

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. 20

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Twentieth Legislative Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable Harold M. Metts, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, at 4:09 o'clock P.M.

ROLL CALL

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

PRESENT – 33: Senators Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, Crowley, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

ABSENT – 5: Senators Algiere, Gallo, Pearson, Picard, and The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio.

INVOCATION

The Honorable President Pro Tempore, by unanimous consent, presents Senator Sosnowski, to deliver the invocation.

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Honorable President Pro Tempore of the Senate presents the following communications:

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

March 5, 2020

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

Dear Mr. President:

Please be advised and let the record reflect that I will be absent from the Chamber Thursday, March 5, 2020. I would appreciate your recording my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Hanna M. Gallo

Senator, District 27

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

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

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

Dear Mr. President:

Please be advised that I will be absent from the Senate session on Thursday, March 5, 2020, due to a business commitment. I would appreciate your recording my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal.

Thank you.
Respectfully submitted,

Dennis L. Algieri

SENATE MINORITY LEADER

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

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

March 5, 2020

Secretary of the Senate
State House, Rm. 220
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Secretary:

I would like to respectfully request the withdrawal of S-2750, An Act Relating to Courts and Civil Procedure – Procedure Generally, at my request. This bill has been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Sandra C. Cano
Senator, District 8

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

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

March 5, 2020

Secretary of the Senate
State House, Rm. 220
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Secretary:

I would like to respectfully request the withdrawal of S-2263, An Act Relating to Labor and Labor Relations -- Licensing, at my request. This bill has been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Harold M. Metts
Senator, District 6

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

House Bill No. 7102 SUB A as amended

BY Serpa, Caldwell, McEntee, McKiernan, Blazejewski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS (Prohibits the manufacturing, importation, sale, shipment, delivery, possession, or transfer of any firearm that is undetectable by metal detectors commonly used at airports and public buildings including 3D printed firearms as defined herein.)

{LC3660/A/2}

From the House to the Senate Calendar for Wednesday, March 11th.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

Chairwoman Lynch Prata, from the Committee on Judiciary, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

House Bill No. 7011

BY Mattiello, Shekarchi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., to join Kara Elizabeth Paolino Marchionte and Adam Hayden in marriage on or about April 4, 2020, within the City of Providence, Rhode Island.)
{LC3209/1}

From the Committee on Judiciary to the Calendar.

House Bill No. 7282

BY Lombardi, McLaughlin, Abney, Tanzi, McKiernan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows the Honorable Raymond A. Hull to join Kristy Medrano and John Antonio in marriage on or about April 11, 2020, within the City of Warwick, Rhode Island.)
{LC3869/1}

From the Committee on Judiciary to the Calendar.

House Bill No. 7103 SUB B

BY McKiernan, Caldwell, Knight, McNamara, Slater

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS--THE JULIE LYNN CARDINAL ACT (Provides that applications to purchase firearms be sent by the seller to the police department the city or town where the purchaser lives.)
{LC3663/B/1}

From the Committee on Judiciary to 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 Karina Montilla Edmonds to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees for a term expiring February 1, 2021.

From the Committee on Education to the Calendar.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Resolution No. 2762****BY** Nesselbush, Goodwin, Quezada, Crowley, Lawson**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 8, 2020, AS
"INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
{LC5183/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration

Senator Nesselbush requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

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

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Nesselbush and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President Pro Tempore of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber the following doctors of distinction in recognition of International Women's Day: Maryellen Butke, PhD; Jody Underwood, MD; Angela Anderson, MD; Iris Tong, MD; Carolina Fonseca -Valencia, MD; Lindsey Orchowski, PhD.

Upon the suggestion of Senator Goodwin and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President Pro Tempore of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber The Honorable Lillian Almeida, and Victoria Almeida.

