

State of Rhode Island

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 Fourth day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty Two.

Volume 149, No. 17

Tuesday, April 05, 2022

Seventeenth Legislative Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable Dominick J. Ruggiero, President of the Senate, at 4:11 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 Ruggiero, and Senators Acosta, Algiere, Anderson, Archambault, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Cano, Ciccone, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McCaffrey, Mendes, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde and Zurier.

ABSENT – 0:

INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The Honorable President, 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 Sixteenth Legislative Day of the 2022 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.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

Chairwoman Cano, from the Committee on Education, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measure:

Senate Bill No. 2235

BY Cano, DiMario, Quezada, Euer, Murray, Lawson, Kallman, Anderson, Seveney, Pearson
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RHODE ISLAND EARLY
EDUCATOR INVESTMENT ACT (Requires the children's cabinet, to develop a strategic plan
to retain early childhood educators by creating a cross-departmental target wage scale of early
educators and that of public school teaching staff or individuals with similar credentials.)
{LC4086/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

Chairwoman Euer, from the Committee on Environment and Agriculture, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

Senate Bill No. 2048

BY Felag, Miller, DiMario, Lawson, Coyne, Seveney
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES --
LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts reusable bags from the state sales tax.)
{LC3957/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 2446

BY Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Gallo, DiMario, Kallman, Miller, Burke, Sosnowski,
Lawson
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - PLASTIC WASTE
REDUCTION ACT (Creates the "Plastic Waste Reduction Act" designed to reduce the use of
plastic bags by retail establishments by offering recyclable bag options and providing penalties
for violations.)
{LC5097/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

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. 2698

BY Lombardo, Ciccone, Archambault, McCaffrey, Picard

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE TOWNS OF JOHNSTON AND SMITHFIELD -- REGIONAL JUVENILE HEARING BOARD (Amends the public law creating the Johnston/Smithfield Regional Juvenile Hearing board to allow a board member to serve more than two terms if no other person seeks appointment to the board.)
{LC5479/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 2770

(Dept. of Transportation)

BY Lombardo, Ciccone

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SIZE, WEIGHT, AND LOAD LIMITS (Transfers all responsibility for oversize/overweight permitting to the department of transportation and amends and increases fines for all oversize and overweight infractions.)
{LC5107/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 2772

BY Valverde, Raptakis

ENTITLED, AN ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS § 16-7-44 APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF \$5,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS OF THE TOWN OF EAST GREENWICH TO FINANCE THE RENOVATION, REHABILITATION, REPAIR, REPLACEMENT, IMPROVEMENT, FURNISHING, EQUIPPING AND INSTALLATION OF SCHOOL, SCHOOL FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, SAFETY AND FIRE-CODE RELATED IMPROVEMENTS, ROOFS, HEATING, VENTILATION, ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS, LANDSCAPING, GROUNDS, ATHLETIC FIELDS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, VEHICLES AND FOOD SERVICE FACILITIES (Serves as the enabling act required by Rhode Island general laws § 16-7-44 in order for the interest on bonds issued in support of school housing projects to be eligible for state housing aid reimbursement.)
{LC5571/1}

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. 2243

BY Cano, DiMario, Quezada, Euer, Lawson, Anderson, Seveney, Burke, Kallman, DiPalma
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- RHODE ISLAND PARENTAL AND FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT (Increases the amount of parental or family leave available to an employee from thirteen (13) weeks to twenty-four (24) weeks in any two (2) calendar years.)
{LC4265/1}

Placed on the 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 Bill No. 2136

BY Felag, Murray, Raptakis, Gallo, Lombardo
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Creates a special motor vehicle registration plate for recipients of the United States Bronze Star Medal.)
{LC3963/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 2672

BY Ciccone, Felag, McCaffrey, Lombardo
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES (Allows the city of Providence board of licenses to grant exemption from restrictions relating to the issuance of a Class BL license or Class BV alcoholic beverage retail licenses.)
{LC5456/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

COMMUNICATION BY THE GOVERNOR

The Honorable President of the Senate presents the following communication from His Excellency, The Governor Daniel J. McKee:



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE

April 4, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I am hereby withdrawing, without prejudice, the March 2, 2022, appointment of Lester Vincent Murray to the Scenic Roadways Board.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Scenic Roadway Board
Appointed Member

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Placed on File.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE

April 4, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I am hereby withdrawing, without prejudice, the March 2, 2022, appointment of Ronald W. Wolanski to the Scenic Roadways Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. McKee".

