

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 third day of January in the year of Our Lord two thousand and seventeen.

Volume 144, No.17

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

Seventeenth Legislative Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable M. Teresa Paiva Weed, President of the Senate, at 4:28 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 Paiva Weed and Senators Algiere, Archambault, Calkin, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goldin, Goodwin, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Ruggerio, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski.

ABSENT – 1: Senator Doyle.

INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

The Senate Journal of the Sixteenth Legislative Day of the 2017 proceedings is read in part.

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

GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Archambault and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President welcomes to the Chamber Benjamin Deluca.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Honorable President presents the following communications:

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

February 15, 2017

The Honorable M. Teresa Paiva Weed
President of the Senate
State House, Room 318
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Madam President:

Please be advised that I will be unable to attend Senate session on Wednesday, February 15, 2017, I am out of state on business.

Sincerely,

James E. Doyle, II
Senator, District- 8
Pawtucket

Read and placed on file.

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

February 15, 2017

The Honorable M. Teresa Paiva Weed
President of the Senate
State House, Room 318
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Madam President:

Please be advised and let the record reflect that I will be absent from the Chamber tomorrow, February 16, 2017

I would appreciate your recording my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Warmest personal regards, I remain.

Sincerely,

Dominick J. Ruggerio
Senator, District- 4
Senate Majority Leader

Read and placed on file.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR

The Honorable President presents the following communication from Her Excellency, the Governor, transmitting the following appointments and requesting the advice and consent of the Senate thereto:



**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR GINA M. RAIMONDO**

February 15, 2017

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section § 5-1-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Board of Examination & Registration of Architects:

Mary Brewster, AIA.

VICE
David R. Prengaman

For a term expiring April 1, 2022.

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

Sincerely,

Gina M. Raimondo
Governor

Read and ordered to the committee on Commerce.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR GINA M. RAIMONDO

February 15, 2017

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section § 20-8-4 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the Atlantic States marine Fisheries Commission:

David V. D. Borden

For a term expiring January 1, 2020.

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

Sincerely,

Gina M. Raimondo
Governor

Read and ordered to the committee on Environment and Agriculture.

FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

House Bill No. 5202

BY Abney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows the Honorable Henry F. Winthrop to join Grace Gould Lender and Stephen Bradford Turcotte in marriage on or about March 11, 2017, within the City of Newport, Rhode Island.)

{LC1026/1}

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

House Bill No. 5191**BY** Casimiro, Regunberg, Ajello, Carson, Donovan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows John Simmons to join Kelsey Lynne Fedechko and Joshua Michael Labossiere in marriage on or about May 12, 2017, within the City of Newport, Rhode Island.)
{LC1007/1}

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

House Bill No. 5201**BY** Marshall

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Patricia A. McGovern to join Sarah Elizabeth Walachy and Joshua Thomas Patterson in marriage on or about June 10, 2017, within the Town of Bristol, Rhode Island.)
{LC1049/1}

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

House Bill No. 5192**BY** Slater

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Maurice Collins to join Lori Battaglino and Robert Lukens in marriage on or about June 10, 2017, within the City of Providence, Rhode Island.)
{LC846/1}

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

House Bill No. 5193**BY** Lombardi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Thomas Cheatham to join Leni C. Kwait and Jeffrey C. Prystowsky in marriage on or about July 8, 2017, within the City of Providence, Rhode Island.)
{LC873/1}

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

House Bill No. 5391**BY** Azzinaro

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Lauren Rapp to join SkyeBlue M. Chan and Gary G. Trebisacci in marriage on or about May 27, 2017, within the Town of Westerly, Rhode Island.)
{LC1207/1}

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

House Bill No. 5203**BY** Abney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows the Honorable Henry F. Winthrop to join Beatrice Francoise Recher and Wayne Edward McLead in marriage on or about July 1, 2017, within the City of Newport, Rhode Island.)
{LC1027/1}

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

House Bill No. 5257

BY Walsh, Ajello, Knight, Donovan, Nardolillo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Michael Zachary Mezera to join Katherine Cielinski and the Honorable Jonathan Aaron Regunberg in marriage on or about August 19, 2017, within the Town of Bristol, Rhode Island.)
{LC875/1}

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

House Bill No. 5148

BY Winfield

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF SAVINGS OF AMERICA, INC.
{LC639/1}

Ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar.

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Resolution No. 243

BY Crowley, Picard, Cote

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN RHODE ISLAND AND TAIWAN, ENHANCING BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND SUPPORTING TAIWAN IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY
{LC1211/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 244

BY Picard

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION-COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE (Requires that students who are home schooled be evaluated via grade level standardized assessment to measure satisfactory progress or growth from the previous year.)
{LC1253/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Education.

