

# State of Rhode Island

---

# JOURNAL

-OF THE-

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

**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-Five.

---

Volume 152, No. 5

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

Fifth-Day

---

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, and is called to order at 4:18 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 70 members present and 5 members absent as follows:

**PRESENT** – 70: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

**ABSENT** – 5: Representatives Ajello, Fellela, Hopkins, Quattrocchi and Shallcross Smith.

## INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Representative Terri Cortvriend, who delivers the Invocation and leads the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

(For Invocation, see Appendix, this Journal.)

## APPROVAL OF RECORD

By unanimous consent, the House Journal of Wednesday, January 15, 2025, is approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Representative Deborah A. Fellela is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 21, 2025.  
Representative Edith H. Ajello is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 21, 2025.  
Representative Mary Ann Shallcross Smith is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 21, 2025.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairwoman Diaz wishes her granddaughter, Amahia a Happy 8<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

Chairman Corvese and Speaker Shekarchi wish Representative Noret a Happy Birthday!

Representative Slater wishes his daughter, Mia a Happy 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday! Speaker Shekarchi wishes Mia a Happy Birthday!

Chairman Abney announces that all members should have received a copy of the Budget at First Glance on their desks today.

Representative Cotter and Speaker Shekarchi wish Representative Speakman a Happy Birthday!

Representative Cruz cordially invites all members to attend a discussion on Women in the Building Trades on Thursday, January 23, in Room 101 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

On behalf of Speaker Shekarchi, Majority Leader Blazejewski is pleased to welcome Dr. Thomas Little, Director of Curriculum Development and Research at the State Legislative Leaders Foundation. Dr. Little will lead an engaging presentation on the principles and practice of ethical leadership in the House Lounge at the Rise and encourages all members to attend.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the next session will be held this Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

Majority Leader Blazejewski encourages members to attend the final Sexual Harassment Prevention Training session led by Attorney Caroline Thibeault on Thursday, January 23rd, at 3:00 p.m. in the House Lounge.

Majority Leader Blazejewski reminds all members to complete and sign the Secretary of State's Office form for the Rhode Island Owner's Manual. The completed form must be returned to the Secretary of State's Public Information Office in Room 38, located on the lower level of the State House, no later than this Thursday, January 23rd.

Majority Leader Blazejewski wishes Representative Noret and Representative Speakman a Happy Birthday!

**IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION****House Resolution No. 5090**

**BY** Messier, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Alzate, Stewart, Cruz, Kennedy, Fogarty, Kislak, Serpa  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE  
PASSING OF THE HONORABLE RAYMOND H. BERETTA {LC161/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Representative Messier requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Representative Messier discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Messier, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

**House Resolution No. 5091**

**BY** McEntee, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Fogarty, Tanzi, Chippendale, Spears, Noret, Kislak, Serpa  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE  
PASSING OF HILDING T. MUNSON {LC759/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Chairwoman McEntee requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Chairwoman McEntee discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to the family of Hilding Munson.

Read and passed, on a motion of Chairwoman McEntee, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

**House Resolution No. 5092**

**BY** Craven, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, McEntee, Chippendale, Kennedy, Fogarty, Serpa, Boylan,  
Ackerman  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE  
PASSING OF ANDREA MARIE HOPKINS {LC31/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Chairman Craven requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Chairman Craven discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Chairman Craven, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

**House Resolution No. 5093**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Hull, Corvese, Azzinaro, Chippendale, Kennedy, Fogarty, Kislak, Serpa  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF  
RALPH P. FARGNOLI, SR. {LC264/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Deputy Speaker Hull requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Deputy Speaker Hull discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to the family of Ralph P. Fagnoli, Sr.