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Scenic Roadway Board
Appointed Member

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Placed on File.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR

The Honorable President of the Senate presents the following communication from His Excellency, The Governor, transmitting the following appointments and requesting the advice and consent of the Senate thereto:



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE

March 29, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Sections § 2-4-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Conservation Committee:

Kate Sayles
(Southern RI Conservation Committee)

Vice
Clarkson Collins

For a term expiring, April 20, 2024

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Michael J. McCaffrey, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Dennis L Algieri, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE

March 1, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 39-18-2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority:

Robert Thomas Kells. Sr.

For a term expiring April 1, 2025

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. McKee".

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Michael J. McCaffrey, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Dennis L. Algieri, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

March 15, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 36-3-6 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Personnel Appeals board:

Matthew Moynihan

(Independent)

For a term expiring April 1, 2028

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. McKee".

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Michael J. McCaffrey, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Dennis L. Algieri, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Labor.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE

March 15, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 31-13-1 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the State Traffic Commission:

Matthew Moynihan

Vice
Ch. William Nebus

For a term expiring to serve at the pleasure of the Governor,

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. McKee".

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Michael J. McCaffrey, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Dennis L. Algieri, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

March 1, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 39-18-2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority:

James Leach

Vice
Joshua Brumberger

For a term expiring April 1, 2025.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. McKee".

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Michael J. McCaffrey, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Dennis L. Algieri, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE

March 1, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 39-18-2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority:

Patrick Crowley

Vice
Maureen Martin

For a term expiring April 1, 2025

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. McKee".

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Michael J. McCaffrey, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Dennis L. Algieri, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

March 24, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of Section § 46-12.2-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the Infrastructure Bank

Scott D. Lajoie

For a term expiring March 1, 2024

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Michael J. McCaffrey, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Dennis L. Algieri, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. McKEE

March 14, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE,

I have the honor to inform you in accordance with the provisions of § 46-28-5 of the Rhode Island Constitution, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island Rivers Council:

Karen Chilton Wilder
(Public Member)

Vice
Michael Bradlee

For a term expiring January 1, 2025

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. McKee".

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Michael J. McCaffrey, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Dennis L. Algieri, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATIONS**Senate Resolution No. 2836****BY** de la Cruz**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2022, TO BE "PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC5713/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator de la Cruz requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator de la Cruz moves passage, seconded by Senators Acosta, Algiere, Anderson, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Cano, Ciccone, Coyne, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McCaffrey, Mendes, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde and Zurier.

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

Senate Resolution No. 2833**BY** Gallo**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF LUCIO MANCINI {LC5705/1}

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 Senators Acosta, Algiere, Anderson, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Cano, Ciccone, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McCaffrey, Mendes, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde and Zurier.

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

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Resolution No. 2834****BY** Coyne**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2022, AS "ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
{LC5720/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

Senate Resolution No. 2835**BY** Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING SOPHIA BOARDMAN ON ACHIEVING SCOUTING'S MOST DISTINGUISHED HONOR, THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT
{LC5724/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

CONSENT CALENDAR**IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY APRIL 05, 2022:****1. 2022-S 2831****BY** Cano**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2022, AS "ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

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 Acosta, Algiere, Anderson, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Cano, Ciccone, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McCaffrey, Mendes, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde and Zurier.**NAYS – 0:**

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY APRIL 05, 2022:

1. 2022-S 2343

BY Quezada

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS –
RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Quezada moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Goodwin, Zurier, Cano, Valverde, and Euer.

Senators Raptakis, Rogers, Goodwin, Bell and McCaffrey discuss the act.

The act is read and passed, in concurrence, upon a roll call vote, with 32 members voting in the affirmative and 6 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 32: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Acosta, Anderson, Archambault, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Cano, Ciccone, Coyne, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McCaffrey, Mendes, Miller, Murray, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde and Zurier.**NAYS – 6:** Senators Algieri, de la Cruz, Morgan, Paolino, Raptakis, Rogers.

2. 2022-S 2367

BY McCaffrey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- GENERAL
PROVISIONS

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Senator McCaffrey moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Coyne, Goodwin, Miller, Felag, Lombardi, Lombardo, Sosnowski, Ciccone, Picard, Zurier, Lawson, Mack, Anderson, Kallman, Bell, Mendes, Murray, Quezada, Euer.