Senate Resolution No. 2763**BY** Morgan, de la Cruz, Lynch Prata, Coyne, Gallo**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING RETIRED UNITED STATES
ARMY FIRST SERGEANT DORA VASQUEZ-HELLNER ON BEING NAMED THE
RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS "FEMALE VETERAN OF THE
YEAR"
{LC5096/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Morgan requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Morgan moves passage, seconded by Senators 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, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Morgan and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President Pro Tempore of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Dora Vasquez – Hellner, Female Veteran of the Year; Kasim Yarn, Director of Veterans’ Affairs; Dave Hellner, Dora’s husband and an Army veteran; Mike Carter, a Department of Rhode Island VFW Commander and Army Veteran; William Siano, VFW Post 8955 Commander and Army Veteran; Deanna Siano, upcoming President of the VFW Auxiliary and member of the VFW Post 8955 Auxiliary; Peggy Azzinaro, VFW Post 8955 Auxiliary; Ginamarie Doherty, a Navy Veteran; and Tina Lavigne, Senator Morgan’s event coordinator.

Senate Resolution No. 2764

BY Quezada

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION HONORING SANDRA LAKE FOR HER MYRIAD ACCOMPLISHMENTS

{LC5184/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration

Senator Quezada requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

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

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

Upon the suggestion of Senators Quezada, Cano, and Nesselbush, and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President Pro Tempore of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Sandra Lake, Reverend Priscilla Tineo, and Diandra Mateo.

Senate Resolution No. 2765

BY Lombardo, Ruggerio, Goodwin, McCaffrey

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE THOMAS L. UCCI

{LC3410/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration

Senator Lombardo requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

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

The resolution is read and passed upon a rising vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Resolution No. 2766

BY Goodwin, Goldin, Euer, Murray, Bell

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND TO SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION (ELECTIONS) (Proposes an amendment to the constitution to modify the legal minimum age to vote from eighteen (18) years to sixteen (16) years.)
{LC4947/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

CONSENT CALENDAR

In order for the day is taken up as follows:

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2020:

1. 2020-S 2726

BY Lawson

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF WILLIAM STRINGFELLOW

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

2. 2020-S 2729

BY Morgan

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF MARCH TO BE "MAPLE SYRUP MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

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

YEAS – 30: Senators Archambault, Bell, Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, Crowley, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Quezada, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

NAYS - 0

CALENDAR

In order for the day is taken up as follows:

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.

Senator Seveney moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Goodwin, Morgan, Lombardo, Ciccone, Nesselbush, Archambault, Paolino, de la Cruz, Bell, DiPalma, Coyne, and Felag.

The act is read and passed, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 32 Senators voting in the affirmative, and 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 32: Senators Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, Crowley, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Quezada, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

NAYS - 0

2. 2020-S 2332

BY Ruggerio

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO AMENDING THE CHARTER OF NORTH
PROVIDENCE

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Ciccone moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Felag, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Nesselbush, Archambault, Paolino, Sheehan, and Lawson.

Senators Bell, Ciccone, Morgan, Archambault, Felag, Lombardi, and Sheehan discuss the act.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 30 Senators voting in the affirmative, and 1 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 30: Senators Archambault, 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, Quezada, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

NAYS – 1: Senator Bell.

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 Crowley announces that the Committee on Housing and Municipal Government will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Room 212 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 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 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 Lombardo seconded by Senator Goodwin, and upon the suggestion of Senator Lombardo the Senate adjourns at 4:58 o'clock P.M, in memory of *Thomas L. Ucci*.

ROBERT L. RICCI
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix

INVOCATION

SENATOR V. SUSAN SOSNOWSKI

Dear God, we are grateful for the privilege of serving in this Senate. Keep us ever mindful that we are here to serve those who have elected us. Amen.

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.

2. 2020-H 7103 SUB B

BY McKiernan

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

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

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2020:

1. ***The Appointment of Karina Montilla Edmonds 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. **2020-H 7011**
BY Mattiello
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage in concurrence.

3. **2020-H 7282**
BY Lombardi
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage in concurrence.

4. **2020-H 7102 SUB A as amended**
BY Serpa
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS

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