

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 Third day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

Volume 150, No. 16

Thursday, April 06, 2023

Sixteenth Legislative Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable Dominick J. Ruggiero, President of the Senate, at 4:26 o'clock P.M.

ROLL CALL

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 37 Senators present and 1 Senator absent as follows:

PRESENT – 37: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggiero, and Senators Acosta, Bell, Britto, Burke, Cano, Ciccone, de la Cruz, De Luca, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McKenney, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Valverde, and Zurier.

ABSENT – 1: Senator Goodwin.

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 Fourteenth Legislative Day of the 2023 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 of the Senate presents the following communications:

<p>SENATOR JOSHUA MILLER District 28</p> <hr/> <p>41 Talbot Manor Cranston, Rhode Island 02905</p> <p>Room 212 Rhode Island State House Providence, Rhode Island 02903</p> <p>OFFICE 401-276-5568 sen-miller@rilegislature.gov</p>	<p>State of Rhode Island</p>  <p>Senate Chamber</p>	<p>CHAIRPERSON Committee on Health & Human Services</p> <hr/> <p>Committee on Environment & Agriculture</p>
<p>April 6, 2023</p>		
<p>The Honorable Dominick J. Ruggiero President of the Senate State House, Room 318 Providence, RI 02903</p>		
<p>Dear Mr. President:</p>		
<p>Please be advised and let the record reflect that I will be absent from the Chamber on Thursday, April 6, 2023.</p>		
<p>I would appreciate you recording my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal.</p>		
<p>Thank you for your attention to this matter.</p>		
<p>Sincerely,</p>		
<p><i>Joshua Miller</i></p>		
<p>Joshua Miller Senator District ~ 28</p>		
<p>JM/ko</p>		

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

SENATOR
LEONIDAS P. RAPTAKIS
District 33

2080 Nooseneck Hill Road
Coventry, Rhode Island 02816

Room 114
Rhode Island State House
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

OFFICE: 401-276-5567
HOME: 401-397-8345

sen-raptakis@rilegislature.gov

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VICE CHAIR
Committee on Special Legislation &
Veterans' Affairs

SECRETARY
Committee on Judiciary

April 6, 2023

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 on Thursday, April 6, 2023.

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

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Raptakis", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Leonidas P. Raptakis
RI State Senator ~ District 33
Coventry, West Greenwich

LPR/djc

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

SENATOR
MARYELLEN GOODWIN
District 1

SENATE MAJORITY WHIP

Room 315
Rhode Island State House
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

TEL: (401) 276-5507
FAX: (401) 222-1306
sen-goodwin@rilegislature.gov

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

Senate Committee on Commerce
Senate Committee on Education
Senate Committee on
Environment & Agriculture
Senate Committee on Finance
Senate Committee on
Health & Human Services
Senate Committee on
Housing & Municipal Government
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Senate Committee on Labor
Senate Committee on Rules,
Government Ethics & Oversight
Senate Committee on
Special Legislation & Veterans' Affairs

April 6, 2023

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 on Thursday, April 6, 2023. I will be voting by proxy.

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

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maryellen Goodwin".

Maryellen Goodwin
Senate Majority Whip

/hsr

cc: Mr. John Fleming, Secretary of the Senate

State of Rhode Island



SENATOR
DAWN EUER
District 13

Room 312
Rhode Island State House
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

OFFICE: 401-276-5589
FAX: 401-528-1711

sen-euer@rilegislature.gov

CHAIR
Committee on
Judiciary

Committee on
Special Legislation and
Veterans' Affairs

Committee on Rules,
Government Ethics & Oversight

Senate Chamber

April 6, 2023

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

Dear President Ruggerio:

Please be advised and let the record reflect that I will be absent from the Chamber today,
Thursday, April 6, 2023.

Please record my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dawn Euer".

