

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.25

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Twenty Fifth 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 4:19 o'clock P.M.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 33 Senators present and 5 Senators absent as follows:

PRESENT -33: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Calkin, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goodwin, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Paolino, Picard, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan.

ABSENT – 5: Senators Goldin, Lynch Prata, Nesselbush, Ruggerio, Sosnowski.

INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Honorable President presents the following communications:

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

March 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 Wednesday, March 15, 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,

Donna M. Nesselbush
Senator – District 15

Read and placed on file.

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

March 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, March 15, 2017 and Thursday March 16, 2017.

Sincerely,
Erin Lynch Prata
Senator, District- 31

Read and placed on file.

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

March 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 Wednesday & Thursday, March 15th & 16th, 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,

Gayle L. Goldin
Senator – District 03

Read and placed on file.

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

March 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 Wednesday March 15th, 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
Senate Majority Leader

Read and placed on file

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Resolution No. 547****BY** Algieri**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF DR. SAMUEL J. MONTALTO, JR.

{LC2072/1}

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 Senators Kettle, Morgan, Gee, Goodwin, Archambault, Felag, McCaffrey, and Metts.

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

Senate Bill No. 548**BY** DiPalma, Pearson, Felag, Seveney, Paiva Weed**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE (Has the veterans' cemetery bear the cost of funeral processions from Aquidneck Island crossing the Newport Bridge.)

{LC1908/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Resolution No. 549**BY** Jabour, Lynch Prata**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING SINCERE CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF HENRY J. COCHRANE

{LC2095/1}

Ordered to be placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

Senate Resolution No. 550**BY** Sosnowski, Goodwin, Lynch Prata, Ruggerio, Gallo**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE SONS OF LIBERTY BEER & SPIRITS COMPANY, ON BEING NAMED THE "AMERICAN CRAFT PRODUCER OF THE YEAR" AT WHISKY MAGAZINE'S 2017 ICONS OF WHISKY AWARDS

{LC2052/1}

Ordered to be placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 551

(DPUC)

BY Ciccone, Lombardi, Fogarty, McCaffrey, DaPonte**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (Expands use of public utilities reserve fund to state court appeals to and regulatory matters before federal agencies and increase amount chargeable to public utility to \$750,000 but not more than \$250,000 for administrator's representation of state.)

{LC1742/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 552

(DPUC)

BY Fogarty**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS (Removes the sixty (60) day excavation completion requirement for work near public utilities and would require accidents to be reported to 911.)

{LC1357/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 553

(DPUC)

BY Cote**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (Extends to March 1, 2028, the electric distribution company requirement to file their supply procurement plan with the public utility commission and removes the restrictions on time of use rates for residential customers.)

{LC1359/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 554

(office of postsecondary commissioner)

BY Gallo, Pearson, Metts, DiPalma, Satchell**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- PRIVATE SCHOOLS (Requires accreditation by a Regional Accrediting Agency recognized by the United States Department of Education for distance learning institutions to transact business or grant degrees in Rhode Island.)

{LC1365/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Education.

Senate Bill No. 555**BY** Gallo, Archambault, Lynch Prata, Felag**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OPERATORS' AND CHAUFFEURS' LICENSES (Creates required education courses for all parents or guardians of individuals under the age of eighteen (18) who are seeking a driver's license, unless they are granted a hardship provision and corrects the proper name of the state board of education.)

{LC1452/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Education.

Senate Resolution No. 556**BY** DiPalma, Gallo, Conley, Metts, Seveney**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO REVIEW AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE UPDATING, STREAMLINING AND ENSURING RELEVANCE OF RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS TITLE 16 (Creates a 14 member commission to review and make recommendations on the updating, streamlining and ensuring relevance of Rhode Island General Laws Title 16, and would report back by March 1, 2018, and expire on July 1, 2018.)

{LC1806/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Education.

Senate Bill No. 557**BY** DiPalma, Doyle, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - ESTABLISHMENT OF CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Establishes district-charter compacts between charter schools and traditional public schools.)

{LC1677/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Education.

Senate Bill No. 558

(Quonset Development Corp.)

BY Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - QUONSET DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (Provides that the Quonset Development Corporation may purchase and obtain water service from any city, town, water district, or other water supply authority.)

{LC1363/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

Senate Bill No. 559

(Dept. of Environmental Management)

BY Sosnowski, Fogarty, Sheehan, Archambault, Felag**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- VETERINARY PRACTICE (Removes certain restrictions on who can perform routine husbandry procedures on livestock and allows a licensed human medical practitioner to assist a licensed veterinarian.)

