

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 Seventh Day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty.

Volume 147, No. 8

Thursday, January 30, 2020

Eighth Legislative Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable Dominick J. Ruggiero, President of the Senate, at 4:16 o'clock P.M.

ROLL CALL

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 36 Senators present and 2 Senators absent as follows:

PRESENT – 36: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggiero, and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Bell, Cano Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, Crowley, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, and Valverde.

ABSENT – 2: Senators Morgan and Sosnowski.

INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

The Senate Journal of the Seventh Legislative Day of the 2020 proceedings is read in part.

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

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Murray and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Remi Graber of Woonsocket, Caroline Fisher, an EMT from Worcester; and Jeffrey Haworth, a Field Supervisor from Worcester.

Upon the suggestion of Senator Nesselbush and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Rupesh Udeshi, DMD, a 4th year law student and Senate Intern from the Dental Associates of Rhode Island.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR

The Honorable President of the Senate 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****GINA M. RAIMONDO, GOVERNOR**

January 30, 2020

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 16-32-2.2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees:

Richard Humphrey, Esq.

(Selected from a list provided by the Speaker)

For a term expiring February 1, 2022.

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

Sincerely,

Gina M. Raimondo
Governor

To the Senate Committee on Education.



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

GINA M. RAIMONDO, GOVERNOR

January 24, 2020

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section §42-64-7.1 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island airport Corporation:

Jeffrey Bogosian

Vice
Heather Tow-Yick

For a term expiring June 1, 2024.

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

Sincerely,

Gina M. Raimondo
Governor

To the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**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 Bill No. 2095

(by request)

BY Algieri

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

(Allows Westerly to exempt from the provisions of this section any proposed Class B liquor license to be located at 114 Granite Street, Westerly.)

{LC3401/1}

Read and ordered to be placed on the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 2096

BY Ciccone, Lombardi, Lombardo

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

(Allows the city of Providence board of licenses to grant an exemption with regard to the proximity to schools and churches relating to the issuance of an alcoholic beverage retail license for property located at 601 Hartford Avenue, Providence, RI.)

{LC2988/1}

Read and ordered to be placed on the Calendar.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR

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

Senate Bill No. 2147

BY Lynch Prata, Goodwin, Conley, Miller, Quezada

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES (Increases the minimum wage gradually up to fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per hour by the year 2024.)

{LC3644/1}

Read and ordered to be put on the Calendar.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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

The Appointment of Honorable Charles J. Fogarty to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2021.

Read and ordered to be put on the Calendar.

The Appointment of Matthew Lenz, Esq. (selected from a list provided by Senate President) to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2022.

Read and ordered to be put on the Calendar.

The Appointment of Roby Luna to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2022.

Read and ordered to be put on the Calendar.

The Appointment of Michael McNally to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2023.

Read and ordered to be put on the Calendar.

The Appointment of Vahid Ownjazayeri to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2023.

Read and ordered to be put on the Calendar.

The Appointment of Yahaira Placencia to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2022.

Read and ordered to be put on the Calendar.

The Appointment of Armand E. Sabitoni to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2023.

Read and ordered to be put on the Calendar.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Resolution No. 2155****BY** Gallo, Goodwin**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF BARRY M. SULLIVAN
{LC3804/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Gallo requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Gallo moves passage, seconded by The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Algiere, Archambault, Bell, Cano Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, Crowley, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, and Valverde.

The resolution is read and passed upon a rising vote.

Senators Gallo, Goodwin and Felag speak on the Resolution.

Senate Resolution No. 2156**BY** McCaffrey, Lynch Prata, McKenney, Lombardo, Gallo**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING WARWICK BEACON PUBLISHER AND EDITOR JOHN HOWELL FOR HIS 50 YEARS IN LOCAL JOURNALISM
{LC3681/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator McCaffrey requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator McCaffrey moves passage, seconded by The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Algiere, Archambault, Bell, Cano Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, Crowley, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, and Valverde.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

Senators McKenney, Lynch Prata, Lombardi, Sheehan, and Ruggerio speak on the Resolution.

