

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. 10

Thursday, February 6, 2025

Tenth-Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Thursday, February 6, 2025, and is called to order at 4:39 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 65 members present and 10 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 65: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Phillips, Place, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Santucci, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

ABSENT – 10: Representatives Alzate, Batista, Costantino, Dawson, Lima, Messier, Perez, Potter, Sanchez and Serpa.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi presents Representative Leonela Felix, 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, February 4, 2025, is approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 6, 2025

Announcement by Speaker K. Joseph Shekarchi:

I have nominated Representative Matthew Dawson and Representative Jennifer Stewart to the Emerging Legislative Leaders Program held by the State Legislative Leaders Foundation in Charlottesville, Virginia, in July 2025.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Karen Alzate is unable to attend session today, Thursday, February 6, 2025.
Representative Matthew Dawson is unable to attend session today, Thursday, February 6, 2025.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minority Leader Chippendale and Speaker Shekarchi offer their heartfelt condolences to the family of Jesse J. Townsend.

Representative Cruz offers condolences to the family of Pamela M. Perry. Speaker Shekarchi offers his heartfelt condolences to Representative Cruz and the family of Pamela M. Perry.

GUESTS

Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy warmly welcomes Ryan Gulluscio, Chairman Azzinaro's grandson, to the House. Speaker Shekarchi also welcomes Ryan to the House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice-Chairman Phillips announces that the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 101 of the State House.

Chairman Abney announces that the Committee on Finance will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 35 of the State House.

Chairwoman Donovan announces that the Committee on Health & Human Services will meet today, at the rise of the House, in the House Lounge of the State House.

Representative Fellela extends her warmest birthday wishes to Billy Levia, Capitol TV's dedicated TV technician!

Vice-Chairwoman Diaz announces that the Committee on Special Legislation will meet today, at the rise, in Room 135 of the State House.

Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy announces that all members should have received copies of the NCSL 50th Anniversary Magazine and the 2025 Calendar of State House Domes in their mailboxes today.

Majority Leader Blazewski announces that the House will hold its sessions next week on Tuesday, February 11, and Wednesday, February 12, at 4:00 p.m. There will be no session on Thursday.

The House Oversight Committee will meet jointly with the Senate Oversight Committee on Thursday, February 13, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 35 to discuss updates on the Rhode Island Department of Transportation Washington Bridge project.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

House Resolution No. 5324

BY Cortvriend, Shekarchi, Blazewski, Chippendale, McGaw, Fogarty, Kennedy, Tanzi, Ajello, Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING "CARRIGAN NELSON DAY" ON FEBRUARY 8, 2025, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC1128/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Cortvriend and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 5325

BY Kazarian, Shekarchi, Blazewski, Chippendale, Kennedy, Tanzi, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Felix, Fogarty

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF GLORIA MESSERLIAN {LC1210/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Majority Whip Kazarian requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Majority Whip Kazarian discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers condolences to the family of Gloria Messerlian.

Read and passed, on a motion of Majority Whip Kazarian, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

House Resolution No. 5326

BY Diaz, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Hull, Lombardi, Felix, Morales, Slater, Stewart
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING “NATIONAL WOMEN PHYSICIANS DAY” ON FEBRUARY 3, 2025, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC1244/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Diaz discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 5327

BY Furtado, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Cruz, Chippendale, Morales, Boylan, Stewart, Hull, Lombardi
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 6TH, 2025, TO BE "NEW ENGLAND FREEDMEN'S AID SOCIETY DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC1313/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Furtado discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 5328

BY Felix, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Fellela, Diaz, Lombardi, Furtado, Kennedy, Tanzi
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY OF 2025 AS “AMERICAN HEART MONTH” IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC737/1}

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

There is no objection.

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.

