

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. 6

Thursday, January 23, 2025

Sixth-Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Thursday, January 23, 2025, and is called to order at 4:07 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 72 members present and 3 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 72: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, 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, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

ABSENT – 3: Representatives Hopkins, Perez and Lima.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Representative Mary Ann Shallcross Smith, 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 Tuesday, January 21, 2025, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Ramon A. Perez is unable to attend session today, Thursday, January 23, 2025.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
TRANSFER OF BILLS**

Chairman Casey, for the Committee on Municipal Government and Housing, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of transfer to the Committee on Judiciary:

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}

01/23/2025 Committee transferred to House Judiciary

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

GUESTS

On behalf of Speaker Shekarchi, Representative Brien is pleased to welcome Canadian Consul General Bernadette Jordan, Head of Public Affairs, Political and Economic Relations Meaghan Sunderland, Senior Political Affairs Officer Lisa Carrier, Quebec Delegate to New England René Sylvestre, and Public and Government Affairs Attaché Margaret Randall.

NOW PRESIDING

At 4:14 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi yields the rostrum to Canadian Counsel General Bernadette Jordan.

Canadian Counsel General Bernadette Jordan addresses the members of the House.

At 4:27 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi returns to the rostrum. Speaker Shekarchi extends congratulations and gratitude to Canadian Counsel General Bernadette Jordan.

GUESTS

Floor Manager Edwards and Representative McGraw extend a warm welcome and heartfelt congratulations to the Tiverton High School Varsity Girls Soccer Team, the 2024 Rhode Island State Champions. This accomplished team, featuring talented athletes Kennedy Herfert, Addaline Messenger, Sofia Borges, Adelaide Pimentel, Tori Murray, Olivia Costa, Sara Poland, Leah Committo, Jenna DelDeo, Samantha Borden, Elyse Meyers, Taylor Faria, Neve Carmichael, and Juleighani Soto, is accompanied by their dedicated coaches, James Gauch and Tommy Murray Jr. Speaker Shekarchi is proud to celebrate their remarkable achievement and welcomes them to the House.

Representative McGaw and Floor Manager Edwards extend a warm welcome and heartfelt congratulations to the Tiverton High School Varsity Girls Tennis Team, the 2024 Rhode Island State Champions. This exceptional team is comprised of talented players Lexus-Alyn Boissonneau, Lia Doster, Caroline Durost, Juniper Merkle, Silvia Kirchner, Sophia Han, Julia Keating, Courtnie Smith, Keily Alvarez, Hailey Archambault, Sadie Loureiro-Brown, Carly Sanna, Brooke Sowa, Angelleena Cordeiro, Autumn Gerlach, Faith Porada, and Stella Valentino. They are joined by their dedicated coaches, Jessica Cullinan, Samantha Rollings, and Natasha Tavares. Speaker Shekarchi proudly congratulates the team on their outstanding achievement and welcomes them to the House.

Chairman Bennett warmly welcomes Donna Policastro, Executive Director of the Rhode Island State Nurses Association, to the House and offers his heartfelt condolences as he honors the life and legacy of the late Sylvia “Siggy” Weber for her remarkable contributions to the nursing profession and unwavering dedication to the health and well-being of others leave an enduring impact that will always be remembered.

Representative Morales welcomes the Rhode Island Black Storytellers, Shavon Choct Smith and Len Cabral, to the House today to celebrate Funda Fest 27. Speaker Shekarchi congratulates them on their talented work and welcomes them to the House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Speaker Shekarchi extends his heartfelt condolences to Nicholas Hemond on the passing of his beloved grandmother, Barbara Hemond.

Speaker Shekarchi extends his deepest condolences to former Senator Donna Nesselbush on the passing of her mother, Marie Nesselbush.

Chairwoman McEntee wishes her constituent, House page Jeffrey Hill, a Happy 17th Birthday!

Representative Noret wishes Vincent J. Petrarca a Happy 100th Birthday!

Chairman Fogarty announces that the Committee on Rules will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 101 of the State House.