Dawn Euer
Senator - District 13

DE/muj

SENATOR
HANNA M. GALLO
President Pro Tempore
District 27

285 Meshanticut Valley Parkway
Cranston, Rhode Island 02920

Room 318
Rhode Island State House
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

OFFICE 401-276-5563
FAX 401-222-2967

sen-gallo@rilegislature.gov

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Committee on Education
Committee on Commerce



April 6, 2023

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 on Thursday, April 6, 2023. I would appreciate your recording my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Hanna M. Gallo in black ink.
Hanna M. Gallo
Senator – District 27

HMG/tm

cc: John E. Fleming, Jr., Secretary

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

SENATOR
TIARA MACK
District 6

Room 333
Rhode Island State House
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

CELL: 401-288-1288
OFFICE: 401-276-5561

sen-mack@rilegislature.gov

SECRETARY
Committee on Commerce

Committee on Education

Committee on
Housing & Municipal Government

April 6, 2023

The Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio
President of the Senate
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street, 3rd Floor, Room 318
Providence, RI 02903

Dear President Ruggerio:

Please be advised and let the record reflect that I will be absent from the Chamber Thursday, April 6, 2023.

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

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Tiara Mack
Tiara Mack
Senator District #6

TM/nc

cc Mr. John Fleming, Secretary of the Senate

Read and ordered to be 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

April 6, 2023

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section § 42-75-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island State Arts Council:

Silvermoon Mars LaRose

Vice
Loren Spears

For a term expiring March 1, 2024

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
DJM/ecd

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggiero, Senate President
Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Education.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

April 6, 2023

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section § 42-75-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island State Arts Council:

Marisa Brown

Vice
Kate Petrie

For a term expiring March 1, 2024

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

Sincerely,

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

Daniel J. McKee
Governor
DJM/ecd

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggiero, Senate President
Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Education.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

April 6, 2023

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section § 42-75-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island State Arts Council:

Bethany Lardaro

Vice

Katherine Quinn

For a term expiring March 1, 2024

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. McKee", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Daniel J. McKee
Governor
DJM/ecd

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Education.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

April 6, 2023

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section § 42-75-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island State Arts Council:

Suzanne Augenstein

Vice

Jason Pamental

For a term expiring March 1, 2025

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

Sincerely,

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

Daniel J. McKee
Governor
DJM/ecd

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Education.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

April 6, 2023

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section § 42-75-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island State Arts Council:

David Namhon Kim

Vice
Libby Slader

For a term expiring March 1, 2025

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

Sincerely,

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

Daniel J. McKee
Governor
DJM/ecd

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Education.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

March 22, 2023

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:

Joseph Formicola

Vice

David Martirano

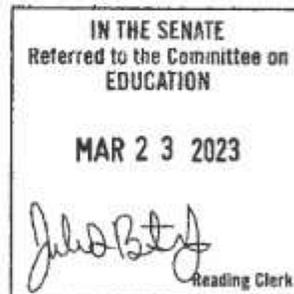
For a term expiring February 1, 2026.

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee
Governor
DJM/ecd

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader



RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Education.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

March 22, 2023

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:

Robert A. Weygand

Vice

Michael McNally

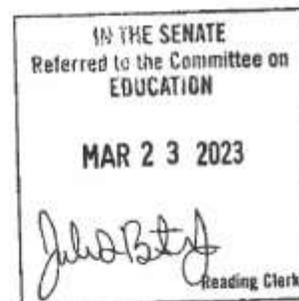
For a term expiring March 22, 2026.

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKee
Governor
DJM/ecd

Cc: Honorable Dominick Ruggerio, Senate President
Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable Jessica de la Cruz, Senate Minority Leader



RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Referred to the Senate Committee on Education.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Bill No. 927****BY** McKenney, Ruggerio**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LICENSING OF NURSING SERVICE AGENCIES (Establishes a cap on the rates that nursing service agencies can charge; protects clients from having their staff recruited/hired by a nursing service agency while providing services to them; updates training, report and other administrative details.) {LC2689/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

CALENDAR**IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023:****1. 2023-S 281****BY** Murray**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

Senator Murray moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Felag, Sosnowski, Lombardo, Lombardi, Ciccone, DiPalma, Cano, Burke, Lauria, LaMountain, Quezada, Tikoian, Valverde, Britto, DiMario, Zurier, Lawson, Gu, and Picard.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 34 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 34: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Acosta, Bell, Britto, Burke, Cano, Ciccone, de la Cruz, De Luca, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gu, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, McKenney, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Valverde, and Zurier.**NAYS – 0:****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 or to the Honorable House of Representatives forthwith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Pearson wishes Jacob Bissaillon, Senate Chief of Staff a Happy Birthday.