The act is read and passed, in concurrence, upon a roll call vote, with 37 members voting in the affirmative and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 37: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Acosta, Algieri, Anderson, Archambault, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Cano, Ciccone, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McCaffrey, Mendes, Miller, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde and Zurier.

NAYS – 1: Senator Morgan.

3. 2022-S 2412

BY Cano

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS –
BUILDING SERVICE WORK

Committee on Labor recommends passage.

Senator Cano moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Archambault, Kallman, Burke, Coyne, Pearson, Felag, Sosnowski, Ciccone, Lombardi, DiMario, Mendes, Anderson, Acosta, Bell, Euer, Quezada, DiPalma, and Valverde.

Senators Morgan, Cano and Calkin discuss the act.

The act is read and passed, in concurrence, upon a roll call vote, with 38 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 38: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Acosta, Algiere, Anderson, Archambault, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Cano, Ciccone, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McCaffrey, Mendes, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

GUEST

Upon the suggestion of Senator Cano and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President of The Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Nicole O’Loughlin, Executive Director, RI SEIU State Council.

TRANSMITTAL

By unanimous consent, all matters on the Secretary’s desk are ordered to be transmitted to his Excellency, the Governor, the Honorable Secretary of State, and to the Honorable House of Representatives forthwith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Kallman announces that the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Room 310 of the State House.

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

Senator Burke announces that the Senate Committee on Labor will meet tomorrow at 4:00 o'clock P.M. in Room 211 of the State House.

Senator Murray announces that the Senate Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs will meet tomorrow at 4:30 o'clock P.M. in Room 310 of the State House.

Senator Valverde announces that the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Room 211 of the State House.

Senator Cano announces that the Senate Committee on Education will meet tomorrow at 4:30 o'clock P.M. in the Senate Lounge of the State House.

Senator DiMario announces that the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture will meet tomorrow at 4:00 o'clock P.M. in Room 313 of the State House.

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

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Mendes and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President of The Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Kalliana Mareh from Cranston and Kendell Liesching from East Greenwich.

FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

House Bill No. 7752 SUB A

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

BY Solomon

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- SURPLUS LINES INSURANCE

(Updates and clarifies various insurance statutes.)

{LC4832/A/1}

Referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce.

House Bill No. 6643 SUB A

BY McEntee, Ruggiero, Kazarian, Caldwell, Craven

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- GENETIC COUNSELORS LICENSING ACT (Same as 21H-5147 -- Provides a statutory framework for the licensing and regulation of genetic counselors.)

{LC3344/A/4}

Referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services.

House Bill No. 7093

BY Ruggiero, Cortvriend, Abney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Allows the town of Middletown to adopt a new tax classification plan to provide property tax relief to its residents.)

{LC3619/1}

Referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government.

House Bill No. 7094

BY Ruggiero, Cortvriend, Abney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SIZE, WEIGHT, AND LOAD LIMITS -- COMMERCIAL VEHICLES (Prohibits commercial vehicles from operating on Chases Lane in the town of Middletown and provides for fines for violations.)

{LC3233/1}

Referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government.

House Bill No. 7392

BY Ackerman, Chippendale, Shanley, Serpa, McNamara, Cassar, Baginski, Alzate, Diaz, Kennedy

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RESTROOM ACCESS ACT (Requires retail establishments with 3 or more employees on the premises without accessible public restroom to allow customers suffering from eligible conditions access to their employee restrooms.)
{LC4384/1}

Referred to the Senate Committee on Labor.

House Bill No. 7781 SUB A

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

BY Solomon

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- CREATION AND EXPANSION (Amends a number of provisions in the general laws relative to financial institutions by eliminating unnecessary requirements and/or clarifying language in order to reduce certain burdens on businesses operating in Rhode Island.)
{LC4834/A/1}

Referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Bill No. 2837**

BY Quezada

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- FILING OF ASSUMED NAME (Makes amendments necessary to use the term "trade name" rather than "assumed name", for purposes of the commercial law chapter on filing an assumed name, and provides for the administration and regulation of the use of trade names.)
{LC3704/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 2838

BY Zurier, Goodwin, DiPalma, Cano, Mack, Bell, Ciccone, Quezada, Ruggerio

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE PAUL W. CROWLEY RHODE ISLAND STUDENT INVESTMENT INITIATIVE (Revises the process and procedures for state intervention and support for failing public schools, including Providence, as well as chronically under-performing schools.)
{LC5629/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

Senate Bill No. 2839**BY** McCaffrey, Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION (Provides municipalities in the state with appropriate additional means to improve the health, living conditions, and welfare of their residents with expanded access to public educational, or child daycare centers, or public recreational facilities.)

