

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. 18

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

Eighteenth Legislative Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio, President of the Senate, at 4:10 o'clock P.M.

ROLL CALL

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 38 Senators present and 0 Senators absent as follows:

PRESENT – 38: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, 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, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

ABSENT – 0:

INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Honorable President of the Senate presents the following communication:

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations**Senate Chamber**

February 28, 2020

Mr. Robert L. Ricci
Secretary of the Senate
State House, Room 220
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I would like to take this opportunity to respectfully request that the following bill be withdrawn at the sponsor's request.

The legislation I would like to have withdrawn is 2020 Senate Bill S-2497, An Act Relating to Commercial Law – General Regulatory Provisions – Indecent Deceptive Trade Practices, which has been assigned to the Commerce Committee.

I appreciate your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Senator Elizabeth A. Crowley
District 16 – Central Falls & Pawtucket

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT**

Chairman Lombardo, from the Committee on Housing and Municipal Government, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

Senate Bill No. 2074

BY Seveney, DiPalma, Coyne, Satchell, Euer

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS -- PRUDENCE ISLAND SCHOOL FOUNDATION (Enables the town council of Portsmouth to transfer and/or convey parcels of land owned by the town on Prudence Island to the Prudence Island School Foundation to be used for educational purposes.)
{LC3822/1}

From the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government to the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 2332

BY Ruggerio, Archambault, Paolino, Nesselbush, Ciccone

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO AMENDING THE CHARTER OF NORTH PROVIDENCE (Amends the North Providence legislative town charter to gradually increase the mayor's compensation from (\$75,000.00) to (\$85,000.00) for FY 2020, to (\$95,000.00) for FY 2021, to (\$105,000.00) beginning on FY 2022 and each year thereafter.)
{LC4014/1}

From the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government to the Calendar.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Resolution No. 2723**

BY Coyne, Goldin, Seveney, DiPalma, Murray

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE BARRINGTON UNDER 12 ALL STAR TEAM ON THEIR SUCCESS IN THE 2019 LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES
{LC4881/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Coyne requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

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

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senators Coyne, Felag, and Paolino, and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate welcomes to the Chamber Manager of the Barrington Little League Chris Promades, Coach Frank Fede, and the members of the All Star Team – Alex Anderson, Cullen Crain, Christopher Promades, Will DiGiacomo, Lucas Tanous, Blake Dolan, Owen Pfeffer, Mason Crain, Chase Watts, James Caldarella, Matt Fede, Frank Fede, and Anthony Fede.

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Resolution No. 2724

BY Satchell, Coyne, Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MARCH 3, 2020, TO BE
"ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
{LC4274/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Satchell requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Satchell 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, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senators Satchell, Felag, Nesselbush, DiPalma, Lynch Prata, Morgan, Goldin, and Bell and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Heidi Ross, Paul Jones, Laurie Mantz, Roger Messier, and Jodi DiRaimo from the Volunteer Advocacy Committee of the Alzheimer's Association of Rhode Island; Meg Carpinelli, an Advocate; Donna McGowan, Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association of Rhode Island; Donna Kirwan, Communications Manager of the Alzheimer's Association of

Rhode Island; Jennifer Atkinson, Administrative and Communications Associate of the Alzheimer's Association of Rhode Island; Marc Archambault, Alzheimer's Association Volunteer; Susan Benesch, Alzheimer's Association Volunteer; Karen Friend, Alzheimer's Association Volunteer; Susan Hartson, Alzheimer's Association Volunteer; Macrina Hjerpe, Alzheimer's Association Volunteer; Linda Sweet, Alzheimer's Association Volunteer; Annie Murphy, Program Manager for the Alzheimer's Association of Rhode Island; Alessandra Arade, Intern with the Alzheimer's Association of Rhode Island and Health Policy Major at Providence College; and Cailin Frankland, a Volunteer and Brown University Neuroscience student.

Upon the suggestion of Senator DiPalma, and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Kate Spinella of Middletown, Director of Development for the Alzheimer's Association of Rhode Island;

Upon the suggestion of Senator Morgan, and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Rachel Levy, a volunteer; Bill Kirkpatrick, a volunteer; and Dina ElHelw, Director of the Senior Center in the town of Scituate.

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Resolution No. 2725

BY Crowley, DiPalma, Ruggerio, Lynch Prata, Conley

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF LEO HÉROUX
{LC4417/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Crowley requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

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

The resolution is read and passed upon a rising vote.

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Crowley and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Lorraine Heroux, Leo's niece; and Lisa Lavoie, Leo's niece.

Upon the suggestion of Senator DiPalma and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Ronald Heroux, and Nan Heroux of Middletown.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Senator McCaffrey requests that item #3 to be removed from the Consent Calendar and placed under Immediate Consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Resolution No. 2720

BY Miller

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING JAMES F. DEAN ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY AFTER FORTY-FIVE YEARS OF DEVOTED AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF RHODE ISLAND

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Miller requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Miller 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, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senators Goodwin and Gallo and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber James and Susan Dean, James Dean, Jr., Meghan Connors, Lily Connors, Charlotte Connors, and Scott Averdesian, Chair of R.I.P.T.A.

