

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.49

Thursday, May 18th, 2017

Forty Ninth Legislative Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio, President of the Senate, at 4:11 o'clock P.M.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 36 Senators present and 1 Senator absent as follows:

PRESENT – 36: The Honorable President Ruggerio and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Calkin, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goldin, Goodwin, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski.

ABSENT –1: Senator Satchell.

INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

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

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

COMMUNICATION

The Honorable President presents the following communication:

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

May 18, 2017

The Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio
President of the Senate
318 State House
Providence, RI 02903

Dear President Ruggerio:

Please be advised and let the record reflect that due to obligations in town this afternoon, I will be absent from the chamber on Thursday, May 18, 2017.

I would appreciate your recording my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Senator Adam J. Satchell
Senate District 09

Read and placed on file.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

Chairwoman Gallo, from the Committee on Education, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

Senate Resolution No. 881

BY Gallo, Conley, Ciccone

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING ALL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS, TEACHERS, PARENTS AND STUDENTS BE EDUCATED ABOUT THE POTENTIAL HEALTH IMPACT OF HEAVY BACKPACKS AND TAKE PROACTIVE MEASURES TO AVOID INJURY
{LC2677/1}

Read and ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar.

Senate Resolution No. 882**BY** Conley, DiPalma, Gallo, Metts, Satchell

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE CREATION OF A WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION SYSTEM IN RHODE ISLAND (Creates an 11 member commission to conduct a review and make recommendations on the creation of a world-class education system in Rhode Island, and who would report back to the Senate by March 1, 2018, and expire on July 1, 2018.)
{LC2668/1}

Read and ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR

Chairman Fogarty, from the Committee on Labor, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measure:

Senate Resolution No. 826**BY** Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Pearson, Algieri

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD WORK WITH THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND TRAINING TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE EXPANSION OF NEW SKILLS AND COMPETENCY BASED APPRENTICESHIPS IN A FULL ARRAY OF SECTORS AND TO ASSIST EMPLOYERS THROUGH THE PROCESS OF INITIATING A NEW REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM
{LC2296/1}

Read and ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar.

COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL LEGISLATION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Chairman Felag, from the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

Senate Resolution No. 901**BY** DiPalma, Seveney, Algieri, Felag

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION AMENDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON DEFENSE ECONOMY PLANNING (Amends the membership of the special legislative commission on defense economy planning by increasing the number of members from twenty-five (25) to twenty-six (26) by adding the Director of Veteran's Affairs, or designee.)
{LC2455/1}

Read and ordered to be placed on the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 905**BY** Sosnowski, Ruggerio, Conley, Lombardo, Algiere**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY - PERMANENT JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS (Renames the College of Pharmacy building on Greenhouse Road at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, as "Paramaz Avedisian '54 Hall.")
{LC2671/1}

Read and ordered to be placed on the Calendar.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Resolution No. 909****BY** Goodwin, Metts, Jabour, Goldin, Quezada**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION DECLARING MAY 18TH, 2017, TO BE "ONE PROVIDENCE DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
{LC2711/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Goodwin requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Goodwin moves passage, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Algiere, Miller, Gallo, Ciccone, Jabour, Lombardi, Quezada, Raptakis, Sheehan, and Goldin.

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

GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Goodwin and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President welcomes to the Chamber Mayor Jorge Elorza, Chief Clemments, Peter Assen, and Marissa O’Gara.

Senate Resolution No. 910**BY** Raptakis, Nesselbush, McCaffrey, Algiere, Lombardi**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 19TH OF 2017 AS "GREEK PONTIAN GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
{LC2504/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Raptakis requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Raptakis moves passage, seconded by Senators Archambault, Algiere, McCaffrey, Gallo, Coyne, Doyle, Miller, Conley, Sheehan, Felag, Lombardi, Nesselbush, Fogarty, Crowley, Metts, and Picard.