NEW BUSINESS**House Bill No. 5329**

BY O'Brien, Casey, Solomon, Corvese, Baginski, Hull

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- CIGARETTE AND OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS TAX (Defines a vape shop and exempt it from the prohibition of selling electronic nicotine-delivery system products.) {LC1148/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 5330

BY Fellela, Costantino, Serpa, Hull, Lombardi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- CONDOMINIUM LAW (Provides that amendments to §§ 34-36.1-1.03 and 34-36.1-3.08 are applicable to condominiums created before July 1, 1982, provides a definition for the term "special assessment" and allows unit owners to participate in association meetings remotely.) {LC1071/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 5331

BY Craven, McEntee, Caldwell

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- LENDERS AND LOAN BROKERS (Removes the licensing exemption for a lender that originates less than six (6) loans in twelve (12) consecutive months.) {LC1389/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 5332

BY Knight

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- THE RHODE ISLAND SPECIAL DEPOSITS ACT (Establishes the Rhode Island Special Deposits Act to be governed by an account agreement between the bank and the depositor or its beneficiary.) {LC1239/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 5333**BY** Azzinaro, Fellela, Ackerman, Hull, Santucci**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE-CASUALTY INSURANCE GENERALLY-LIMITATIONS ON POLICY CANCELLATIONS AND RENEWALS (Requires homeowner's insurance providers to provide two months' notice before increasing any policy more than 20%. Also caps rate increases for policy holders that are 65 years of age or older and meet certain income limits.) {LC1334/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 5334**BY** Cruz, Shekarchi, Solomon, Hull, Corvese, Stewart, Bennett, Kislak, Potter, Morales**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- VETERINARY PRACTICE (Requires veterinarians to provide consultations to animal owners when a drug is prescribed and dispensed for that annual patient.) {LC772/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 5335

(City of Providence)

BY Slater, DeSimone, Ajello, Hull, Lombardi, O'Brien, Diaz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE PAUL W. CROWLEY RHODE ISLAND STUDENT INVESTMENT INITIATIVE (Nullifies the department of elementary and secondary education recommendation that the turnaround plan for Providence public schools be continued.) {LC968/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 5336

(Dept. of Education)

BY Lombardi, Hull, Felix, Cruz, Slater, Stewart**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COOPERATIVE SERVICE AMONG SCHOOL DISTRICTS (Amends the composition of the Urban Collaborative and provide that the collaborative be governed by a board of trustees.) {LC1269/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 5337**BY** Place, Fascia, Santucci, Roberts, Quattrocchi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COOPERATIVE SERVICE AMONG SCHOOL DISTRICTS--CHARTER SCHOOL REFORM (Allows charter schools to engage in nontraditional approaches to learning, permits local communities to adopt all-charter school public school model for public education.) {LC840/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 5338**BY** Casimiro, Noret, Spears, Donovan, Carson, Morales, Solomon, Shanley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Requires at least one certified school psychologist per every five hundred (500) students be employed at each school system.) {LC1193/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 5339

BY O'Brien, Corvese, Finkelman, Donovan, McEntee, Cruz, Furtado, Slater, Solomon, Hull
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS
(Provides that for the period up until July 1, 2027, an applicant for a teaching certificate in Rhode Island would not be required to complete a standardized teacher's examination as a prerequisite to obtaining a teaching certificate.) {LC1297/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 5340

BY Boylan, Cortvriend, Fogarty, Carson, Kislak, McGaw, Speakman, Spears, Bennett, Handy
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (Requires the producer of artificial turf and turf infill sold or distributed in Rhode Island to report its chain of custody, from installation to use, repurposing, recycling and disposal.) {LC755/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 5341

BY Chippendale, Paplauskas, Tanzi, Spears, Caldwell, Marszalkowski, Casey, Azzinaro, Handy, Cortvriend
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- REGULATION OF BOATS -- FRESHWATER LAKE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (Authorizes the collection of a small additional fee, in addition to the registration fee paid by motorboat owners, to be deposited in a restricted account, in order to fund the newly established freshwater lake management program.) {LC1083/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 5342

BY Chippendale, Tanzi, Spears, McGaw, Caldwell, Casey, Azzinaro, Finkelman, Edwards, Handy
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (Establishes an agricultural restricted receipt account within the department of environmental management. An advisory committee would be established to determine suggested uses of the funds in said account.) {LC1203/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 5343