Floor Manager Edwards announces that his son-in-law is recuperating at home and on the path to recovery.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the House will meet on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, and Thursday, January 30th, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the Environment Council of Rhode Island invites all members to its annual Coffee Hour this Tuesday, January 28th, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the State House Library. Speaker Shekarchi will offer remarks, and the council will outline legislative priorities for the year.

Majority Leader Blazejewski reminds all members that today is the deadline to complete the Secretary of State’s Office for the Rhode Island Owner’s Manual form. Members should return the

completed form to Stacy Custer or the Secretary of State's Public Information Office in Room 38 of the State House.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

House Bill No. 5146

BY Slater, Chippendale, Blazejewski, Batista, Morales

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows the Honorable Ana B. Quezada to join Leslie Polanco and Daniel P. Nunez, in marriage on or about February 5, 2025, within the City of Providence, Rhode Island.) {LC874/1}

01/23/2025 House read and passed

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 Majority Leader Blazejewski, and many others, by unanimous consent, on a roll call vote, 64 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 64: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

House Resolution No. 5147

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Brien, Chippendale, Phillips, Solomon, Fogarty, Tanzi, Shallcross Smith, Ajello

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION WELCOMING THE HONOURABLE BERNADETTE JORDAN, CONSUL GENERAL OF CANADA IN BOSTON TO THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC327/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Brien and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 5148

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Bennett, Chippendale, Baginski, Finkelman, Casimiro, Solomon, Edwards, Donovan

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF SYLVIA "SIGGY" WEBER, BELOVED PSYCHIATRIC NURSE LEADER, HEALER, AND VETERAN OF THE AIR FORCE AND U.S. ARMY RESERVES {LC19/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Bennett and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to the family of Sylvia "Siggy" Weber.

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

House Resolution No. 5149

BY Morales, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Biah, Abney, Giraldo, Cruz, Stewart, Solomon
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING FUNDA FEST 27 AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RI BLACK STORYTELLERS (RIBS) FROM JANUARY 17TH-26TH, 2025 {LC890/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Morales and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 5150

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, McNamara, Chippendale, Ackerman, Solomon, Fogarty, Tanzi, Shallcross Smith, Ajello

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF ALAN SHAWN FEINSTEIN, A LEGENDARY PHILANTHROPIST AND ENTREPRENEUR {LC18/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman McNamara and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 5151

BY McNamara, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Ackerman, Solomon, Fogarty, Tanzi, Shallcross Smith, Ajello

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF WARREN D. COLE {LC766/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman McNamara discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 5152

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Fellela, Corvese, Chippendale, Paplauskas, Serpa, O'Brien, Hull, Lombardi

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING REPRESENTATIVE EDWARD T. CARDILLO, JR. FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC23/1}

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

Representative Fellela discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Fellela, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, Majority Leader Blazejewski, and several others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 5153

BY Lombardi, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Paplauskas, Nardone, Roberts, Newberry, Fascia, Santucci

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO THE MARZILLI FAMILY FOR MORE THAN SIX DECADES OF WONDERFUL MEMORIES AND DELIZIOSO FINE DINING AT MARZILLI'S OLD CANTEEN {LC742/1}

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

Representative Lombardi and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 5154

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Felix, Chippendale, Tanzi, Cruz, Kislak, Casimiro, Diaz, Stewart

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING JANUARY 23, 2025, TO BE "MATERNAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC202/1}

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

Representative Felix discusses the resolution.

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

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

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.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**RULES**

Chairwoman Fogarty, for the Committee on Rules, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 5007 SUB A

BY Fogarty, Diaz, Corvese, Hull, Marszalkowski, Kazarian, O'Brien, Kennedy, Chippendale, Azzinaro

ENTITLED, AN ACT ADOPTING THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE YEARS 2025 AND 2026 {LC397/A/1}

01/24/2025 Placed on House Calendar (01/28/2025)

NEW BUSINESS**House Bill No. 5155**

BY Cotter, Bennett, Casimiro, Potter, Solomon, McNamara, Speakman, Fogarty, Slater, Giraldo

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- ARCHITECTS

(Provides that architects and other authorized disaster response workers be considered, in the course of performing their duties, state workers and be entitled to all rights in like manner as state employees.) {LC538/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 5156

BY Serpa, Corvese, Ackerman, Read, Phillips, Fellela

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- CONDOMINIUM LAW (Provides that the "meetings" requirements from § 34-36.1-3.08 be applicable to condominiums created before July 1, 1982, and would permit remote participation in condominium meetings.) {LC637/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 5157

BY Cotter, Bennett, Casimiro, Morales, Potter, Solomon, McNamara, Speakman, Fogarty, Slater

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- EMERGENCY

MANAGEMENT (Provides that any disaster response worker shall, in the course of their duties, be considered a state employee and be entitled to all rights in like manner as state employees.)

