

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 first day of January in the year of Our Lord two thousand and eight.

Volume 135, No.11

Thursday, January 31, 2008

Eleventh Legislative Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable Joseph A. Montalbano, President of the Senate, at 4:12 o'clock P.M.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 37 Senators present and 0 Senators absent as follows:

PRESENT – 37: The Honorable President Montalbano and Senators Algieri, Alves, Bates, Blais, Breene, Ciccone, Connors, Cote, DaPonte, Doyle, 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 – 0:

INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

The Senate Journal of the Tenth Legislative Day of the 2008 proceedings is read in part.

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

GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Sheehan and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Max Winograd of Brown University, who will be serving as a Senate Intern this year.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

Senator Issa, from the Committee on Education, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following appointment:

Nomination of The Honorable Frank Caprio (reappointment) of Providence to the Board of Governors for Higher Education for a term expiring January 31, 2011

Read and ordered to be placed on Tuesday's Calendar.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Resolution No. 2150**

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

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO INTRODUCE AND ADOPT LEGISLATION ON ELDER CARE {LC1082/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2151

BY Senators Doyle, Tassoni, McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (provide for state fire marshal registration license plates)

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2152

BY Senators Connors, Issa

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES

(authorize the Cumberland town council to issue full and limited class B licenses/holder of the license would not be permitted to transfer to another party, nor would the license holder be permitted to change the location of the licensed establishment) {LC1073/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2153**BY** Senators Tassoni, Doyle, McBurney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- DOGS

(provide guidelines and penalties for any person that keeps a dog outside tethered, penned, caged, fenced or otherwise confined) {LC1090/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2154**BY** Senators Blais, Breene, Raptakis**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF EARTH REMOVAL AND GRAVEL PROCESSING IN THE TOWN OF COVENTRY

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2155**BY** Senators Connors, Miller, Sosnowski, Perry**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE CLEAN, SAFE, AFFORDABLE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES ACT (establish a comprehensive, detailed plan to reduce single occupant vehicle commuter trips)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2156**BY** Senator Blais**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - SCHOOL AND MUNICIPAL PLAYGROUND SAFETY (provide grants to cities and towns for projects undertaken specifically to comply with the dept of education and dept of health's joint health and environment recreational facility safety regulations and/or to provide access for people with disabilities)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2157 (by request)**BY** Senators Tassoni, Issa**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - THE AWARDING OF MUNICIPAL CONTRACTS (give priority to Rhode Island located businesses whose bids on municipal contracts are up to 3% higher than the lowest bid) {LC1026/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2158

BY Senators Miller, Connors, Pichardo, Ruggerio, Sosnowski

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)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2159

BY Senators Felag, Levesque C, Bates, Maselli, 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 RI and would require the dept of human services to report recommendations to the house/senate finance committees on the implementation of chapter 42-150)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2160

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

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- UMBILICAL CORD BLOOD BANK ACT (require hospitals and other obstetrical facilities and professionals to inform their patients of the option of donating umbilical cord blood to umbilical cord blood banks) {LC1016/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2161

BY Senators Tassoni, Doyle, McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING INSURANCE - ACUPUNCTURE (mandate acupuncture coverage in health insurance policies)

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2162

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- MEDICAL DEVICES (prohibit health care providers from reusing certain medical devices without the express consent of the patient) {LC1009/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2163

BY Senators Connors, Issa

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- THE TOWN OF CUMBERLAND -- HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION (permit Cumberland to grant homestead exemptions) {LC1074/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2164

BY Senator Maselli

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- THE LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES -- JOHNSTON -- HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION (eliminate the homestead exemption to Johnston to all residential real estate which consists of not more than five units and would apply the exemption only to single family, owner-occupied residences) {LC1142/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2165

BY Senators Perry, Goodwin, Gallo, Metts, Miller

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (require a landlord to pay a departing tenant the value of fuel oil left in the tank upon the tenant vacating the premises) {LC1033/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2166

BY Senators Connors, Doyle, Issa

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION (require that the director of the dept of corrections verify that the sex offender board of review/other state agencies have complied with all requirements of section 11-37.1-6 prior to the release of any individual subject to sexual offender notification

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2167

BY Senators Perry, Levesque C, Tassoni, Gibbs, Sosnowski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER PRIVACY ACT (create the Social Security Number Privacy Act, and would provide guidelines and penalties for violation)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2168

BY Senators Blais, Maselli, Breene, Bates, McCaffrey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (expand the license or permit to carry a pistol or revolver to include people who have been issued protective orders, and would require that the permit be delivered to applicants within 10 business days) {LC1014/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2169

BY Senator Miller

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PROHIBITING PERSONS FROM ENTERING AND REMAINING ON PUBLIC WAYS OR SIDEWALKS WITHIN A 100 FOOT RADIUS OF A REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE FACILITY (criminal penalty/civil remedy/person enters/remains/public way or sidewalk adjacent to a reproductive health care facility/knowingly obstructs, detains, hinders, impedes/blocks/person's entrance to/exit from a reproductive health care facility)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2170