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senators Lynch Prata and McCaffrey, and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Guest Speaker John Howell from the Warwick Beacon.

John Howell addresses the Chamber.

Senate Resolution No. 2157

BY Valverde, Goldin

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF JANUARY 26TH TO FEBRUARY 1ST OF 2020, TO BE "PHYSICIAN ANESTHESIOLOGISTS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
{LC4113/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration

Senator Valverde requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Valverde moves passage, seconded by The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Algiere, Archambault, Bell, Cano Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, Crowley, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, and Sheehan.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Valverde and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Sara Whaley, a senior at Narragansett Highschool; Dr. Herbert Chen, Immediate Past President of the RI Society of Anesthesiology; Dr. Christopher Malgieri, RI Society of Anesthesiology Chair; Dr. Deeran Patel, RI Society of Anesthesiology.

Senate Resolution No. 2158**BY** Morgan, de la Cruz, Rogers, Paolino, Goodwin**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING JANUARY OF 2020 AS "RHODE ISLAND SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
{LC3864/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration

Senator Algiere requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Algiere moves passage, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Lynch Prata, Gallo, Goodwin, Quezada, Satchell, Raptakis, Cano, Metts, and Paolino.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Bill No. 2159****BY** Euer**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Timi Rosalie Gelfman Sgouros to join Asha Alice Frances Misra and John Sinclair Wrenn in marriage on or about June 20, 2020, within the Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island.)
{LC4146/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2160**BY** Murray, Picard**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows the Honorable Stephen R. Ucci to join Darlene M. Boudreau and the Honorable Michael A. Morin in marriage on or about July 30, 2020, within the City of Warwick, Rhode Island.)
{LC4150/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2161**BY** DiPalma

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Daniel Baker to join Emily Jeanne Lewis and Brian Patrick Hartley in marriage on or about July 4, 2020, within the Town of Middletown, Rhode Island.)
{LC4115/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2162

(Board of Elections)

BY Lynch Prata

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS -- BOARD OF ELECTIONS (Corrects the address of the Board of Elections, for purposes of mail ballots, due to their relocation from Providence to Cranston.)
{LC3626/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

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, and to the Honorable House of Representatives forthwith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

Senator Goodwin wishes Brenden Oates' a Happy 30th Birthday.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon the Motion of Senator Gallo seconded by Senator Goodwin, and upon the suggestion of Senator Gallo the Senate adjourns at 4:51 o'clock P.M, *in memory of Barry M. Sullivan*.

Appendix**INVOCATION****SENATOR CYNTHIA ARMOUR COYNE**

Heavenly Father, may we undertake our tasks in the spirit of selfless service and unrestrained devotion. May something of Your gentle ways and sensitivity be implanted in us and expressed in all our actions. Amen.

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2020:

- 1. 2020-S 2006 SUB A**
BY Ruggerio
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS

Committee on Judiciary recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2020:

1. ***The Appointment of Honorable Charles J. Fogarty to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2021.***

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

2. ***The Appointment of Matthew Lenz, Esq. (selected from a list provided by Senate President) to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2022.***

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

3. ***The Appointment of Roby Luna to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2022.***

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

4. ***The Appointment of Michael McNally to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2023.***

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

5. ***The Appointment of Vahid Ownjazayeri to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2023.***

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

6. ***The Appointment of Yahaira Placencia to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2022.***

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

7. ***The Appointment of Armand E. Sabitoni to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2023.***

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

8. 2020-S 2147 SUB A**BY** Lynch Prata**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS --
MINIMUM WAGES

Committee on Labor recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

9. 2020-S 2095**BY** Algieri**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOL BEVERAGES -- RETAIL
LICENSES

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

10. 2020-S 2096**BY** Ciccone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL
LICENSES

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

Robert L. Ricci
Secretary of the Senate