{LC1339/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

Senate Bill No. 560

(Dept. of Environmental Management)

BY Sosnowski, Conley, Calkin, Coyne, Archambault**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION-RHODE ISLAND UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT (Amends the Rhode Island Underground Storage Tank Financial Responsibility Act to streamline fund processes and clarify language within the law.)

{LC1335/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

Senate Bill No. 561

(Dept. of Environmental Management)

BY Archambault, Sosnowski, Miller, Conley, Calkin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- DOGS (Appoints an animal control officer to the rabies control board.)

{LC1343/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

Senate Bill No. 562

(Dept. of Administration)

BY Lynch Prata, Miller, Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- STATEWIDE MUNICIPAL SOLAR PERMIT (Requires the Rhode Island office of energy resources, in consultation with the building commission to promulgate rules and regulations to create a statewide solar photovoltaic permit application.)

{LC1351/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

Senate Bill No. 563**BY** Goodwin, Ruggerio, Ciccone, Lombardo, Lombardi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY - CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (Allows a pound or animal shelter to put an animal up for adoption or otherwise humanely dispose of that animal after seven days if it has a tag or after five days if it has no tag.)

{LC1539/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

Senate Bill No. 564

(General Treasurer)

BY Pearson, Gallo, Lynch Prata**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Provides a one-time tax credit up to two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per dependent child for certain Rhode Island households who contribute to an account under the Rhode Island college bound tuition savings program.)

{LC1367/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 565**BY** DiPalma, Seveney, Satchell, Pearson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES - TAXATION OF BEVERAGES (Exempts from the alcoholic beverage manufacturing tax the first fifty thousand (50,000) gallons of wine produced by a winery in this state for distribution in RI in any calendar year.)

{LC2066/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 566

(General Treasurer)

BY Gallo, Lynch Prata, Miller, Goldin, Coyne**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE - CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION (Allows for compensation for a minor who witnesses a homicide or incident of domestic violence from the crime victims compensation program.)

{LC1369/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Resolution No. 567**BY** Sosnowski, Algieri, Jabour, Sheehan, Gallo**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FINANCING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW RESIDENCE FACILITY ON THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND KINGSTON CAMPUS

{LC2086/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 568**BY** DiPalma, Pearson, Doyle, Seveney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION-FOUNDATION LEVEL SCHOOL SUPPORT (Amends the maintenance of effort provisions used to determine the minimum contribution for local school aid.)

{LC1647/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 569

(DCYF)

BY DaPonte

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES (Repeals the provision for annual increases for children's residential programs.)

{LC1333/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 570**BY** Sosnowski, Fogarty, Conley, Archambault

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- TAXATION OF FARM, FOREST, AND OPEN SPACE LAND (Exempts land previously classified as farm, forest or open space land from land use change tax if the change is for purposes of a commercial renewable energy system.)

{LC1755/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 571**BY** DaPonte

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TEACHERS' RETIREMENT BENEFITS (Increases the monthly minimum benefits of spouses and domestic partners of retired teachers, and would authorize additional yearly non-compounded adjustments.)

{LC2027/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 572**BY** Kettle, Algiere, Seveney, Morgan, Felag

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Provides for a two percent (2%) regionalization bonus to all regionalized school districts commencing in Fiscal Year 2018.)

{LC2018/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 573**BY** Morgan, Felag, Kettle, Seveney, Coyne

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Removes the language which provides for the reduction and elimination of the foundation education aid bonus that is given to regionalized school districts and phased out over a two (2) year period.)

{LC2016/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 574**BY** DiPalma, Goldin, Satchell, Miller**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS

INSURANCE POLICIES (Includes a state-licensed facility that provides mental health and/or substance abuse treatment and/or prevention services in the definition of "health care provider" for the purposes of the prompt payment of health insurance claims.)

{LC1726/1}

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

Senate Bill No. 575**BY** Lynch Prata, Jabour, Gallo, Doyle**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - REAL ESTATE EXEMPTION (Updates the definition of visually impaired persons to conform to the federal standard based upon medical advances and to assure a uniform application by all municipalities in granting the exemption.)

{LC2093/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill No. 576**BY** Ciccone, Lombardi, McCaffrey, Archambault, Lombardo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY – THE CONSUMER

PROTECTION IN EYE CARE ACT (Provides consumer protection in eye care services by developing standards and enforcement protocols related to the utilization of emergent technologies in the provision of eye care services, as well as for the delegation of eye care services by providers.)