CONSENT CALENDAR

In order for the day is taken up as follows:

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020:**1. 2020-S 2718**

BY Morgan

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING EMILY MYERS ON BEING SELECTED AS A RECIPIENT OF THE 2020 PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

2. 2020-S 2719

BY Crowley, Picard, Nesselbush, Lombardo

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN RHODE ISLAND AND TAIWAN, SUPPORTING THE ENHANCEMENT OF BILATERAL TRADE RELATIONS AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR TAIWAN IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

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

YEAS – 37: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Algiere, Bell, Cano Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, Crowley, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

NAYS - 0

CALENDAR

In order for the day is taken up as follows:

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020:**1. 2020-S 2224**

BY Pearson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - SEPSIS PROTOCOLS

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

Senator Pearson 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, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

Senators Sheehan, Lynch Prata, and McKenney discuss the act.

The act is read and passed, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote with 38 Senators voting in the affirmative and 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 38: 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, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

NAYS - 0

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Pearson, and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber B.J. and Alaina Charette, from Layla's Dream; and Dr. Lee Polikoff, from Hasbor Children's Hospital.

Upon the suggestion of Senator Lynch Prata, and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate welcomes to the Chamber Christine Ellingwood, from Gianna Cirella Memorial Fund; and Tara Cirella, from the Gianna Cirella Foundation.

2. **2020-S 2326 SUB A**

BY DiPalma

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- MOTION PICTURE
PRODUCTION TAX CREDITS

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

Senator DiPalma moves passage, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Goodwin, Gallo, Felag, Sosnowski, Lombardi, Lawson, Archambault, Cano, Coyne, and Seveney.

Senators Bell, Miller, Ciccone, DiPalma, and Nesselbush discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill is indefinitely postponed, upon a roll call vote with 35 Senators voting in the affirmative and 3 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 35: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Algiere, Archambault, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, Crowley, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

NAYS – 3: Senators Bell, Morgan, and Nesselbush.

3. 2020-S 2154 SUB A

BY Algiere

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS--THE JULIE LYNN CARDINAL ACT

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

Upon the suggestion of Senator Algiere, item number 3 is ordered to be placed on the Calendar for Tuesday, March 10th.

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Gallo and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Steven Feinberg, Executive Director at Rhode Island Film & TV.

Upon the suggestion of Senators Morgan and Paolino and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Robert Fisher, from the Manville Gun Club; Steve Dehart, from the Manville Gun Club; Robert Schattle, from the Manville Sportsman's Club; Dan Kesler, from Greenville, Rhode Island; Mike Lima, from West Warwick, Rhode Island; Bob Pezzullo, from Warwick, Rhode Island; Bill Refree, from North Providence, Rhode Island; Sean Moffat, from Warwick Rhode Island; and Christopher Gamelin, from East Providence, Rhode Island.

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 Sheehan announces that the Committee on Rules, Government Ethics and Oversight will meet tomorrow at the rise of the Senate in the Senate Lounge of the State House.

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 Raptakis announces that the Committee on Special Legislation and Veteran's Affairs will meet tomorrow at the rise of the Senate in Room 310 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 State House.

Senator Metts announces that the Committee on Education will meet tomorrow at the rise of the Senate in Room 313 of the State House.

Senator Metts announces that the Joint Committee on Education and Health and Human Services will meet tomorrow at the rise of the Senate in Room 313 of the State House.

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

Senator Nesselbush announces that Women's International Day is March 8th and the Celebration of Women's International Day is Thursday, March 5th at 3:00 P.M. in the State Room.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Upon the Motion of Senator Crowley seconded by Senator Goodwin, and upon the suggestion of Senator Crowley the Senate adjourns at 5:18 o'clock P.M., in memory of *Leo Heroux*.

ROBERT L. RICCI
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix**INVOCATION****SENATOR THOMAS J. PAOLINO**

Dear Lord, remind us as legislators we have a great responsibility to our constituents. Help us to emulate your examples of patience, respect, and kindness to all, as we strive to solve the problems and improve the lives of those we serve. Amen.

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2020:

1. ***The Appointment of Christine Heenan 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.

2. ***The Appointment of David Martirano 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.

3. **2020-S 2179**

BY Gallo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- ESTABLISHING A CLASS SIZE MAXIMUM FOR KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE TWO (2)

Committee on Education recommends passage.

4. **2020-S 2300**

BY Gallo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Committee on Labor recommends passage.

5. **2020-S 2343**

BY Sosnowski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- HOLLEY LANDING

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

6. **2020-S 2344**

BY Sosnowski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY - JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING NEW BUILDINGS

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

7. **2020-H 7157 SUB A**
 BY Bennett
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS --
 MINIMUM WAGES

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

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2020:

1. **2020-S 2074**
 BY Seveney
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS
 -- PRUDENCE ISLAND SCHOOL FOUNDATION

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

2. **2020-S 2332**
 BY Ruggerio
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO AMENDING THE CHARTER OF NORTH
 PROVIDENCE

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020:

1. 2020-S 2154 SUB A

BY Algieri

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS--THE
JULIE LYNN CARDINAL ACT

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