{LC543/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 5158

BY Shallcross Smith, Casimiro, Ajello, Nardone, Fogarty, Fellela, Hull, Alzate, Diaz, Handy

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- LICENSE

PROCEDURE FOR SOCIAL WORKERS (Repeals the examination requirement in order to qualify for a clinical social workers license.) {LC781/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 5159**BY** Shallcross Smith, Chippendale, Nardone, Casimiro, Fogarty**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT RIGHT TO REPAIR ACT (Provides that original equipment manufacturers, implemented by/with surrogate distributors, of agricultural equipment, provide to independent service providers repair information and tools to maintain and repair electronics-enabled agricultural equipment.) {LC718/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 5160**BY** Solomon, Casey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PRODUCER LICENSING ACT (Clarifies what a contract modification is, namely any change in producer compensation.) {LC787/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Resolution No. 5161**BY** Cotter, Morales, Potter, Carson, Speakman, Fogarty, Kislak, Slater, Giraldo, Kazarian**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF PUBLIC UTILITIES (Creates a special joint legislative study commission to study public ownership of certain public utilities, including electricity and natural gas.) {LC765/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 5162**BY** McNamara, Cotter, Solomon, Potter, Carson, Ackerman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (Incorporates the department of elementary and secondary education's SurveyWorks school climate indicators for evaluating the performance of LEAs and individual public schools.) {LC498/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 5163**BY** McNamara, Cotter, Solomon, Potter, Carson, Ackerman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CURRICULUM (Directs all local education agencies to select one of the identified high-quality curricula and materials for science and technology no later than June 30, 2026.) {LC512/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 5164**BY** Carson, Shallcross Smith, McNamara, Cotter, Donovan, Caldwell, Noret, Diaz, Casimiro**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (Establishes a task force managed by the children's cabinet to develop recommendations to improve access to early intervention and early childhood special education services.) {LC794/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 5165**BY** Cotter, Noret, Read, McNamara, Potter, Solomon, Casimiro, Spears, Carson, Kennedy**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAMS (Requires the school board or committees of cities and towns to establish

a safety and behavioral health committee and also lays out the representation requirements committee responsibilities to ensure a stable learning environment for all students.) {LC761/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 5166

BY McGaw, Boylan, Batista, Speakman, Carson, Fogarty, Serpa, Bennett, Kislak, Alzate
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HIGH HEAT WASTE FACILITY ACT (Provides for a prohibition on the licensing of any new high-heat waste facility.) {LC447/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 5167

BY Cortvriend, Speakman, Carson, McGaw, Boylan, Handy, Kislak, Bennett, Phillips
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE RHODE ISLAND CLEAN HEAT STANDARD ACT (Creates the Rhode Island clean heat standards act to implement a system of tradeable clean heat credits earned from the delivery of clean heat measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.) {LC222/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 5168

BY Boylan, Speakman, Carson, McGaw, Bennett, Kislak, Spears, Cortvriend, Handy
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LICENSING OF HEALTHCARE FACILITIES (Requires all state licensed healthcare facilities to convert the powering of their operations from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources. DOH promulgates rules and regulations to implement the requirements.) {LC466/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5169

BY Donovan, McNamara, Carson, Speakman, Boylan, Fogarty, Potter, Giraldo, Morales, Cruz
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE LICENSING ACT (Establishes, encourages and supports the establishment of family councils and resident councils in managed residential communities providing assisted living services.) {LC586/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5170