{LC2048/1}

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

Senate Bill No. 577**BY** Sosnowski, Sheehan, Miller, Crowley, Goldin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH CARE FACILITIES - LICENSING (Allows physician practices to maintain their license standards, even if a hospital system owns the practice.)

{LC1691/1}

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

Senate Bill No. 578**BY** Sosnowski, Crowley, Goldin, Miller, Calkin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS

INSURANCE POLICIES (Prohibits insurance companies from varying the premium rates charged for a health coverage plan based on the gender of the individual policy holder, enrollee, subscriber, or member.)

{LC1757/1}

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

Senate Bill No. 579**BY** Conley, Lombardo, Coyne

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - RHODE ISLAND ACCESS TO MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION ACT (Increases the percentage of out-of-state patients of a RI healthcare facility specializing in domestic medical tourism and in certain cases, authorizes the director and the attorney general to order the facility to stop offering health services.)

{LC1888/1}

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

Senate Bill No. 580**BY** Coyne, Miller, Nesselbush, Calkin, Lombardo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - DENTAL HEALTH COVERAGE (Permits dental patients of five health care providers to assign their dental benefits to dentist of their choice.)

{LC1874/1}

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

Senate Bill No. 581**BY** Morgan, Kettle, Gee, Sheehan, Raptakis

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOBILE AND MANUFACTURED HOMES--AFFORDABLE HOUSING (Qualifies mobile and manufactured homes as affordable housing when installed in mobile home parks in groups of twenty (20) or more.)

{LC2010/1}

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

Senate Bill No. 582**BY** Morgan, Kettle, Gee

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES - SALARIES AND TRAVELING EXPENSES (Requires all non-supervisory classified employees to electronically record their daily work hours.)

{LC799/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Labor.

Senate Bill No. 583**BY** Goldin, Goodwin, Sosnowski, Paiva Weed, Coyne

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES (Provides protections against wage differentials based upon the sex of the employee and provides for causes of actions against employees alleged to have committed sex discrimination as set forth in the act.)

{LC999/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Labor.

Senate Bill No. 584**BY** Lombardi, McCaffrey, Jabour, Nesselbush, Conley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - PAYMENT OF WAGES (Eliminates repealed statute references and creates a mechanism for workers to enforce their existing right to continuation of medical benefits, reinstatement after returning from being a temporary caregiver and Sunday pay wage laws.)

{LC2049/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Labor.

Senate Bill No. 585**BY** Goldin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES - RETAIL LICENSES - PROVIDENCE (Enables the city of Providence's board of licenses to approve the liquor license applications for a business at 100-102 Hope Street (Assessor's plat 16, lot 263), located within two hundred feet (200') of a church.)

{LC2065/1}

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

Senate Bill No. 586

(Attorney General)

BY Lombardi, McCaffrey, Archambault, Jabour, Conley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY (Requires registration and criminal background checks of individuals who provide personal care assistant services.)

{LC772/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 587

(Attorney General)

BY Goldin, Miller, Coyne, Metts, Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS (Requires applicants for a license or carry permit for firearms to undergo a national BCI.)

{LC767/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 588

(Attorney General)

BY Sosnowski, Raptakis, Archambault, Coyne, Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES (Extends the "lookback" period for third and subsequent offenses under §31-27-2 ("driving under influence of liquor or drugs") and §31-27-2.1 ("refusal to submit to chemical test") from five (5) years to ten (10) years.)

{LC758/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 589

(Attorney General)

BY Lombardi, McCaffrey, Archambault, Jabour, Conley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - CRIMES AGAINST THE PUBLIC TRUST (Creates the crimes against public trust act to punish crimes committed by public officers, provide restitution for the crimes, and extend the statute of limitations for wrongful conversion.)

{LC768/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 590

(Attorney General)

BY Lombardi, McCaffrey, Archambault, Jabour, Conley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT (Codifies the public corruption and white collar crime unit within the Department of Attorney General.)

{LC764/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 591

(Attorney General)

BY Lombardi, McCaffrey, Archambault, Jabour, Conley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS --REPORTING POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY STATE VENDORS (Extend the limitation on political contributions for state or municipal vendors and establishes significant penalties for violations.)

{LC1241/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 592

(Attorney General)

BY Lombardi, McCaffrey, Archambault, Jabour, Conley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - COMPUTER CRIME (Prohibits unauthorized access to confidential information from a computer, computer program, computer system, or computer network.)

{LC1243/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 593

BY Coyne, Lombardo, Miller, Sosnowski, Ruggerio

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - CHILDREN

{LC2075/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 594

(Attorney General)

BY Metts**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS (Amends the statute for possession of firearms by minors.)

