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (permit dentists who provide dental services to medicaid-eligible residents of nursing facilities licensed to receive reimbursement for the services) {LC1816/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 408

BY Senators Alves, Paiva-Weed, McBurney, Goodwin, Maselli

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE NURSE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM (expand the nursing loan repayment program to include forgiveness of the principal of educational loans for registered nurses in RI licensed nursing facilities/addition to interest forgiveness) {LC1814/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 409

BY Senators Alves, Paiva-Weed, Levesque C, Goodwin, McCaffrey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION {LC1909/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 410

BY Senators McBurney, McCaffrey, Jabour

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS - INDIGENT DEFENSE SERVICES AND CIVIL PROCEDURES (transfer the payment of indigent defense services from the court to the department of administration consistent with the doctrine of separation of powers)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 411

BY Senators Levesque C, Sosnowski, Gibbs

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE -- FARMING (expand the definition of agricultural operations to include the production of fiber/also exempt agricultural products used for human consumption from the sales and use taxes) {LC1384/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 412

BY Senators Paiva-Weed, Alves, Cote, Walaska, Goodwin

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (provide for a long-term care insurance tax credit)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 413

BY Senators Gibbs, Bates, Pichardo, Metts, Perry

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT (change the percentages of distribution of taxes relative to regional tourism and development as well as the hotel tax) {LC1422/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 414

BY Senators Gibbs, Blais, Bates, Miller, Connors

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- SALARIES AND TRAVELING EXPENSES (authorize the state controller to adopt provisions allowing state employees the option to exclude employer commuting costs resulting from the use of RIPTA commuting passes) {LC1009/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 415

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

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (provide health insurance coverage to U.S. permanent resident children and parents)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 416

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

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY (require the state to calculate a "self-sufficiency standard" which would be used by state agencies to determine the needs of individual's secondary education, training or employment) {LC1523/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 417

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

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - MEDICAL ASSISTANCE {LC1840/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 418

BY Senator McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- ESTATE AND TRANSFER TAXES (increase the allowable exclusion on decedents estates from \$675,000 to \$1,000,000) {LC1375/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 419

BY Senator DaPonte

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (provide an allowance from the sales tax for the value of pickup trucks which are traded in) {LC1972/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 420

BY Senators Perry, Miller, Pichardo, Sosnowski, Goodwin

ENTITLED, AN ACT HEALTH AND SAFETY -- ESTABLISHING THE RHODE ISLAND TOBACCO CONTROL PROGRAM (create the Rhode Island tobacco control program to be funded by revenue produced by the excise tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products) {LC1473/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 421

BY Senators Badeau, Cote

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM -- CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS (place a cap on all state pensions, not to exceed the current rate and/or percentages provided for by statute, as of July 1, 2007) {LC1764/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 422

BY Senators Badeau, Ciccone

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES (exempt fire fighters and police officers from the seventy-five (75) day rule as it applies to reemployment of retired members of the municipal employee retirement system) {LC1638/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 423

BY Senators Badeau, Ciccone

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES - RETIREMENT SYSTEM - CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS (permit members in the state retirement system who have retired from municipal employment to obtain post-retirement employment with the state without a suspension of retirement benefits) {LC1637/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 424

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

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BUILDING FUND (establish the Community Development Corporation Fund Act of 2007 which would have as its purpose the goal to strengthen the development capacity of eligible nonprofit community development corporations) {LC1659/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 425

BY Senators Pichardo, Metts, Levesque C, Perry

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION (identify those students who are exempt from paying nonresident tuition at public universities, colleges or community colleges) {LC1525/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 426

BY Senators Moura, DaPonte

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION (provide for the reimbursement of extraordinary services to school districts) {LC2070/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 427

BY Senators DaPonte, Moura

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS (allow school committees to seek relief from state directives that are unfunded

and which exceed federal limits and guidelines by bringing an action in the Rhode Island Superior Court) {LC2069/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 428