BY Donovan, McNamara, Carson, Speakman, Fogarty, Spears, Boylan, Potter, Cruz, Morales
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RIGHTS OF NURSING HOME PATIENTS (Supports the role of independent family council and makes the waiting list transparent by requiring nursing facilities with more than thirty percent (30%) self-pay residents to admit applicants on a first-come-first-served basis for non-private rooms.) {LC587/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5171

BY Edwards, Craven, Potter, Caldwell, Kislak, Bennett, Ajello, Batista, McEntee, Kazarian **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HARM REDUCTION CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND PILOT PROGRAM (Removes the sunset provision of the four (4) year pilot program to prevent drug overdoses through the establishment of harm reduction centers and creates a permanent program for harm reduction centers.) {LC790/1} 01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5172

BY Donovan, Speakman, Potter, Bennett, Giraldo, Stewart, Fogarty, Handy, McGaw, Morales **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- THE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE USE BY HEALTH INSURERS TO MANAGE COVERAGE AND CLAIMS ACT (Would promote transparency and accountability in the use of artificial intelligence by health insurers to manage coverage and claims.) {LC724/1} 01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5173

BY McGaw, Shekarchi, Hull, Craven, Corvese, Lombardi, Kazarian, Diaz, Donovan, Spears **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Requires health plans that provide prescription benefits to cover at least one type of glucagon auto-injector, nasal spray, or formulation that does not require reconstitution to treat hypoglycemia. No copayment or deductible would be required.) {LC530/1} 01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5174

BY Bennett, Corvese, Cotter, Carson, Dawson, Baginski, Phillips, Shanley, Craven, DeSimone **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- CERTIFIED SURGICAL FIRST ASSISTANTS (Allows for the licensing of certified surgical first assistants to assist in surgeries through the department of health and a seven (7) member board of licensure.) {LC87/1} 01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5175

BY Edwards, Casey, Casimiro, Diaz, Messier, Ackerman, Shanley, Noret, Hull, Read **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- NOTIFICATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, POLICE OFFICERS AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS AFTER EXPOSURE TO INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Amends the definition of infectious diseases to include the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).) {LC789/1} 01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5176

BY Speakman, Knight, Boylan, Ajello, Carson, Donovan, Cortvriend, Kislak, Potter, Cotter **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- STUDENT COMPUTER DEVICE PRIVACY (Prohibits an educational institution or school district from accessing or using location data for tracking a student's institutional device or personal device, except in limited circumstances.) {LC756/1} 01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, & Technology

House Bill No. 5177**BY** Casimiro, Roberts, Hopkins, Cotter, Shallcross Smith**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- CAUSES OF ACTION (Creates "Harter's Law" to extend the civil statute of limitations, for injuries resulting from first degree child abuse, to thirty-five (35) years.) {LC186/1} 01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary**House Bill No. 5178****BY** Lombardi, Hull, Cruz, Sanchez, Slater, Morales, Potter, Brien, Alzate, Diaz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- EXPUNGEMENT OF CRIMINAL RECORDS (Allows expungement of multiple felony convictions for non-violent felonies 10 years after sentence completed.) {LC108/1} 01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary**House Bill No. 5179****BY** Finkelman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- JUDGMENTS, ORDERS, AND DECREES (Amends calculations of interest in civil actions a rate determined by average accepted auction price for last auction of 52 week U.S. treasury bills.) {LC846/1} 01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary**House Bill No. 5180****BY** Cruz, Craven, Dawson, McEntee, Solomon, Brien, Diaz, Kislak, Ajello, Morales**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINALS -- CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS -- PAROLE (Requires one elector of the parole board to be a person directly impacted by the criminal justice system who has completed the probation/parole process three (3) or more years prior to selection with a professional background in certain enumerated areas.) {LC619/1} 01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary**House Bill No. 5181****BY** Fellela, Hull, Serpa, Costantino**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Modifies the summons for eviction for reasons other than nonpayment of rent with the district court, to add a certificate of service section, and provides the option to post the summons/complaint conspicuously on door of the defendant/tenant's dwelling.) {LC123/1} 01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary**House Bill No. 5182****BY** Shallcross Smith, Craven, Ackerman, Chippendale, Casimiro, Alzate, Diaz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- MAINTENANCE OF PRIVATE EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY (Provides that the cost of maintaining and repairing or restoring an easement or right-of-way shall be shared by each owner of a benefited property and their costs shall be determined by and commensurate with the municipal appraisal of each property.) {LC240/1} 01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5183