BY Senators Maselli, Jabour, Moura, McCaffrey, Doyle

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - CERTIFICATION OF CHILD CARE AND YOUTH WORKERS (broaden the definition of "youth serving agency" and would require criminal records checks of persons seeking to volunteer with youth serving agencies) {LC1140/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2171

BY Senator Maselli

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - RHODE ISLAND RESOURCE RECOVERY CORPORATION

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2172**BY** Senators Tassoni, Perry, Levesque C, Bates**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- SPOUSAL NOTICE FOR ABORTION (repeal the requirement that physicians performing abortions notify the husband of the patient before the abortion is performed) {LC1083/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2173**BY** Senators Tassoni, Doyle, McBurney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS - LABOR AND PAYMENT OF DEBTS BY CONTRACTORS (require contractors to maintain an apprentice-training program. It would further require contractors to classify their employees as employers and not independent contractors) {LC1156/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Labor

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 2174**BY** Senators Connors, Ruggerio, Algieri**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE RULES OF THE SENATE {LC1285/1}

Senator Connors requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Connors moves passage, seconded by Senators Ruggerio, Bates, Gallo and Jabour.

The resolution is read and passed, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote with 36 Senators voting in the affirmative and 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS- 36: The Honorable President Montalbano and Senators Algieri, Alves, Bates, Blais, Breene, Ciccone, Connors, Cote, DaPonte, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gibbs, Goodwin, Issa, Jabour, Lanzi, Lenihan, Levesque, Maselli, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Moura, Paiva Weed, Perry, Pichardo, Raptakis, Revens, Ruggerio, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Tassoni, Walaska.

NAYS- 0:

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 2175**BY** Senators Pichardo, Metts, Montalbano J, Ruggerio, DaPonte**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION URGING MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL TO RETIRE JERSEY NUMBER 21 IN HONOR OF THE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE LATE ROBERTO CLEMENTE {LC1224/1}

Senator Pichardo requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Pichardo moves passage, seconded by the entire Senate.

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

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 2176

BY Senators Jabour, Montalbano J, Perry, Connors, Bates

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS ON THEIR OUTSTANDING SEASON AND WISHING THEM CONTINUED SUCCESS IN THE SUPER BOWL {LC1310/1}

Senator Jabour requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Jabour moves passage, seconded by the entire Senate.

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

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 2177

BY Senators Alves, McBurney, Blais, Connors, Bates

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE STEPHEN JOHN BRUNERO, ESQ. {LC1086/1}

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 rising vote.

Also:

Senate Resolution No. 2178

BY Senators Raptakis, Gallo, McBurney, Paiva-Weed, Montalbano J

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF ARCHBISHOP CHRISTODOULOS {LC1275/1}

Senator Raptakis requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Raptakis moves passage, seconded by the entire Senate.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Lenihan announces that the Committee on Government Oversight will meet on Monday, February 4, 2008, at 4:00 o'clock P.M. in Room 313 of the State House.

Senator Levesque announces that the Committee on Judiciary will meet on Tuesday, February 5, 2008, at the rise of the Senate, in Room 313 of the State House.

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.

RECESS

Upon motion of Senator DaPonte, seconded by Senator Algieri, and upon suggestion of Senator Alves, the Senate stands at recess at 4:29 o'clock P.M. in memory of the Honorable Stephan John Brunero, Esq, former State Representative and beloved father of State Representative Elizabeth "Betsy" Dennigan.

CALLED TO ORDER

The Senate is called to order by the Honorable Joseph A. Montalbano, President of the Senate, on Tuesday, February 5, 2007, at 4:10 o'clock P.M.

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Bill No. 2179

BY Senators Tassoni, Doyle, McBurney, Perry

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (make available a special motor vehicle registration plate bearing the designation "animal friend/It would also create the establishment of spaying and neutering of dogs and cats committee and fund) {LC1203/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2180**BY** Senators Tassoni, Doyle, McBurney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- HARD-TO-DISPOSE MATERIAL (would require that certain engine coolants or antifreeze manufacturers on or after September 1, 2008, would be required to contain an aversive or bittering agent that would render it unpalatable) {LC1172/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2181**BY** Senator Blais**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY (would amend the definitions section of the Toxic Packaging Reduction Act/also extend exemption dates for certain packages and packing materia/the act would also add language exempting certain glass or ceramic packaging components) {LC1020/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2182**BY** Senators Metts, Pichardo, Perry, Issa, Moura**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX -- EARNED INCOME CREDIT (would increase the refundable state earned income credit from fifteen percent 15% to 100%)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2183**BY** Senators Breene, Sosnowski, Blais, Gibbs, Algieri**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- THE PERSONAL INCOME TAX (would add to the Rhode Island income tax form a refund deduction for a contribution to the Rhode Island Agricultural Lands Preservation Commission) {LC1299/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2184**BY** Senator Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (would amend certain laws relative to property revaluation, and property subject to revaluation in the town of South Kingstown) {LC1158/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2185