RECESS

Upon the Motion of Senator Pearson, seconded by Senator de la Cruz, the Senate stands in Recess at 4:33 o'clock P.M.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Bill No. 928**

BY Murray, Ruggerio, Valverde, DiPalma, DiMario, Picard, Felag, Euer, Lauria, Miller
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- STATEWIDE TANGIBLE
PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION (Creates a tax exemption of one hundred thousand dollars
(\$100,000) relating to assessment of municipal tangible property commencing with the
December 31, 2024 tax assessment for taxes payable in calendar year 2025.)
{LC2716/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 929

BY LaMountain
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (Prohibits sale
of firearms by dealers within (500') feet of schools or daycare centers.)
{LC2830/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Resolution No. 930

BY Burke
ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE WEST WARWICK
PUBLIC LIBRARY ON BEING A FINALIST FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW FOR THE
NATIONAL MEDAL FOR MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICE FROM THE INSTITUTE
OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES, AND BEING NAMED THE RHODE ISLAND
"LIBRARY OF THE YEAR" BY THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND
INFORMATION SERVICES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
{LC2833/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

Senate Resolution No. 931**BY** Lawson**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE HENRY C. ROSE
{LC2840/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

Senate Resolution No. 932**BY** Lawson**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF MATILDA E. CAPARCO
{LC2841/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

House Bill No. 5305

(By request)

BY Carson, Donovan, Ackerman, Dawson, Caldwell, Cortvriend, Shanley, Fogarty, McGaw**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- ELECTIVE MEETINGS (Mandates that on each primary for election of national convention delegates and elections for presidential preference primaries, that all public elementary and secondary schools be closed.)

{LC1096/1}

Placed on the Consent Calendar.

CALL TO ORDERThe Senate meets pursuant to recess and is called to order by the Honorable Hanna M. Gallo, Senate President Pro Tempore, on Tuesday, April 18th at 4:19 o'clock P.M.**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the Motion of Senator Gallo, seconded by de la Cruz, the Senate adjourns at 4:21 o'clock P.M.

JOHN E. FLEMING, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix

INVOCATION

SENATOR V. SUSAN SOSNOWSKI

Lord, we ask you to keep us safe and healthy over the vacation break, and allow us to return refreshed so we may continue to serve in the best interests of our people. Amen.

Appendix**CONSENT CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023:****1. 2023-S 930****BY** Burke

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE WEST WARWICK PUBLIC LIBRARY ON BEING A FINALIST FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW FOR THE NATIONAL MEDAL FOR MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICE FROM THE INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES, AND BEING NAMED THE RHODE ISLAND "LIBRARY OF THE YEAR" BY THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

2. 2023-S 931**BY** Lawson

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE HENRY C. ROSE

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

3. 2023-S 932**BY** Lawson

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF MATILDA E. CAPARCO

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

4. 2023-H 5305**BY** Carson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- ELECTIVE MEETINGS

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

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023:

1. **2023-S 464**
 BY Gallo
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- MUSICAL AND
 THEATRICAL PRODUCTION TAX CREDITS

 Committee on Finance recommends passage.

2. **2023-S 777**
 BY Ciccone
 ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION REINSTATING THE LIFE OF AND
 EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL
 LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO ANALYZE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS
 REGARDING TAX EXEMPT PROPERTIES IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

 Committee on Finance recommends passage.

3. **2023-S 923**
 BY Miller
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO
 TAXATION

 Committee on Finance recommends passage.

4. **2023-S 1 SUB A**
 BY Ruggerio
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PEER-TO-PEER CAR
 SHARING PROGRAM

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

5. **2023-S 345**
 BY LaMountain
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --
 OPEN MEETINGS

 Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 8.13 of the Rules of the Senate for the Years 2023-2024, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

2023-H

2023-S 281
(Bill Number)

/

(Advice & Consent, Order of Business, or Amendment Number)

* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryellen Goodwin

Date 04/6/2023

Senator Maryellen Goodwin

Senate District 1

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island

County of Providence



On this 6th day of April 2023, before me the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Senator Maryellen Goodwin, personally known to me to be the person whose name is signed on this document in my presence.

John E. Fleming, Jr
Notary Public Signature

John E. Fleming, Jr
Notary Public Printed

3
Notary ID

02/11/2025
Commission Expiration

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY LEADER/MINORITY LEADER

Date

Initials

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

Date

Initials

4/6/23 *JGT*