Senate Bill No. 245

BY Paolino, Gee, Kettle, Nesselbush, Metts

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - CURRICULUM (Requires the department of elementary and secondary education, pursuant to rules promulgated by the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, to develop curricular material on financial literacy.)
{LC1384/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Education.

Senate Bill No. 246**BY** Picard**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION-COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

(Requires that students who are home schooled be evaluated via grade level standardized assessment to measure satisfactory progress or growth from the previous year.)

{LC1252/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Education.

Senate Bill No. 247**BY** Kettle, Fogarty, Sosnowski, Morgan, Archambault**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS - RAW MILK (Establishes

procedures and standards promulgated by the milk commission for the handling and sale of raw milk in the state and would provide civil fines for violations.)

{LC1077/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

Senate Bill No. 248**BY** Kettle, Fogarty, Sosnowski, Morgan, Archambault**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- MILK SANITATION (Permits commingling of raw milk products for certain purposes involving private consumption.)

{LC1075/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

Senate Bill No. 249**BY** Algieri, Kettle, Morgan, Gee, Paolino**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - BUSINESS CORPORATION TAX

(Reduces the minimum corporate tax from four hundred dollars (\$400) to two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for the tax year beginning on July 1, 2018, and abolish the tax for tax years beginning on or after July 1, 2019.)

{LC874/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 250**BY** Pearson, Nesselbush, Picard, Satchell, Miller**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - EDUCATION EQUITY AND

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Provides that the state would pay the local share or contribution of charter public school tuition for the number of students attending the charter public schools in excess of five percent (5%) of the average daily membership of all pupils.)

{LC604/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 251**BY** Pearson, Picard, Satchell, DiPalma, Paolino

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Increases the exemptions for taxable retirement income to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000). This increased exemption would apply to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2018.)
{LC607/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 252**BY** Pearson, Picard

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Adjusts the charter school tuition hold back provision in last year's budget by allowing the school districts to choose between withholding seven percent (7%) or the difference in unique costs.)
{LC606/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 253**BY** Doyle, DiPalma

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FUNDING OF CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Amends the provisions by which charter public schools apply for state aid for reimbursement of school housing costs and further amends the calculation method of housing costs under this section.)
{LC1182/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 254**BY** Doyle, Seveney, Fogarty, DiPalma

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES (Exempts the trade-in value of pickup trucks under eight thousand one hundred pounds (8,100 lbs.) gross weight, used exclusively for personal use, from sales tax.)
{LC548/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 255**BY** Ciccone, DaPonte, DiPalma, Seveney, Lombardi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION (Reduces the interest rate on delinquent tax payments from between 21% and not less than 18% to between 15% and not less than 10% and provides for a reduced interest rate for persons on approved payment plans.)
{LC1012/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 256**BY** Paolino, Kettle, Algiere, Gee, Morgan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE -- STATE BUDGET (Requires that all legislative grants awarded by the general assembly be included in the annual state budget and specifies information that must be provided regarding each grant.)

{LC1173/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 257**BY** Satchell, Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Exempts from taxation the Artic Playhouse located at 1249 Main Street in West Warwick.)

{LC1394/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 258**BY** Satchell, Conley, Archambault**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM (Establishes the Rhode Island municipal infrastructure grant program to issue public infrastructure grants to municipalities and other public instrumentalities.)

{LC1377/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 259**BY** Satchell, Conley, Archambault, Miller**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Establishes a nineteen percent (19%) carried interest fairness fee for investment management services in order to tax the carried interest income of hedge fund and private equity investors as traditional ordinary earned income.)

{LC1388/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 260**BY** Pearson, Satchell, DiPalma, Sosnowski, Felag**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX (Establishes a formula for distribution to cities and towns of state reimbursement for elimination of car tax.)

{LC603/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 261**BY** Doyle, DiPalma

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - MINIMUM WAGES (Commencing on January 1, 2018, require that all developmental disabilities organizations that employ five (5) employees or more and who are reimbursed for such services by the state, to pay their employees at least fifteen (\$15.00) dollars per hour.)

{LC1268/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 262**BY** Lombardi, Jabour, Nesselbush, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROBATE PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE -- ELECTIVE SHARE (Clarifies the surviving spouse's right regarding elective shares against the decedent's will as to real and personal estate for decedents dying on and after January 1, 2017.)

{LC1553/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Resolution No. 263**BY** DiPalma, Metts, Ciccone, Ruggerio, Lombardo

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS ADOPT "AN AMERICAN ECONOMIC RECOVERY" PROGRAM

{LC198/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 264**BY** DiPalma, Sosnowski, Goldin, Goodwin, Kettle

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES--LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts from the sales tax products used for feminine hygiene in connection with the menstrual cycle.)

{LC1219/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 265**BY** Coyne, Crowley, Jabour, Conley, Calkin

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LABORATORIES (Restores provisions of chapter 16.2 of title 23 as well as all of chapter 16.3 of title 23, which were repealed or deleted in the 2015 Budget Act, relating to definitions, licensing, and the operation of medical laboratories.)