Read and passed, on a motion of Deputy Speaker Hull, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

**House Resolution No. 5094**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Kislak, Chippendale, Kazarian, Craven, Ackerman, Fogarty, Kennedy, Serpa  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF  
MARTIN E. COOPER {LC12/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Representative Kislak requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Representative Kislak and Majority Whip Kazarian discuss the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Kislak, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

**House Resolution No. 5095**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Diaz, Chippendale, Lombardi, Batista, Felix, Edwards, Hull, Slater  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SINCERE CONDOLENCES ON THE  
PASSING OF CEDRIC PAUL HUNTLEY {LC11/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Chairwoman Diaz requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Diaz and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Chairwoman Diaz, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

**House Resolution No. 5096**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Corvese, Kislak, Kennedy, Fogarty, Serpa, Boylan, Noret **ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING JANUARY 19-25, 2025, TO BE "CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETISTS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC203/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Chairman Corvese requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Chairman Corvese discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Chairman Corvese, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, Majority Leader Blazejewski, and many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

**House Resolution No. 5097**

**BY** Slater, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Diaz, Kennedy, Fogarty, Serpa, Boylan, Noret **ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING AND THANKING DAVE PERTUSO FOR THIRTY-ONE YEARS OF DEDICATED AND EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE RHODE ISLAND ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY AND ROGER WILLIAMS PARK ZOO {LC450/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Representative Slater requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Representative Slater discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Slater, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

**TRANSMITTAL**

By unanimous consent, all matters on the clerk's desk are ordered to be transmitted to His Excellency, the Governor, to the Honorable Senate, and the Honorable Secretary of State forthwith.

(For Transmittals to Governor, see Appendix of this Journal.)

**DESK HELD OPEN**

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi announces that the desk will be held open.

## NEW BUSINESS

**House Bill No. 5098**

**BY** Cotter, Chippendale, Speakman, McGaw, Donovan, Fogarty, Carson, Spears, Shanley, Kislak  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY -- FORESTRY AND FOREST PARITY ACT (Creates a new motor vehicle registration for "forestry vehicles" also provides that forest product operations are permitted uses within all zoning districts of a municipality except where prohibited.) {LC539/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

**House Bill No. 5099**

**BY** McGaw, Speakman, Boylan, Carson, Kislak, Cortvriend, Spears, Donovan, Alzate, Fogarty  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF STATE ROADS (Authorizes and empower the department of transportation to plant pollinator friendly native species of trees, shrubs, grasses and plants within limits of a roadway, including state highways.) {LC575/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

**House Bill No. 5100**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Ackerman, Alzate, Morales, Serpa, Kennedy, Giraldo, Voas  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE -- ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT (Authorizes municipalities to make an emergency declaration under limited circumstances to allow for the construction and use of SAVE Units on a temporary basis which have specialized requirements and exemptions from the state fire and building codes.) {LC705/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 5101**

**BY** Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Stewart, Felix

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- EMERGENCY SHELTERS (Establishes rules and procedures for licensing emergency shelters for homeless persons, including setting minimum standards and prohibiting the charging of fees to the residents.) {LC110/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 5102**

**BY** Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Potter, Felix

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS (Creates a commission to establish homeless shelter standards through regulations.) {LC111/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 5103**

**BY** Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Potter, Stewart, Felix

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RHODE ISLAND FAIR HOUSING PRACTICES ACT (Prohibits landlords from inquiring about an applicant's prior incarceration and from discriminating against those who have been released from prison.) {LC109/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 5104****BY** Corvese, O'Brien, Slater, Kislak, Hull, Phillips, DeSimone, Brien, Biah, Cruz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- CASUALTY INSURANCE RATING

(Forbids a motor vehicle liability insurance carrier from considering the zip code of where an insured lives for purposes of calculating their policy premium.) {LC312/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5105****BY** Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Potter, Stewart, Voas, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- RHODE

ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY (Enables the Rhode Island public transit authority (RIPTA) to work with the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA) to allow commuter rail passes to be used as dual passes for both RIPTA and MBTA.) {LC92/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5106****BY** Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Potter, Voas, Stewart, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - REGULATORY

POWERS OF ADMINISTRATION (Provides that any rate increase with respect to electric distribution companies would be no greater than the increase in the Consumer Price Index or f5.5%, whichever is greater, unless there is approval of a higher rate by the general assembly.) {LC93/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5107****BY** Lombardi, Hull, Potter, Voas, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY

PROVISIONS -- PATIENT BROKERING ACT (Prohibits the practice of patient brokering and would provide monetary penalties and enforcement by the office of the attorney general.) {LC95/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5108****BY** Solomon, Casimiro, Cruz, McNamara, Lombardi, Ackerman, Cortvriend, Biah, McGaw, Marszalkowski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- BOARD OF

MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE (Allows internationally trained physicians to practice at healthcare facilities in rural and underserved communities and provides a mentorship alternative to the residency requirement.) {LC280/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5109****BY** Kennedy, Solomon, Edwards, Kazarian, Diaz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE --

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE AMENDMENTS (2022)

(Implements technical corrections to the transition rules for transactions governed by 2024 Public Laws Chapters 65 and 66 regarding security interests in emerging technologies.) {LC514/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5110**

**BY** McGaw, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Kislak, McNamara, Tanzi, Speakman, Boylan, Stewart, Cotter  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- FUNERAL DIRECTOR/EMBALMER AND FUNERAL SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS (Provides for the operation and duties of natural organic reduction for the contained, accelerated conversion of human remains to soil. Disposition facilities would be used for either cremation or natural organic reduction.) {LC420/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 5111**

**BY** Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Felix

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CURRICULUM (Directs the council on elementary and secondary education to develop recommendations for a high school curriculum to prepare students for successful postsecondary education and careers in computer science.) {LC98/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 5112**

**BY** Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Voas, Stewart, Felix

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CURRICULUM (Requires the department of education to develop and make available for use in all schools a mental health curriculum. School districts would be required to provide four (4) hours of mental health instruction to seventh grade students.) {LC99/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 5113**

**BY** Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Potter, Felix

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS (Requires school committees to provide transportation for any students who reside two (2) or more miles from school.) {LC97/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 5114**

**BY** Lombardi, Hull, Potter, Stewart, Voas, Felix

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COOPERATIVE SERVICE AMONG SCHOOL DISTRICTS (Amends the composition of the Urban Collaborative and provides that the collaborative be governed by a board of trustees.) {LC100/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 5115**

**BY** Carson, Boylan, Ackerman, O'Brien, Read, Caldwell, Spears

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL FOOD DYE RESTRICTION ACT (Prohibits the manufacture, sale, and distribution of foods containing certain artificial food dyes within school systems in the State of Rhode Island commencing January 1, 2027.) {LC284/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education



**House Bill No. 5116****BY** Lombardi, Hull, Potter, Stewart, Voas, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACEUTICAL COST TRANSPARENCY (Directs the state board of pharmacy to annually identify up to fifteen prescription drugs with increased costs and provide the list to the attorney general to obtain reasons for the cost increases.) {LC94/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health &amp; Human Services

**House Bill No. 5117****BY** Lombardi, Hull, Potter, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- RHODE ISLAND FOOD, DRUGS, AND COSMETICS ACT (Requires that all cosmetics manufactured, sold, delivered, held or offered for sale contain a label that completely and accurately list all of their component ingredients.) {LC101/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health &amp; Human Services

**House Bill No. 5118****BY** Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Potter, Stewart, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- POLICE OFFICERS - COMMISSION ON STANDARDS AND TRAINING (Requires mandatory training standards for police officers and trainees, in identifying, responding, and handling all incidents involving any person with a developmental disability.) {LC102/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health &amp; Human Services

**House Bill No. 5119****BY** McGaw, Kislak, Tanzi, Speakman, Boylan, Diaz, Stewart, Donovan, Morales, Edwards**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- BENEFIT DETERMINATION AND UTILIZATION REVIEW ACT (Limits the use by insurers of step therapy, a protocol that establishes a specific sequence in which prescription drugs for a specified medical condition are covered by an insurer, by allowing medical providers to request step therapy exceptions.) {LC446/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health &amp; Human Services

**House Bill No. 5120****BY** Potter, Kislak, Donovan, Handy, Fogarty, Giraldo, Bennett, McGaw, Morales, Caldwell**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- BENEFIT DETERMINATION AND UTILIZATION REVIEW ACT (Provides an insurer would not impose prior authorization requirements for any service ordered by an in-network primary care provider.) {LC753/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health &amp; Human Services

**House Bill No. 5121****BY** Casimiro, Noret, Read, Carson, O'Brien, Bennett, Serpa, Voas, Kazarian, Alzate**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- CURRENCY TRANSMISSIONS (Establishes regulation by DBR over the practices and procedures of virtual currency kiosk operators to prevent fraud related to the use of virtual currency kiosks, by establishing daily transaction limits and the regulating of fees.) {LC155/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, &amp; Technology