{LC5550/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

Senate Bill No. 2840**BY** Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY (Provides that school construction projects approved after July 1, 2022, that fail to utilize a project's architectural services and project educational design services would only be eligible to receive five (5) incentive points.)

{LC4351/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

Senate Bill No. 2841**BY** Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS (Establishes courses that include instruction in career and technical education programs.)

{LC4352/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

Senate Bill No. 2842**BY** Gallo, Cano, Goodwin, Pearson, Lombardo, Ciccone, Miller**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- ELECTRONIC BOOK LICENSES TO LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS

(Requires publishers to provide electronic book licenses to libraries and schools on reasonable terms, when a publisher offers to license electronic books and digital audiobooks to the public in Rhode Island.)

{LC5696/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

Senate Bill No. 2843**BY** McCaffrey, Anderson, Mack, Calkin, DiMario**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY -- OLD GROWTH FOREST PRESERVATION ACT (Creates state and local requirements for the protection and preservation of old growth forests located on public lands.)
{LC5679/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Environment and Agriculture.

Senate Bill No. 2844**BY** Cano, DiPalma, Murray, Felag**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TEACHERS' RETIREMENT (Increases the state's contribution and decreases the amount of city, town or local educational agency by two percent (2%) each year.)
{LC5638/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2845**BY** Lombardo, Pearson, Ciccone, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Lombardi, Picard, Gallo, Sosnowski, Felag**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR FUEL TAX (Suspends the tax on fuel or manufactured biodiesel fuel sold or used from April 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022, and requires the seller to reduce the per-gallon price of fuel or manufactured biodiesel fuel by a sum equal to the tax abatement.)
{LC5692/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2846**BY** Cano**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS (Awards all members of the pension system a three percent (3%) (COLA) if certain conditions are met.)
{LC5666/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2847

(Dept. of Human Services)

BY Murray, Anderson, Sosnowski, DiPalma, Quezada, Euer, Valverde, Seveney, Cano, DiMario**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- THE RHODE ISLAND WORKS PROGRAM (Allows families to continue to receive state and federal tax credits and any stimulus funds provided for the well-being of children or adults without jeopardizing the family's RI Works cash benefit.)
{LC5126/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2848**BY** Ciccone, Goodwin, McCaffrey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM -- CONTRIBUTIONS BENEFITS (Members and/or beneficiaries that retired on or before June 30, 2012 would get two percent (2%) benefit adjustment when benefit adjustments are suspended.)
{LC5727/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2849**BY** Quezada**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- STATE AID (Amends the computation of relative wealth of municipalities for the purpose of distributing state aid by eliminating the requirement that certain exemptions include tax treaties that are conditioned on being in force on May 15, 2005.)
{LC3714/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2850**BY** Zurier**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATION TO TAXATION -- BUSINESS CORPORATION TAX (Increases the amount each corporation pays on state tax to seven and one half percent (7.5%) of net income beginning on or after January 1, 2023, and reduce the minimum tax to two hundred dollars (\$200).)
{LC5631/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Resolution No. 2851**BY** Quezada**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$100,000 TO YEAR UP PROVIDENCE (This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to Year Up Providence.)

{LC3709/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2852**BY** Cano, Miller, Gallo, Goodwin, Euer, Quezada, Murray, Kallman, Lawson, DiMario**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Mandates insurance policies, provides coverage to diagnose & treat infertility for women between 25 & 42 years, including pre-implantation genetic diagnosis (PGD) in conjunction with in vitro fertilization (IVF).)

{LC5597/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2853**BY** Ciccone, Lombardi, Lombardo, Raptakis, McCaffrey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PODIATRISTS (Allows licensed podiatrists to administer botox injections.)

{LC5636/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 2854**BY** Cano, Kallman, Acosta, Mendes**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Exempts from taxation the real and tangible personal property of Foster Forward, a domestic nonprofit corporation, located in Pawtucket.)