BY Senators Maselli, Ciccone, Badeau, Raptakis

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - FAMILY INDEPENDENCE ACT (limit public assistance to 24 months in a continuous sixty (60) month period) {LC1177/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 429

BY Senators Moura, DaPonte

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION (require the state to appropriate to the cities and towns \$25,000 for each bed in a group home or facility home) {LC2065/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 430

BY Senators Moura, Revens

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM -- CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS (allow members of the retirement system to serve as paid members of part- time state boards or commissions) {LC1884/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 431

BY Senators Gallo, Lanzi, Miller, Goodwin

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - STATE AID (advocate state aid to any municipality that is the home to state courthouses, the registry of motor vehicles, state police headquarters, and any public corporation with more than twenty-five (25) employees) {LC1766/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 432**BY** Senators DaPonte, Moura**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION (require a reimbursement of \$32,000 per bed for all group home or other residential facility "beds" associated with Bradley Hospital to the local community or the Rhode Island licensed child placing agency) {LC2067/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 433**BY** Senators Alves, McBurney, Maselli**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (provide that the fair rental value assigned to a facility would increase on an annual basis without a ceiling maximum to more fairly correspond to actual construction costs) {LC1809/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 434**BY** Senators Ruggerio, Ciccone, Moura, Goodwin, Connors**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- MERIT SYSTEM (public corporation employees as defined in subsection 35-20-5(4) of the general laws eligible for the twenty (20) year statutory tenure rule)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 435**BY** Senators Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Issa, Walaska, Connors**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' ARBITRATION (require the state to pay the cost of compulsory mediation involving municipal employees)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 436**BY** Senators Ruggerio, Goodwin, Ciccone, Lanzi, Miller**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR - SCHOOL TEACHERS' ARBITRATION (provide that the state would pay the total cost of compulsory mediation for school teachers)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 437**BY** Senators Alves, Ciccone, McBurney, Levesque C**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - CORPORATION TAX (impose the business corporation tax on "investment companies") {LC1827/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 438**BY** Senators McCaffrey, McBurney, Jabour, Paiva-Weed**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (add the state court administrator to the emergency management advisory council)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Government Oversight

Also:

Senate Bill No. 439**BY** Senators McCaffrey, McBurney, Jabour**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - STATE COURT ADMINISTRATION (replace outdated references to the unclassified pay plan board with the state court administrator as the body that sets salaries of judicial employees in accordance with section 8-15-4 regarding court administration)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Government Oversight

Also:

Senate Bill No. 440 (Administration)**BY** Senator Blais**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE -- POST AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS (bureau of audits would be responsible for performing audits and investigations of agencies based on a risk assessment methodology) {LC1431/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Government Oversight

Also:

Senate Bill No. 441**BY** Senators Perry, Sosnowski, Fogarty P, Gibbs, Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PUBLIC BEACH SMOKING POLLUTION CONTROL ACT (prohibit smoking on public beaches in the state) {LC1682/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 442 (Elderly Affair)**BY** Senator Gibbs**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - ELDERLY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT (include self-neglect of the elderly under the jurisdiction of the department of elderly affairs) {LC1482/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 443**BY** Senators Tassoni, Fogarty P, Felag, Maselli**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE {LC1559/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 444**BY** Senators Tassoni, Fogarty P, Felag, Maselli**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHYSICIANS (grant physicians immunity from ordinary negligence when they offer free care in free clinics for the poor) {LC1850/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 445**BY** Senators Ciccone, Badeau, Maselli, Ruggerio**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ORTHOTIC AND PROSTHETIC SERVICES (require that health maintenance organization policies to provide orthotic and prosthetic devices at a reimbursement rate equal to those provided for under federal laws for aged and disabled persons) {LC1854/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 446**BY** Senators Walaska, McCaffrey, Alves**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES (amend the definition of the practice of pharmacy to include the administration of prescribed injectable medications) {LC1907/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 447**BY** Senator Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - CONTRACTS WITH HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS (require all health insurers to meet certain standardized requirements in their contracts with health care providers) {LC1394/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 448**BY** Senators Perry, Miller, Levesque C, Sosnowski, Gibbs**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ESTABLISHING A HEALTH INSURANCE TAX INCENTIVE (require each employer with more than 25 employees to adopt and maintain a cafeteria plan that satisfies 26 U.S.C. 125) {LC1545/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 449 (by request)**BY** Senators DaPonte, Moura**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS (amend or repeal various provisions relative to psychologists and the licensing and qualifications thereof) {LC1420/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 450 (Health)**BY** Senators Algieri, Gibbs**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (require all RI senior high schools that sell or distribute beverages and snacks on their premises, including those sold through vending machines, to offer healthier beverages and snacks effective January 1, 2008) {LC1462/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 451**BY** Senators Paiva-Weed, Gibbs, Gallo, Goodwin, Perry**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (implement a voluntary quality rating system to increase the quality of early care and education and school-age child care) {LC1639/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 452