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

GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Raptakis and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President welcomes to the Chamber Gus Tsilfides President Pan Pontian Federation of USA and Canada, Panagiotis Petridis President of Panagia Soumela Boston, and Themis Karatzas Past President Pontian Society.

Senate Bill No. 911

BY Fogarty

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE BURRILLVILLE LAND TRUST (Increases the tax exemption for real property held by the Burrillville Land Trust to two million dollars (\$2,000,000).)
{LC2712/1}

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Finance.

CALENDAR

In order for the day is taken up as follows:

1. The Appointment of Rebecca L. Boss, M.A Director VICE Maria Montanaro to the Director of the Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Senator Miller moves the Advice and Consent, seconded by Senators Lombardi, Lynch Prata, Sosnowski, Crowley, Quezada, Felag, Goldin, Seveney, Paolino, Archambault, Algieri, and Goodwin.

Senators Sheehan, Fogarty and DiPalma discuss the appointment.

Advice and Consent is granted, on a roll call vote, with 35 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows.

YEAS - 35: The Honorable President Ruggerio and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Calkin, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goldin, Goodwin, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Nesselbush, Paolino, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski.

NAYS - 0:

GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senators Miller and Fogarty and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President welcomes to the Chamber Rebecca L. Boss, Director of BH.D.D.H, her husband Robert Boss and their daughters Kaelyn, Stefanie and Emily.

2. 2017-S 442 SUB A**BY** Lynch Prata**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION - THE CLIMATE CHANGE COASTAL ADAPTATION TRUST FUND

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

Senator Lynch Prata moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Lombardi, Gallo, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Conley, Sosnowski, Quezada, Calkin, Seveney, and DiPalma.

The bill marked substitute "A" is read and passed and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, with 32 members voting in the affirmative and 3 members voting in the negative as follows.

YEAS - 32: The Honorable President Ruggerio and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Calkin, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goldin, Goodwin, Jabour, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Nesselbush, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski.

NAYS - 3: Senators Kettle, Morgan, Paolino.

3. 2017-S 777**BY** Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS REQUIRED

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

Senator Goodwin moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Conley, Doyle, Coyne, Jabour, Nesselbush, Fogarty, Quezada, Miller, Felag, Archambault, Gee, Paolino, Goldin, and DiPalma.

Senator Miller discusses the act.

The act is read and passed, on a roll call vote, with 35 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows.

YEAS - 35: The Honorable President Ruggerio and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Calkin, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goldin, Goodwin, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Nesselbush, Paolino, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski.

NAYS - 0:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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

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 Algieri the Senate adjourns at 4:37 o'clock P.M

Appendix

INVOCATION

SENATOR LEONIDAS P. RAPTAKIS

Almighty God, help those in need, give strength to the weak and comfort the sorrowful. May all who seek your help experience your unfailing protection. Amen.

Appendix**CONSENT CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2017:****1. 2017-S 881****BY** Gallo

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING ALL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS, TEACHERS, PARENTS AND STUDENTS BE EDUCATED ABOUT THE POTENTIAL HEALTH IMPACT OF HEAVY BACKPACKS AND TAKE PROACTIVE MEASURES TO AVOID INJURY

Committee on Education recommends passage.

2. 2017-S 882**BY** Conley

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE CREATION OF A WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION SYSTEM IN RHODE ISLAND

Committee on Education recommends passage.

3. 2017-S 826**BY** Ruggerio

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD WORK WITH THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND TRAINING TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE EXPANSION OF NEW SKILLS AND COMPETENCY BASED APPRENTICESHIPS IN A FULL ARRAY OF SECTORS AND TO ASSIST EMPLOYERS THROUGH THE PROCESS OF INITIATING A NEW REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Committee on Labor recommends passage.

Appendix**CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2017:**

1. **2017-S 901**
 BY DiPalma
 ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION AMENDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE
 SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON DEFENSE ECONOMY PLANNING

 Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.
2. **2017-S 905 SUB A**
 BY Sosnowski
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY - PERMANENT
 JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES
 AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends indefinite
postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.