{LC5665/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 2855**BY** Gallo, Goodwin, Pearson, Lombardo, Ciccone, Miller**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE (Increases the current levy on construction costs for residential building permits to be deposited into an exempt restricted receipts account to be used for training grants, including programs for local and state building officials and minority businesses.)
{LC5695/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 2856**BY** Ciccone, Lombardi, McCaffrey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE (Amends and updates the qualifications for state and local building inspectors and officials aligning state law with federal law and also makes several technical corrections.)
{LC5314/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 2857**BY** Archambault, McCaffrey, Coyne, Lombardi, Euer**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Allows the district court to designate the date of the hearing in eviction matters filed under the residential landlord and tenant act.)
{LC5650/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2858**BY** Coyne, Burke, Lombardi, Euer, Archambault, McCaffrey, Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM (Creates an Address Confidentiality Program for persons subjected to abuse or domestic violence.)
{LC5544/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2859

BY Kallman, Cano, Burke, Mendes, Bell, Mack, Acosta, Lombardo, Gallo, Goodwin
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RHODE ISLAND HOUSING RESOURCES ACT OF 1998 (Creates a program for emergency housing assistance to needy families with children and pregnant woman with no other children through the Rhode Island housing resources commission.)
{LC5645/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 2860

BY Ciccone, Lombardi, Lombardo, McCaffrey
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- JUSTICES OF SUPREME, SUPERIOR, AND FAMILY COURTS
{LC5605/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 2861

BY Quezada, Euer
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES (For proposed wages, workers' compensation, temporary disability and unemployment benefits this act creates a new definition for "employee")
{LC3715/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

Senate Bill No. 2862

BY Ciccone, Lombardo, Lombardi, McCaffrey, Goodwin
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE -- STATE FUNDS (Adds the Workers' Compensation Administrative Fund, Rhode Island Uninsured Employers Fund and the Rhode Island Uninsured Protection Fund to those restricted receipt accounts not subject to indirect cost recoveries.)
{LC5735/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

Senate Bill No. 2863

BY Sosnowski

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF ROBERTS AND ROCHA, INC.

{LC5702/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon the Motion of Senator Goodwin, seconded by Gallo, the Senate adjourns at 4:42 o'clock P.M. *in memory of Lucio Mancini.*

JOHN E. FLEMING, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix

INVOCATION

SENATOR V. SUSAN SOSNOWSKI

Dear Lord, We pray that you bless this Senate. Help us to work with a real commitment to resolving the problems that face our State. Remind us to always treat each other with dignity and respect. Amen.

Appendix**CONSENT CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 07, 2022:**

1. **2022-S 2834**
 BY Coyne
 ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2022, AS
 "ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

 Ordered on the Consent Calendar.
2. **2022-S 2835**
 BY Sosnowski
 ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING
 SOPHIA BOARDMAN ON ACHIEVING SCOUTING'S MOST DISTINGUISHED
 HONOR, THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

 Ordered on the Consent Calendar.
3. **2022-S 2863**
 BY Sosnowski
 ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE
 CHARTER OF ROBERTS AND ROCHA, INC.

 Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

Appendix**CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 07, 2022:**

1. **2022-S 2235**
 BY Cano
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RHODE ISLAND EARLY
 EDUCATOR INVESTMENT ACT

 Committee on Education recommends passage.
2. **2022-S 2048**
 BY Felag
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES --
 LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION

 Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends passage.
3. **2022-S 2446**
 BY Ruggerio
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - PLASTIC WASTE
 REDUCTION ACT

 Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends passage.
4. **2022-S 2698**
 BY Lombardo
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE TOWNS OF JOHNSTON AND
 SMITHFIELD -- REGIONAL JUVENILE HEARING BOARD

 Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.
5. **2022-S 2770**
 BY Lombardo
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SIZE,
 WEIGHT, AND LOAD LIMITS

 Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

6. **2022-S 2772**
 BY Valverde
 ENTITLED, AN ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS §16-7-44 APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF \$5,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS OF THE TOWN OF EAST GREENWICH TO FINANCE THE RENOVATION, REHABILITATION, REPAIR, REPLACEMENT, IMPROVEMENT, FURNISHING, EQUIPPING AND INSTALLATION OF SCHOOL, SCHOOL FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, SAFETY AND FIRE-CODE RELATED IMPROVEMENTS, ROOFS, HEATING, VENTILATION, ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS, LANDSCAPING, GROUNDS, ATHLETIC FIELDS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, VEHICLES AND FOOD SERVICE FACILITIES

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

7. **2022-S 2243**
 BY Cano
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS – RHODE ISLAND PARENTAL AND FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

Committee on Labor recommends passage.

8. **2022-S 2136**
 BY Felag
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

9. **2022-S 2672**
 BY Ciccone
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.