**House Bill No. 5122****BY** Lombardi, Hull, Stewart, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT AND INVESTMENT ACT (Establishes a statewide broadband community outreach coordinator to assist state residents interested in learning more and/or applying for the federal Affordable Connectivity Program.) {LC103/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, &amp; Technology

**House Bill No. 5123****BY** Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Potter, Stewart, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (Requires DOA provide inventory of all state agencies using artificial intelligence (AI); establishes a 13 member permanent commission to monitor the use of AI in state government and makes recommendations for state government policy and other decisions.) {LC104/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, &amp; Technology

**House Bill No. 5124****BY** Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Potter, Stewart, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- THE RHODE ISLAND FIRST STEP ACT (Establishes Rhode Island First Step program requiring DOC to assist offenders with reintegration into society, counseling, medical care, education, early sentence termination or pre-release confinement for elderly and terminally ill offenders.) {LC106/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5125****BY** Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Stewart, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS -- DOMESTIC ABUSE PREVENTION (Permits the family court to award custody of household pets to the plaintiff in a domestic abuse complaint, including the enforcement remedy of a restraining order or other injunctive relief.) {LC107/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5126****BY** Lombardi, Hull, Stewart, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- PRICE GOUGING OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS PROHIBITED (Makes it a felony to price gouge prescriptions or pharmaceuticals in time of a shortage.) {LC105/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5127****BY** Lombardi, Potter, Stewart, Hull, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Allows a tenant to pay an increased security deposit in monthly increments over the course of a twelve (12) month period.) {LC535/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5128**

**BY** Bennett, Potter, Edwards, Spears, McGaw, Solomon, Giraldo, O'Brien, Noret, McEntee  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (Makes any offense under this statute that could result in the death of an animal punishable by up to 3 years in prison, a fine of at least \$1,000, or both, for each offense.) {LC118/1}  
01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5129**

**BY** DeSimone, Slater, Kazarian, O'Brien, Craven, Corvese, Biah, McEntee, Voas, Morales  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS -- DIVORCE AND SEPARATION (Provides for a residency requirement of at least six (6) months rather than one year for the Rhode Island family court to have jurisdiction over a divorce complaint.) {LC726/1}  
01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5130**

**BY** Boylan, Knight, Tanzi, Craven, McEntee, Dawson, Cruz, Ajello, Caldwell, Felix  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (Defines "crime gun" and requires law enforcement to submit crime gun or 2 fired cartridge cases or shell casings seized to state crime laboratory or the BATF for testing and tracing, also would require 2 test-fired cartridge cases to be entered into NIBIN) {LC134/1}  
01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Resolution No. 5131**

**BY** Perez, Noret, Finkelman, Azzinaro, Phillips, Slater, Corvese, Handy, Voas, DeSimone  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS CONCERNS IN THE DELIVERY OF HEALTHCARE TO INMATES AND INDIVIDUALS AWAITING TRIAL IN THE CUSTODY OF THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (RIDOC) (Creates a 9 member commission to study and make recommendations on the delivery of healthcare services at RIDOC, and who reports back to the House no later than January 5, 2026, and whose life would expire on March 5, 2026.) {LC721/1}  
01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 5132**

**BY** Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Potter, Stewart, Voas, Felix  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- WORKPLACE PSYCHOLOGICAL SAFETY ACT (Prohibits psychological abuse in the workplace by employers or co-workers, ensuring a safe environment for employees, provides protection, civil remedies, and penalties for employers based on revenue.) {LC116/1}  
01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Labor

**House Bill No. 5133**

**BY** Bennett, Corvese, Lombardi, Hull, Read, Noret, Fascia, Casimiro, Azzinaro, O'Brien  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- FIREFIGHTERS' ARBITRATION (Provides that all contractual provisions in a firefighters collective bargaining agreement continue until a successor agreement has been reached or an interest arbitration award has been rendered.) {LC89/1}  
01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Labor