BY Senators Gallo, Fogarty P, Connors

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR FUEL TAX (would exempt ethanol from the motor fuel tax) {LC1029/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2186

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- EXEMPTIONS (replace the definition of "automobile" to "motor vehicles" as it relates the trade-in value of motor vehicles exempt from the sales and use taxes)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2187

BY Senators Tassoni, Doyle, McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND MOTOR VEHICLES -- TAXATION (expand the definition of the owners of motor vehicles for registration and property tax purposes, to include partnerships, firms, associations, corporations and limited liability companies which operate on state roads for more than 30 days) {LC1200/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2188

BY Senators Miller, Walaska, Alves, Ruggerio, Goodwin

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE (would limit the percentage amount that certain contracts for health insurance would be allowed to increase annuity) {LC1071/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2189

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

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)

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2190

BY Senators Perry, Goodwin, McCaffrey, Algieri, Connors

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - ASSISTED HOUSING LIVING WAIVER (allow assisted living facilities to be eligible through certification by the department of human services or the department of elderly affairs) {LC1169/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2191

BY Senators Walaska, McCaffrey, Bates, Blais, Cote

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- MANDATED BENEFITS (require a mandated benefit review by the health insurance commissioner or any mandated benefit introduced after January 1, 2008, contingent on the review being paid for by the state health care providers) {LC1152/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2192

BY Senators Blais, Raptakis

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS (require the use of granite curbs in any highway project of over five hundred feet in the town of Coventry) {LC1010/1}

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2193

BY Senators Blais, Raptakis

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING (require that year-round mobile homes be included in year-round housing units and rented year-round mobile homes be included in year-round rental housing units for purposes of determining the need for low and moderate income housing units)

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

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2194

BY Senators Metts, Pichardo

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)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2195

BY Senators Ciccone, Connors, Ruggerio, Tassoni, Gallo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- GENERAL OFFICERS (require that all general officers report the sources and amounts of all their income on financial statements to the ethics commission) {LC1070/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2196

BY Senators Doyle, McBurney, Connors

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (would prohibit any person from carrying, possessing or attempting to use a taser against another person) {LC1226/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2197

BY Senators Tassoni, Doyle, McBurney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- MUSICAL ADVERTISING (prohibit the advertising and conducting of certain live musical performances/productions by false and/or misleading affiliations/associations with other musical groups and would impose penalties for any violations) {LC1201/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2198

BY Senators Blais, Maselli, Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (exempt certain persons including those issued protective orders from the weapons safety requirements of this chapter) {LC1013/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2199

BY Senators Blais, Maselli, Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (exempt any person who at the time of purchase is exchanging a functional concealable firearm as part of or the entire

purchase price to another concealable firearm from the requirement of obtaining a basic pistol/revolver safety certificate)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2200

BY Senators Blais, Maselli, Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (prohibit any person from wearing or carrying concealed upon his or her person any instrument or weapon of the kind) {LC1002/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2201

BY Senators Blais, Maselli, Breene

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (would eliminate the application requirement and seven (7) day waiting period from the current section to those rifle and/or shotgun transactions which are essentially merely an exchange) {LC1012/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2202

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES (prohibit persons with a prior drunk driving conviction from pleading to a current charge at the initial arraignment) {LC1000/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2203

BY Senator Blais

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- MEDICAL MALPRACTICE (would require the department of health to provide an analysis of medical malpractice insurance rates and to recommend improvements to the legislature) {LC1001/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2204**BY** Senators Perry, Sosnowski, Miller, Levesque C, Pichardo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS -- PERSONS ELIGIBLE TO MARRY (broaden the definition of persons eligible to marry to include persons of the same gender/this act would also provide that members of the clergy would not be required to officiate at any particular marriage)

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2205**BY** Senators Blais, Maselli, Breene, Bates**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RHODE ISLAND POLICY AND ITS DIVERSE CULTURES (establish English as the primary language in the state of Rhode Island) {LC1017/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2206**BY** Senator Blais**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE (require in the case of settlements/judgments, an itemized list of the award stating an amount for economic damages, noneconomic damages, medical expens/interest accrued, in reports relating to professional conduct) {LC1003/1}

Read and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Also:

Senate Bill No. 2207**BY** Senators Algieri, Breene**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF CROSS'S MILL'S VOL. FIRE DEPT. {LC1255/1}

Read and ordered to be placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Senator DaPonte, seconded by Senator Algieri, the Senate adjourns at 4:11 o'clock P.M.

RAYMOND T. HOYAS, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix

INVOCATION

SENATOR LEO R. BLAIS

Heavenly Father, guide us in the ways of peace. May we show loyalty towards one another and be worthy of the trust you have placed in us. Amen.

Appendix

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2008:

1 2008-S 2207

BY Algieri

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE
CHARTER OF CROSS'S MILL'S VOL. FIRE DEPT.

Ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar

RAYMOND T. HOYAS, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2008:

1 Nomination of The Honorable Frank Caprio (reappointment) of Providence to the Board of Governors for Higher Education for a term expiring January 31, 2011.

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

RAYMOND T. HOYAS, JR.
Secretary of the Senate