{LC766/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 595**BY** Goodwin, Lynch Prata, Gallo, Paiva Weed, Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS - ADOPTION OF CHILDREN (Allows the family court, after finding by clear and convincing evidence that a child was conceived as a result of sexual assault, to terminate the parental rights of the father including the right to notice for subsequent adoption proceedings.)

{LC1551/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 596**BY** Goldin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS - ADOPTION OF CHILDREN (Provides that siblings and half-siblings who were separated through action of the DCYF or similar entity may petition the family court for visitation with an adopted sibling or half-sibling.)

{LC1625/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 597**BY** Conley, Jabour, Lynch Prata, Doyle, McCaffrey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROBATE PRACTICE - LIMITED GUARDIANSHIP AND GUARDIANSHIP OF ADULTS (Increases the guardianship ad litem maximum fee from \$400 to \$800 in guardian/limited guardianship proceedings.)

{LC1894/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 598**BY** Morgan, Kettle, Gee, Raptakis, Paolino**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - MAIL BALLOTS - CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES (Requires any person voting by mail or emergency ballot to provide proof of identity.)

{LC2012/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 599

(Attorney General)

BY McCaffrey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS --

CONTRACTORS' REGISTRATION AND LICENSING BOARD (Distinguishes the criminal penalties for violations of final order of contractors' registration board based on the amount of the monetary amount on the final orders with orders in excess of \$5,000 deemed felonies and less than \$5,000 deemed misdemeanors.)

{LC1227/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 600**BY** Goldin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- STUDENT JOURNALISTS'

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION ACT (Creates the Student Journalists' Freedom of Expression Act protecting student journalists' right to exercise freedom of speech in school-sponsored media.)

{LC2070/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 601

(Attorney General)

BY Sosnowski, Raptakis, Archambault, Coyne, Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - MOTOR

VEHICLE OFFENSES (Creates a new criminal offense of driving under the influence resulting in physical injury.)

{LC769/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 602**BY** Kettle, Morgan, Cote, Archambault, Algiere**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT (Provides that when an agency publicly proposes for notice and comment or otherwise promulgates a new rule or regulation, it would identify at least one existing rule or regulation to be repealed.)

{LC1700/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 603**BY** McCaffrey, Lombardi, Archambault, Conley, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES (Requires that

matters adjudicated under the Automated School-Zone-Speed-Enforcement System Act of 2016 be done in accordance with rules promulgated by the Chief Magistrate of the Traffic Tribunal.)

{LC1819/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 604

(Attorney General)

BY Sosnowski, Raptakis, Archambault, Coyne, Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES (Increases penalties for driving to endanger, resulting in death and resulting in bodily injury and amends the penalty range for driving under the influence resulting in death or bodily injury.)

{LC760/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 605**BY** McCaffrey, Lombardi, Archambault, Conley, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--COURTS -- SUPERIOR COURT (Allows those individuals with prior convictions for possession with intent to deliver or crimes of violence, to be eligible for the drug court program in Superior Court.)

{LC2131/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 606**BY** Lombardi, Archambault, Conley, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS (Authorizes magistrates to preside over additional matters that are heard before the family court.)

{LC1821/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 607**BY** McCaffrey, Lombardi, Archambault, Conley, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION (Allows the Court in reviewing sex offender level determination by the board, to raise or lower the offender's community notification level and provides that any person aggrieved may appeal to the Supreme Court.)

{LC2130/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 608**BY** McCaffrey, Lombardi, Archambault, Conley, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION (Requires local law enforcement to share information with local school departments for the purposes of notifying parents of students whose bus stop is within 1000 feet of the residence of level 3 sex offender.)

{LC2132/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 609**BY** McCaffrey, Lombardi, Archambault, Conley, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- REGULATION OF SALES (Provides that a person under the age of twenty-one (21) years of age who is convicted of possession of an alcoholic beverage has committed a violation, and not a felony or misdemeanor.)
{LC2056/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 610**BY** McCaffrey, Lombardi, Archambault, Conley, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS -- DOMESTIC ABUSE PREVENTION (Amends the definition of "domestic abuse" to include acts by a person who knowingly/willfully encourages/aids/coerces any minor child to engage in commercial sex acts and allows a parent or legal custodian to seek a protective order on behalf of a minor.)
{LC1820/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 611**BY** McCaffrey, Lombardi, Archambault, Conley, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - COURTS -- COURT ADMINISTRATION (Limits the judiciary's publicly available list of delinquent persons to the 100 delinquent persons owing the largest amount of court imposed or court related fees, and other monetary obligations which have been unpaid for a period in excess of 90 days.)
{LC1817/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 612**BY** McCaffrey, Lombardi, Archambault, Conley, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--PROCEDURE GENERALLY (Adds the Rhode Island traffic tribunal to the list of courts afforded the ability to dismiss cases for lack of prosecution.)
{LC1818/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 613**BY** McCaffrey, Lombardi, Archambault, Conley, Nesselbush**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS (Provides that those seeking review of a post-conviction relief final judgment must file their petition for writ of certiorari within sixty days from the date of final judgment.)
{LC1822/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 614**BY** Lombardi, Algieri, Lynch Prata, Jabour, McCaffrey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN (Requires all CASA (court-appointed special advocate) volunteers to first pass DCYF clearance as well as a national criminal background check before qualifying for appointment by the court.)