BY Senators Goodwin, Alves

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HEALTH CARE RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE ACT (provide protection from discrimination to all health care providers who chose not to participate in a health care service that violates the conscience of the health care provider) {LC1623/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 453

BY Senators Walaska, Perry

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE (increase the age cut-off for coverage for medically necessary expenses of diagnosis and treatment of infertility for women from age 40 to age 42) {LC1754/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 454

BY Senators Moura, DaPonte

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH, RETARDATION AND HOSPITALS -- COMMUNITY RESIDENCES (exempt any facility operated by Bradley Hospital from being considered as a group home or community residence) {LC2068/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 455

BY Senators Perry, Goodwin, Connors, Gallo, Paiva-Weed

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - HEALTH CARE FOR FAMILIES (amend the law regarding medical assistance for the elderly and disabled by requiring supplemental and well-coordinated care) {LC1562/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 456

BY Senators Miller, Sosnowski, Connors, Algiere, Gibbs

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS (allow students and employees of Rhode Island's public colleges and universities to use their school identification cards to gain access to RIPTA transportation services) {LC1776/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 457

BY Senators Miller, Tassoni, Blais, Levesque C, Walaska

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT (provide procedures for obtaining a certificate of critical concern and for an expedited process for affordable housing) {LC1246/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 458

BY Senators Tassoni, Bates, Jabour, Ciccone, Badeau

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES (permit RIPTA buses to employ traffic control signal, preemption devices to prolong a green light signal) {LC1762/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 459

BY Senators Tassoni, Bates, Jabour, Ciccone, Badeau

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - MISCELLANEOUS RULES (require a yield to bus sign to be placed on the rear of all transit authority buses) {LC1768/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 460

BY Senator Gallo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- COLLECTION OF TAXES GENERALLY (require towns and cities to notify taxpayers by regular mail if they are delinquent in any quarterly payment) {LC1836/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 461

BY Senators Ciccone, Jabour, Tassoni, Badeau

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS (authorize elected school committees to retain the services of independent legal counsel as it may deem necessary and convenient) {LC1857/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 462 (Governor)

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- SEPARATION OF POWERS -- COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (amend the composition of the coastal resources management council and the appointment and term of members) {LC1099/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 463

BY Senators Perry, Sosnowski, Miller, Tassoni, Alves

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS (permit the district court or the family court, in instances where domestic violence is alleged, to include in any orders provisions for the care, custody and control of any companion animal) {LC1925/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 464

BY Senators Tassoni, Maselli, Issa, McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION (establish rules of disclosure of personal information about insurers, by businesses to third-parties) {LC1823/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 465

BY Senators McCaffrey, McBurney, Jabour, Levesque C, Paiva-Weed

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LAW PRACTICE (exempt the unauthorized practice of law committee from the requirements of the Administrative Procedures Act but would mandate that its rules and regulations be filed with the secretary of state)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 466

BY Senators McBurney, Jabour, Levesque C, McCaffrey, Paiva-Weed

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES (provide that court ordered restitution payments would be remitted to the general treasurer on a regular basis)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 467