{LC1139/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 266**BY** DiPalma, DaPonte, Sosnowski, Kettle, Seveney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASELOAD ESTIMATING CONFERENCES (Requires the participation and input of the EOHHS, DHS, DCYF and BDHDDH in medical assistance and public assistance caseload estimating conferences and the generation of monthly data to the members of the caseload estimating conference.)

{LC1248/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 267**BY** Nesselbush, Ciccone, Miller, Conley, Lombardo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (Prohibits "conversion therapy" by licensed health care professionals with respect to children under 18 years of age.)

{LC998/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 268**BY** Goldin, Miller, Satchell, Calkin, Sheehan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE DISORDERS (Redefines coinsurance to prohibit insurance contracts or policies from using coinsurance to calculate and collect additional funds from patients, including mental health and substance abuse patients.)

{LC471/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 269

(by request)

BY Sosnowski, Crowley, Miller**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - THE INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT (Establishes Rhode Island's membership in the interstate medical licensure compact. It details the procedure to be followed in order to allow physicians to become licensed in multiple states, while ensuring the safety of patients.)

{LC694/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 270**BY** Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE ISLAND AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (Establishes again/disability resource center within division of elderly affairs as part of long-term care system for elderly/disabled persons/family caregivers/providers.)

{LC1435/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 271**BY** Lynch Prata, Miller, Quezada, Metts, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

(Directs the executive office of health and human services to increase income disregards for certain Medicare programs.)

{LC1326/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 272**BY** Algieri, Lombardi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- SURPRISE BILLS FOR MEDICAL

SERVICES (Provides for a dispute resolution process for emergency services and surprise bills for medical services performed by nonparticipating (out-of-network) health care providers.)

{LC474/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 273**BY** Pearson, Picard, Satchell, Paolino, DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES (Places time requirements on the implementation of any project authorized by the state traffic commission.)

{LC605/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 274**BY** Goldin, Miller, Calkin, Seveney, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

CARE ACT (Prohibits the state from interfering with a woman's decision to prevent, commence, continue, or terminate a pregnancy prior to fetal viability, or restricting the use or manner of medically recognized methods of contraception or abortion.)

{LC1136/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 275**BY** Ruggerio, Goodwin, DiPalma, Doyle, Goldin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- CHILD

RESTRAINT SYSTEMS (Requires infants and toddlers under two (2) years of age or weighing less than thirty pounds (30 lbs.) be restrained in rear-facing car seats.)

{LC1199/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 276**BY** Ruggerio, Doyle, Ciccone, McCaffrey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - REGULATION OF BUSINESS PRACTICES AMONG MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS, DISTRIBUTORS, AND DEALERS (Establishes standardized methods and appeals procedures for the calculation of fair and reasonable compensation for parts and labor used in warranty services.)

{LC1218/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Resolution No. 277**BY** Coyne, Seveney, Metts, DiPalma, Sosnowski

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE EFFECTS OF LEGALIZING MARIJUANA (Creates a 15 member commission to review and make recommendations on the effects of legalizing marijuana, and who would report back to the General Assembly by March 1, 2018, and expire on July 1, 2018.)

{LC1375/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 278**BY** Doyle

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL LAW - PAROLE BOARD (Prospectively limits appointments and reappointments to the parole board to 3 years.)

{LC536/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 279**BY** Kettle, Morgan, Paolino, Cote

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ACT (Requires retailers to examine photo ID to verify person presenting EBT card is person entitled to use it and impose one month suspension for each violation on retailers.)

{LC557/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 280**BY** Pearson, Picard, Archambault

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Leonette Marie Tanquay to join Lynne Elizabeth Daigneault and Gregg Noury in marriage on or about June 16, 2017, within the Town of Smithfield, Rhode Island.)

{LC703/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 281**BY** Lynch Prata**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY - JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE REPEALER (Creates joint committee to compile suggestions for repeal of statutes, regulations, and executive orders.)

{LC992/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 282**BY** Lynch Prata, Quezada, Metts, Nesselbush, Goldin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - THE HEALTHY PREGNANCIES FOR INCARCERATED WOMEN ACT (Prohibits the use of restraints on pregnant female prisoners during transport to court during the third trimester of pregnancy, and would require DOC to submit annual reports to the general assembly regarding the number of pregnant women at the ACI.)

{LC986/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 283**BY** McCaffrey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows the Honorable Frank S. Lombardi to join Stefanie Petrocchi and Joshua Garneau in marriage on or about August 27, 2017, within the City of Warwick, Rhode Island.)

{LC1391/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 284**BY** Doyle, Ciccone, Jabour, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- CONTRACTORS' BONDS (Prohibits state, general contractors, and construction managers from withholding a retainer of more than five percent (5%) from public works contracts.)