{LC2055/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

CONSENT CALENDAR

In order for the day is taken up as follows:

1. The Reappointment of Marcia Reback Labor Representative to the Labor Relations Board for a term expiring August 1, 2020.

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

2. The Reappointment of Scott Duhamel Labor Representative to the Labor Relations Board for a term expiring August 1, 2020.

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

3. 2017-S 111**BY** Miller**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES FOR THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY WATERFOWL HUNTING LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends passage.

Upon motion of Senator Goodwin, seconded by Senator Algieri, the following measures on today's Consent Calendar, by unanimous consent, are read and passed, upon a roll call vote:

YEAS - 33: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Calkin, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goodwin, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan.**NAYS - 0:**

CALENDAR

In order for the day is taken up as follows:

1. **2017-S 520**
 BY Morgan
 ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF MARCH TO
 BE "MAPLE SYRUP MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Ordered on the Calendar

Senator Goodwin orders the resolution to be placed on the desk.

2. **2017-S 243**
 BY Crowley
 ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN
 RHODE ISLAND AND TAIWAN, ENHANCING BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND
 SUPPORTING TAIWAN IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

Committee on Commerce recommends passage.

Senator Crowley moves passage of the resolution, seconded by Senators Lombardo, Cote, Metts, and Picard.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 33 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows.

YEAS - 33: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Calkin, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goodwin, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan.

NAYS - 0:

3. 2017-S 162**BY** Raptakis**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO THE COVENTRY FIRE DISTRICT

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Raptakis moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Kettle and Ciccone.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 33 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows.

YEAS - 33: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Calkin, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goodwin, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan.

NAYS - 0:

4. 2017-S 478**BY** Pearson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO THE CUMBERLAND FIRE DISTRICT

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Pearson moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Kettle, Ciccone, and McCaffrey.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 32 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows.

YEAS - 32: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Calkin, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goodwin, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Satchell, Seveney.

NAYS - 0:

5. 2017-S 482**BY** Paiva Weed**ENTITLED**, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AN AMENDMENT TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF JAMESTOWN

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Goodwin moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Ciccone and Sheehan.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 33 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows.

YEAS - 33: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Calkin, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goodwin, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan.

NAYS - 0:

6. 2017-S 195**BY** Jabour**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

Senator Jabour moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Felag, Goodwin, and Lombardi.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 33 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows.

YEAS - 33: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Calkin, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goodwin, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan.

NAYS - 0:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Jabour announces that the Committee on Judiciary will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Room 313 on the State House.

Senator Cote announces that the Committee on Commerce will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Room 212 of the State House.

Senator Sheehan announces that the Committee on Health and Human Services will meet today at the rise of the Senate in the Senate Lounge on the State House.

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

Senator DiPalma wishes everyone a belated Pi Day (π) 3:14.

Senator Goodwin congratulates Senate Page Joseph Baxter on being awarded the St. Timothy Award from the Diocese of Providence.

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 Lombardo, seconded by Senator Goodwin, and upon suggestion of Senator Algiere the Senate adjourns at 4:33 o'clock P.M, in memory of *Dr. Samuel J. Montalto, Jr.*

Appendix

INVOCATION

SENATOR ELAINE J. MORGAN

Dear God, we ask that you be with us today in our thoughts and actions as we try to work for the benefit of all our constituents. Amen.

Appendix

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017:

1. 2017-S 549

BY Jabour

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING SINCERE CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF HENRY J. COCHRANE

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

2. 2017-S 550

BY Sosnowski

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE SONS OF LIBERTY BEER & SPIRITS COMPANY, ON BEING NAMED THE "AMERICAN CRAFT PRODUCER OF THE YEAR" AT WHISKY MAGAZINE'S 2017 ICONS OF WHISKY AWARDS

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.