BY Senators McCaffrey, McBurney, Jabour, Levesque C, Paiva-Weed

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS (amend language in the general laws referring to the outdated term "administrative adjudication court" and replacing it with the term "traffic tribunal")

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 468

BY Senators McBurney, Jabour, Levesque C

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FAMILY COURT (delete a reference to classified service of an employee in the judicial branch pursuant to the exemptions in chapter 36-4)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 469

BY Senators McCaffrey, McBurney, Jabour, Levesque C

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL TENURE AND DISCIPLINE (would change the composition of the commission on judicial tenure and discipline)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 470

BY Senators McBurney, Jabour, Levesque C, McCaffrey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - SUPREME COURT (amend the procedures for the distribution and posting of copies of supreme court opinions by utilizing both paper and electronic posting methods)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 471

BY Senators Alves, McBurney, Goodwin, McCaffrey, Walaska

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - STATE POLICE (provide for the implementation of a program among law enforcement agencies, broadcast media, and other appropriate entities to alert the state police and the public in the event of the disappearance of a senior citizen with an impaired mental condition) {LC1811/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 472

BY Senators Alves, Goodwin, Ciccone, Blais, McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- WOMEN'S RIGHT TO KNOW ACT (establish informed consent procedures for women seeking abortions) {LC1616/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 473

BY Senator Gallo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Nicole Lee Pard and Louis Anthony Tomaselli, Jr.) {LC1662/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 474

BY Senators Ciccone, Badeau, Maselli, Ruggerio

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RESTRICTING RADIO FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION DEVICES (restrict the use of radio frequency identification devices for the purpose of tracking the movement or identity of an employee, student or client as a condition of obtaining a benefit or services from such agency) {LC1858/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 475

BY Senator Revens

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLES REPARATIONS ACT (require law enforcement agencies who issue tickets to motorists for lack of evidence of financial responsibility to withhold submission) {LC1707/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 476

BY Senator Connors

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - SUPERSEDEAS BONDS {LC1890/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 477

BY Senators Sheehan, Sosnowski, Algiere, Raptakis

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES {LC1950/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 478 (Children, Youth and Families)

BY Senators Breene, Gibbs

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE - PROBATION (provide that with respect to certain classes of individuals who have contact with children, pleas of nolo contendere followed by probation would be deemed a conviction) {LC1459/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 479 (State Police)

BY Senator Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OFFENSES (allow a peace officer to request a search warrant which would allow the taking of blood, breath or urine, or perform a chemical test if probable cause exists/driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics) {LC1100/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 480

BY Senators Tassoni, Bates, Jabour, Ciccone, Badeau

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - ASSAULT (make an assault upon school bus drivers a felony) {LC1755/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 481

BY Senator McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROBATE PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE - LIMITED GUARDIANSHIP AND GUARDIANSHIP OF ADULTS (establish additional criteria when a guardian ad litem appointed by the court is not an attorney and would make other changes to the guardianship statutes) {LC1982/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 482

BY Senators Perry, Miller, Metts, Lenihan, Sosnowski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - RHODE ISLAND CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES REPORTING (change the requirements of financial disclosures by candidates in the raising and expenditure of money and other things of value within campaigns for public office) {LC1084/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 483

BY Senators Walaska, Alves, Goodwin

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- ABORTION (prohibit any woman from being forced to have an abortion against her will, and would provide for civil remedies for any abortion forced upon or required of a woman) {LC1777/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 484

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

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RHODE ISLAND FAIR HOUSING PRACTICES ACT (prohibit discrimination in housing against those persons who are recipients of government assistance) {LC1709/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 485

BY Senator McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - PROCEDURE GENERALLY (increase the amount of the homestead exemption protected from attachment from \$300,000 to \$500,000) {LC1376/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 486

BY Senator Tassoni

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- REDEMPTION, RELEASE AND TRANSFER OF MORTGAGES (provide for confirmatory residential mortgage releases) {LC1681/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 487