BY Bennett, Cotter, Edwards, Quattrocchi, Chippendale, Paplauskas, Nardone, Roberts, Slater, Casey **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- PASSING, USE OF LANES AND RULES OF THE ROAD (Allows lane filtering, the act of passing stopped or slow-moving vehicles proceeding in the same direction, for motorcycles at low speeds.) {LC618/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5184

BY Shallcross Smith, Chippendale, Casimiro, Craven, Nardone, Fogarty, Ajello, Fellela, Hull, Alzate **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES (Prohibits credit reporting, executions, attachments against a principal residence for judgments based on medical debt. Defines medical debt as an amount for the receipt of health care services, products, or devices.) {LC727/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5185

BY Donovan, Potter, Carson, Fogarty, Spears, McGaw, Speakman, Shallcross Smith, Ajello, Handy **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- PROHIBITION OF UNFAIR SERVICE AGREEMENTS (Prohibits the use of service agreements that are unfair to an owner of residential real estate who enters into such an agreement or to persons who may become owners of that real estate in the future.) {LC749/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5186

BY Potter, McNamara, Batista, Craven, Donovan, Speakman, Spears, Slater, Bennett, Cruz **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT (Amends current law on controlled substances to permit psilocybin to be cultivated within a person's residence for personal use and contingent on the US FDA's program, mandate that RI department of health establish rules regulations.) {LC325/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5187

BY Corvese, Brien, Noret, Azzinaro, DeSimone, Potter, Bennett, Hull, Read, O'Brien **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- LABOR RELATIONS ACT (Expands the definition of "employee". Also modifies how the state's labor relations board operates and aids in enforcement of the board's orders.) {LC633/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 5188

BY Bennett, Cotter, Carson, Dawson, Phillips, Shanley, Craven, DeSimone, Cortvriend, Edwards **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- CORROSION PREVENTION AND MITIGATION WORK REQUIREMENTS (Gives authority to the department of labor and training to enforce violations of the laws relating to corrosion prevention and mitigation work requirements. This act would also add civil monetary penalties for violations of those laws.) {LC85/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 5189**BY** Knight, Boylan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF BARRINGTON (Validates and ratifies the amendments to the Barrington Home Rule Charter which were approved by the electors of the town of Barrington on November 5, 2024.) {LC896/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 5190**BY** Carson, Casimiro, Craven, Cortvriend, Fogarty**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Amends the definition of a "houseboat" to include motorized or non-motorized vessels.) {LC782/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 5191**BY** Bennett, Cotter, Carson, Dawson, Baginski, Phillips, Shanley, Cortvriend, Boylan, Edwards**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- STATE EMBLEMS (Designates as the state music, the genre of rhythm and blues which contains elements of pop, soul, funk, hip-hop, and electronic music.) {LC84/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

House Bill No. 5192**BY** Speakman, Spears**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OPERATION OF BICYCLES (Requires anyone using a bicycle trail or path to stay to the right on the path and would always pass on the left when safe to do so.) {LC56/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 5193**BY** Read, Noret, Casimiro, Edwards, Serpa, Hull, Corvese, Casey, Azzinaro, Phillips**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL (Creates a voluntary program through which registrants of electric and hybrid motor vehicles can request stickers to affix to enclosures housing such vehicles to promote first responders' safety in responding to electrical fires.) {LC848/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 5194**BY** Cotter, Spears, Donovan, Speakman, Fogarty, Bennett, Dawson, Casimiro, Morales, Potter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY TAX RELIEF (Increases the income range up to \$50,000 and tax credit up to \$850, for elderly and disabled persons who own or rent their homes.) {LC541/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5195

BY Cortvriend, Carson, Boylan, Dawson, Speakman, Kislak, Handy, Bennett, McGaw
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --
COMPOSTING AND ORGANIC WASTE DIVERSION (Establishes Compost Fund to award grants
related to reducing the amount of solid waste generated in the state.) {LC424/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5196