**House Bill No. 5134**

**BY** Bennett, Corvese, Lombardi, Hull, Read, Noret, Fascia, Casimiro, Azzinaro, O'Brien  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MUNICIPAL POLICE ARBITRATION (Extends provisions of an existing collective bargaining agreement for municipal police arbitration purposes until a successor agreement is reached or an interest arbitration award is rendered.) {LC88/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Labor

**House Bill No. 5135**

**BY** Bennett, Corvese, Lombardi, Noret, Fascia, Casimiro, Azzinaro, O'Brien, Edwards, Slater  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' ARBITRATION (Recognizes that municipal employees have the opportunity to utilize interest arbitration and would establish new factors for the arbitrators to consider. These factors include comparisons of wages/hourly conditions of employment in similarly skilled jobs.) {LC86/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Labor

**House Bill No. 5136**

(by request)

**BY** Casimiro

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES (Gradually increases the minimum wage for employees receiving gratuities between January 1, 2026 through January 1, 2031 to the minimum wage established in § 28-12-3 exclusive of gratuities.) {LC474/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Labor

**House Bill No. 5137**

**BY** Brien, Chippendale, Corvese, Noret, Read, Azzinaro, Hopkins, Costantino, Baginski  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL PROVISIONS (Provides that the state board of elections shall verify the citizenship status of all persons on the voter registration list.) {LC627/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 5138**

**BY** Lombardi, Hull, Felix

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE ISLAND LOBBYING REFORM ACT (Prohibits lobbyists from making any political contributions to any member of the general assembly from January 1 through July 1 in any year, unless the general assembly adjourns for the year prior to July 1.) {LC112/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Resolution No. 5139**

**BY** Lombardi, Hull, Felix

**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE, PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE -- FOUR YEAR TERMS AND TERM LIMITS FOR REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS (Proposes an amendment to the State Constitution, Article IV, Section 1, that would create four (4) year terms for general assembly members and impose term limits of three (3) full four (4) year terms

on said members commencing with the 2028 election.) {LC113/1}  
01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Resolution No. 5140**

**BY** Corvese, Brien

**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING A CONVENTION OF THE STATES UNDER ARTICLE V OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION {LC634/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 5141**

**BY** Bennett, Solomon, Edwards, McNamara, Kislak, Giraldo, Slater, Diaz, Azzinaro, Costantino

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Establishes a motor vehicle license plate to honor Roger Williams.) {LC328/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

**House Bill No. 5142**

**BY** Lombardi, Hull, Potter, Felix

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE - REVENUE ESTIMATING CONFERENCES (Changes the time frame of the Revenue Estimating Conferences meeting to within the last ten (10) days of April and the first ten (10) days of November of each year.) {LC114/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 5143**

**BY** Casimiro, Noret, Read

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OPERATORS' AND CHAUFFEURS' LICENSES (Exempts foster care individuals from drivers education fee at community college of Rhode Island.) {LC188/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 5144**

**BY** Potter, Slater, Speakman, Tanzi, Edwards, Bennett, McGaw, Shanley, Corvese, Cruz

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (Allows executive office of EOHHS to review current methodology for Medical payments to nursing facilities.) {LC455/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 5145**

**BY** Edwards, Bennett, Solomon, Marszalkowski, Potter, Kennedy, Ackerman, Diaz, Chippendale, Craven

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL CODE PROVISIONS (Allows for trucks with a gross vehicle weight of eight thousand pounds (8,000 lbs.) or less to have passenger registration license plates.) {LC635/1}

01/22/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4:47 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Messier, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Hon. Raymond Beretta; on motion of Representative McEntee, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Hilding Munson; on motion of Representative Craven, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Andrea Hopkins; on motion of Representative Hull, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Ralph P. Fagnoli Sr.; on motion of Representative Kislak, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Martin "Marty" Cooper; on motion of Representative Diaz, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Cedric Huntley; on motion of Representatives Azzinaro and Kennedy, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Jason Vallee seconded by Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

**Diane M. DePina**  
**Recording Clerk**

**APPENDIX**

**INVOCATION**

**REPRESENTATIVE TERRI CORTVRIEND**

Dear God: We give thanks to you for giving us another day to serve your people. Send your spirit this day and every day to guide us as we work to make life better for all Rhode Islanders. Amen.