BY Senators Perry, Goodwin, Connors, Gallo, Paiva-Weed

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - THE AMBER ALERT PROGRAM (allow putting missing adults with dementia who operate motor vehicles into the AMBER Alert system) {LC1725/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 488 (Transportation)

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS (exclude any property obtained by eminent domain or condemnation from acquisition by the general treasurer) {LC1505/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 489 (Governor)

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- MEDICAL MALPRACTICE {LC1485/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 490 (Governor)

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION - NARRAGANSETT BAY COMMISSION (alter the composition of the Narragansett Bay Commission in accordance with the distribution of powers amendment to the state constitution) {LC1097/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 491 (Environmental Management)

BY Senators Algieri, Breene, Gibbs

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- ALCOHOL BOATING SAFETY ACT (amend the alcohol boating safety act making the violations misdemeanors and felonies and would increase the penalty for operating a watercraft under the influence) {LC1488/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 492 (Environmental Management)

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (establish a new chapter regarding enforcement of certain natural resource violations) {LC1115/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 493

BY Senator McCaffrey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY - LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - CONSTRUCTION TRUST (create the Rhode Island Construction Trust Act which would establish a special system for the compensation of businesses and contractors who expend labor and materials for construction projects) {LC1621/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 494

BY Senators Gibbs, Bates

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- LABOR AND PAYMENT OF DEBTS BY CONTRACTORS (raise the threshold for municipal projects which require a prevailing wage pay rate from one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) {LC1446/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 495

BY Senators Badeau, McBurney, Cote, Ciccone

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - BOILER INSPECTION AND PRESSURE VESSELS (eliminate the inclusion of amendments to the standard code of rules published by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspections as adopted by the code commission for occupational safety) {LC1664/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 496**BY** Senators Badeau, Ciccone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- WORKERS' COMPENSATION -- BENEFITS (delete the requirement that an employer must document that the incapacity has increased or returned with the need for the employee to document a comparative change in condition when an employee files a petition to prove recurrence of incapacity to work) {LC1569/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 497**BY** Senator McBurney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE -- WORK ON HOLIDAYS AND SUNDAYS (exempt employees of a 24 hour per day limousine or taxi company from a salary increase for working Sunday and Holidays) {LC1424/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 498**BY** Senators Ruggerio, McBurney, Badeau, DaPonte, Ciccone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES (permit motor vehicle dealers to open for business on Sundays, between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 499**BY** Senators Ruggerio, Moura, Maselli, Gallo, Lanzi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR -- ARBITRATION (allow a labor arbitrator to consider the existence of past practice when the union contract contains a provision that preserves existing rights, benefits or practices between the parties)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 500**BY** Senators Ruggerio, Alves, Maselli, McBurney, DaPonte**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CAUSES OF ACTION (allow a contractor that loses a bid because a competitor misclassifies employees as independent subcontractors to bring an action for damages against the competitor)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 501

BY Senators Ruggerio, Goodwin, Moura, Ciccone, Lanzi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - THE RHODE ISLAND INVESTMENT INITIATIVE (no provision of the Rhode Island Investment Initiative shall be construed to alter or affect rights or remedies of school employees)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 502

BY Senators Ruggerio, Doyle, Connors, McBurney, Goodwin

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HOISTING ENGINEERS (require that all equipment rental companies conducting business in Rhode Island would be required to affix a state issued decal to any or all of their equipment)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 503

BY Senators Ruggerio, Goodwin, Lanzi, Issa, Felag

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - AWARD OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 504 construction-related contract in excess of \$1,000

BY Senators Ruggerio, Gallo, DaPonte, Connors, Pichardo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- LABOR AND PAYMENT OF DEBTS BY CONTRACTORS (construction-related contract in excess of \$1,000)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 505

BY Senators Ruggerio, Jabour, Maselli, Moura, Gallo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR -- PAYMENT OF DEBTS BY CONTRACTORS (prohibit contractors and subcontractors from making payment of the cash equivalent of any applicable health care benefit directly to their employees in lieu of actually purchasing the health care benefits for said employee for the applicable time period)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 506