{LC544/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Labor.

Senate Bill No. 285**BY** McCaffrey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- ARBITRATION -- CONTINUANCE OF CONTRACTUAL PROVISIONS (Requires that the contractual provisions contained in and an otherwise expired collective bargaining agreement with certified school teachers and municipal employees continue until a successor agreement has been reached between the parties.)

{LC1271/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Labor.

Senate Bill No. 286**BY** Doyle, Ciccone, Lombardi, Goodwin, Ruggerio**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- ORGAN DONORS' LEAVE (Provides up to thirty (30) paid days in a calendar year to serve as an organ donor for state and municipal employees.)

{LC1088/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Labor.

Senate Bill No. 287**BY** Lynch Prata, Metts, Nesselbush, Coyne, Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - MINIMUM WAGES (Raises the minimum wage to \$10.50 per hour effective July 1, 2017.)

{LC445/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Labor.

Senate Bill No. 288**BY** Goodwin, Ruggerio, Ciccone, Miller**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - FIREFIGHTERS' ARBITRATION (Allows unionized firefighters to enter into an agreement which continues all contractual provisions contained in an expiring contract until a successor agreement has been reached.)

{LC1149/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Labor.

Senate Bill No. 289**BY** Cote, Pearson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - MINIMUM WAGE (Allows employers to pay the greater or 75% of the state minimum wage rate, or the federal minimum wage rate to employees eighteen (18) years or younger during the first six hundred eighty (680) hours or ninety (90) days of their employment.)

{LC1220/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Labor.

Senate Bill No. 290**BY** Goodwin, Calkin, Goldin, Seveney, Satchell**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- HEALTHY AND SAFE FAMILIES AND WORKPLACES ACT (Requires all employers to provide their employees with a minimum level of paid sick and safe leave including time to care for the employee's family members.)

{LC1160/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Labor.

Senate Bill No. 291**BY** Satchell, Pearson, DaPonte, Archambault, Lombardo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- WINE DIRECT SHIPPER LICENSE (Creates a wine direct shipper license to allow for shipment of limited amounts of wine through the mail to eligible customers.)

{LC311/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 292**BY** Felag**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES (Provides that the department of business regulation administer alcoholic server training programs rather than the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals.)

{LC1137/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Resolution No. 293**BY** Morgan, Raptakis, Cote, Kettle, Paolino**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND (FOUR YEAR TERMS AND TERM LIMITS FOR SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES) (Proposes an amendment to the Constitution to the electors of the state that increases the length of term for senators and representatives to four (4) years and imposes a limit of four (4) consecutive terms for those offices.)

{LC372/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 294**BY** Doyle, Seveney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RHODE ISLAND COMMERCE CORPORATION (Directs the Rhode Island commerce corporation to develop a combat veterans' small business loan program.)

{LC533/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 295**BY** Kettle, Morgan, Algiere, Cote**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - COURTESY VETERANS' PLATES (Permits a veteran to request a "Courtesy Plate" with their choice of letters and numbers consistent with present availability with the veteran plate format.)

{LC573/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 296**BY** Fogarty, Doyle, Felag, Lombardi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES - RETAIL LICENSES

(Provides that on and after July 1, 2016, any city or town council would have the authority to exempt said city or town from the prohibition against the issuance of certain alcoholic beverage licenses within (200') of a school or place of public worship.)

{LC582/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 297**BY** Algieri**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF GREEN REALTY ASSOCIATES, LLC.

{LC1444/1}

Placed on the Consent Calendar.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Resolution No. 298****BY** Algieri**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

{LC1385/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration

Senator Algieri requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Algieri moves passage, seconded by Senator Lombardi

The resolution is read and passed, upon a voice vote

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Ruggerio wishes Senator Daniel DaPonte and Senator Walter Felag a Happy Birthday.

Senator Goodwin announces that the deadline to submit legislation is tomorrow.

TRANSMITTAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Senator Goodwin, seconded by Senator Kettle, the Senate adjourns at 4:34 o'clock P.M

Appendix**INVOCATION****SENATOR WALTER S. FELAG, JR**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your blessings of health and strength. We seek your encouragement in using these qualities to their fullest potential. Amen.

Appendix

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017:

1. **2017-S 297**
 BY Algieri
 ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE
 CHARTER OF GREEN REALTY ASSOCIATES, LLC.

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

2. **2017-H 5148**
 BY Winfield
 ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE
 CHARTER OF SAVINGS OF AMERICA, INC.

Ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar for passage in concurrence.

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017:

1. **2017-S 57**
 BY Crowley
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--
 PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- FEES

 Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

2. **2017-S 168**
 BY Lombardi
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - REAL
 ESTATE BROKERS AND SALESPERSONS

 Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.