BY Diaz, Shallcross Smith, Caldwell, Craven, Cruz, Slater, Edwards, Casimiro, Donovan,
McNamara
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- THE RHODE ISLAND WORKS
PROGRAM (Eliminates the sunset on the provision of finding for child care for eligible child care
educators and child care staff.) {LC899/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5197

BY Diaz, Shallcross Smith, Caldwell, Craven, Cruz, Slater, Edwards, Casimiro, Donovan,
McNamara
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- THE RHODE ISLAND WORKS
PROGRAM (Removes the requirement that families consent to, and cooperate with the department of
human services in establishing paternity and enforcing child and medical support orders as a
condition of eligibility for child care assistance.) {LC898/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5198

BY Fellela, Azzinaro, Serpa, Messier, O'Brien, Shallcross Smith
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TEACHERS' RETIREMENT (Allows
teachers, state and municipal employees to retire upon the earlier of reaching age sixty (60) with
thirty (30) years of service or the employee's retirement eligibility date under present state statutes.)
{LC121/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5199

BY McNamara, Cotter, Solomon, Potter, Carson, Ackerman
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE RHODE ISLAND
PREKINDERGARTEN EDUCATION ACT (Establishes guidelines for continued implementation
and expansion of public, high-quality kindergarten education programs.) {LC827/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5200

BY Donovan, Speakman, Boylan, Potter, Spears, Carson, Fogarty, Diaz, McGaw, Shallcross Smith
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RHODE ISLAND EARLY EDUCATOR
WORKFORCE ACT (Directs the DHS and the department of education to work collaboratively to
sustain and strengthen existing workforce development and compensation programs for educators
working in licensed child care and early learning programs statewide.) {LC725/1}
01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5201**BY** Cotter, Spears, Chippendale, Donovan, Speakman, Casimiro, Kennedy**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Ensures that transportation categorical funds between the state and regional school districts would be fully funded.) {LC545/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5202**BY** Cotter, Spears, Chippendale, Donovan, Speakman, Casimiro, Kennedy**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Increases the state's regionalization bonus to six percent (6%) of the state's fiscal year share of foundation education aid. This bonus would be ongoing and continuing so long as the district remains a regional school district.) {LC544/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5203**BY** Cortvriend, Boylan, Dawson, Bennett, McGaw, Carson, Handy, Finkelman, McNamara, Spears**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL FUNDS AND PROPERTY (Directs the department of education to develop and adopt regulations for energy capable school buildings.) {LC220/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5204**BY** Cotter, Bennett, Dawson, Casimiro, Morales, McNamara, Kennedy, Speakman, Fogarty, Slater**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TRANSPORTATION OF SCHOOL PUPILS BEYOND CITY AND TOWN LIMITS (Allows an individual school district that can utilize its own buses or vendors at a lower cost than the statewide system, to obtain reimbursement for these costs from state funds.) {LC542/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5205**BY** Slater, Diaz, Kislak, Potter, Cruz, Cotter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN (Would provide children up to age three (3) with continuous coverage eligibility for RIt Track/RIt Care so that they are not at risk of losing coverage at the yearly redetermination due solely to administrative barriers) {LC850/1}

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:59 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative McNamara, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Warren Cole and Alan Shawn Feinstein; on motion of Representative Bennett, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of "Sylvia Siggy" Weber; on motion of Representative Voas, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Barbara Hemond; on motion of Representative Messier, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Marie Nesselbush; on motion of Representative Edwards, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Estelle Tobin and Arleen Tobin Brown; on motion of Representative Fellela, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Cheryl Zangrilli seconded by Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE MARY ANN SHALLCROSS SMITH

Holy God: Shine your light upon this House as we strive to best serve you by serving others. Let us always be quick to listen and slow to criticize or judge. Please help us to always remember that it is an honor and privilege to be a member of this House of Representatives. Amen

APPENDIX

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025:

1. **2025-H 5007 SUB A**
BY Fogarty
ENTITLED, AN ACT ADOPTING THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE YEARS 2025 AND 2026

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

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Friday, January 24, 2025