BY Senators Ruggerio, Goodwin, McCaffrey, Ciccone, Lanzi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MEDIATION
(provide for the payment of certain costs pertaining to compulsory mediation)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 507

BY Senators Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Connors, Badeau, Moura

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR -- HOISTING ENGINEERS (better balance the membership of the board of examiners of hoisting engineers by including qualified individuals familiar with the hoisting trade. It would also clarify the qualifications necessary for the application for hoisting licenses)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 508

BY Senators Ruggerio, Jabour, Maselli, Ciccone, Gallo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- HOISTING ENGINEERS (amend the requirements for when a licensed hoisting engineer is required to operate elevators on construction projects in Rhode Island)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 509

BY Senators Ruggerio, Jabour, Maselli, Moura, Goodwin

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTRICIANS -- APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 510

BY Senators Ruggerio, Goodwin, Gallo, Tassoni, Badeau

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND PAYMENT OF DEBTS BY CONTRACTORS
(establish bidding requirements for contractors bidding on public works contracts)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 511**BY** Senators Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Alves, Goodwin, Jabour**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- PAYMENT OF WAGES (provide a private right of action to collect wages or benefits)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 512**BY** Senators Ruggerio, Gallo, Lanzi, Ciccone, DaPonte**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- THE TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE PROTECTION ACT (require that licensed contractors provide an employee supplied by a temporary employment agency or a temporary employee the same benefits that are provided to a full-time employee)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 513**BY** Senators Ruggerio, Maselli, Moura, Issa, DaPonte**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- LABOR AND PAYMENT OF DEBTS BY CONTRACTORS (require any contractor who is awarded a public works contract after July 1, 2007 to ascertain the prevailing wage rate and make the necessary adjustments)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Bill No. 514**BY** Senators Ruggerio, McBurney, Maselli, McCaffrey, Ciccone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - WELDING (would require the division of professional regulation to issue picture ID's to welders and to monitor and ensure they are updated) {LC1684/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

TRANSMITTAL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Paiva Weed announces that the Senate will not meet on Wednesday, February 14, 2007.

Senator Felag announces that the Committee on Finance will meet today, at the rise of the Senate, in Room 211 of the State House.

Senator Tassoni announces that the Committee on Housing and Municipal Government will meet today, at the rise of the Senate, in the Senate Lounge of the State House.

Senator Connors announces that the Committee on Rules will meet on Thursday, February 15, 2007, at the rise of the Senate, in Room 211 of the State House.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Senator DaPonte, seconded by Senator Algieri, and upon suggestion of Senator Sosnowski, the Senate adjourns at 4:23 o'clock P.M. in memory of the Honorable John S. Hernandez, former State Representative.

RAYMOND T. HOYAS, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix**INVOCATION****SENATOR J. MICHAEL LENIHAN**

As we celebrate the birthday of President Abraham Lincoln, let us be reminded of his words that remain with us today: "Public sentiment is everything. With public sentiment, nothing can fail; without it nothing can succeed." Amen.

Appendix

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2007:

1 2007-S 95

BY Algieri

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

2 2007-S 203

BY Felag

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

3 2007-H 5011

BY Rose

**ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF
THE CHARTER OF M.T.J., INC.**

Ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar

4 2007-H 5012 SUB A

BY Shanley

**ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF
THE CHARTER OF WAKEFIELD BUILDING & INVESTMENT CORP.**

Ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar

5 2007-H 5035 as amended

BY Long

**ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE FOR THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION
OF THE CHARTER OF NEWPORT MASONIC FOUNDATION**

Ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar

6 2007-H 5036

BY Long

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF
THE CHARTER OF KTB, INC.

Ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar

RAYMOND T. HOYAS, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2007:

1 2007-S 9

BY Paiva-Weed

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION

Committee on Finance recommends passage.

RAYMOND T. HOYAS, JR.
Secretary of the Senate