BY Boylan, Cortvriend, McGaw, Tanzi, Carson, Donovan, Handy, Fogarty, Speakman, Ajello
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- STATE PURCHASES -- LEAD BY EXAMPLE ACT (Takes several measures to lead by example by banning state purchases of plastic bottles, and requires state funds to be used to lease or purchase electric vehicles and renewable energy efficient technologies for use on state property.) {LC1134/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Resolution No. 5344**BY** Cortvriend, Spears**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES AND AMENDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT AND SOLUTIONS (Increases the membership of the commission from 17 to 18, and extends the reporting and expiration dates of the special house commission on climate change from May 14, 2025, to May 14, 2026, and expires on June 18, 2026.) {LC1295/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 5345**BY** Casimiro, Noret, Spears, Donovan, Speakman, Morales, Read**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO DELINQUENT AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN -- PROCEEDINGS IN FAMILY COURT (Extends the voluntary extension of care (VEC) program for all children in the care and custody of the state.) {LC1119/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5346**BY** Stewart, Casimiro, Morales, Potter, Batista, Cruz, Caldwell, McEntee, Kislak, Lombardi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO DELINQUENT AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN -- PROCEEDINGS IN FAMILY COURT (Prohibit the family court from detaining any juvenile or committing any juvenile, under the age of 12 years, to the training school, for any offense other than murder, first degree sexual assault, or an attempt to commit such offenses.) {LC1126/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5347**BY** Casimiro, Noret, Spears, Donovan, Carson, Morales, Roberts, Shanley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES (Provides that all extended benefits offered by DCYF to foster children shall be extended to children placed in guardianship.) {LC582/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5348**BY** Ajello, Cruz, Felix, Tanzi, Craven, Shallcross Smith, Speakman, Boylan, McGaw, Furtado**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES -- HIV/AIDS (Repeals the required HIV testing for an individual convicted under chapter 34.1 of title 11 ("commercial sexual activity"). It would also allow the option for HIV testing for any person convicted under this chapter.) {LC439/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5349**BY** Felix, Craven, Knight, McEntee, Dawson, Batista, Cruz, Potter, Ajello, Place**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- VITAL RECORDS (Provides an exemption for certain incarcerated persons from the payment of fees for a first request for vital statistics from the department of health.) {LC1058/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5350**BY** Felix, Kazarian, Batista, Craven, Dawson, Morales, Stewart, Cruz, Kislak, Potter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT--

CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT (Repeals 42-56-38.1 and requires the department of corrections to provide free communication services to inmates and juveniles held in residential placement or detention centers and requires that those facilities provide in-person contact visits.) {LC1059/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5351**BY** Baginski, Bennett, Casey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- MEDICAL AESTHETIC

PRACTICES SAFETY ACT (Mandates cosmetic medical procedures be performed by a physician, PA, APRN, or delegated to a qualified non-physician, non-PA or non-APRN under the supervision of a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse.) {LC1015/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5352**BY** Casimiro, Shekarchi, Noret, Spears, Carson, Ackerman, Shanley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RHODE ISLAND PROGRAM

TO ADDRESS ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE (Creates the position of dementia services coordinator within the department of health to coordinate the departments approach to Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.) {LC1177/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5353**BY** Casimiro, Noret, Spears, Donovan, Speakman, Morales, Solomon, Shanley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES

(Authorizes a pharmacy technician or pharmacy intern to perform technology-assisted dispensing process validation for medications prepared for distribution by another pharmacy technician or intern within an institutional pharmacy.) {LC768/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5354**BY** Place, Fascia, Quattrocchi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- MILK SANITATION CODE --

SANITATION IN FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS (Adds pickles and relish to foods not requiring refrigeration, the sale of raw milk and the taking of mushrooms for personal use.) {LC867/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5355**BY** Place, Quattrocchi, Hopkins, Brien, Santucci, Newberry**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- DETERMINATION OF NEED FOR NEW HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT AND NEW INSTITUTIONAL HEALTH SERVICES

(Repeals the certificate of need process statutes which are used by the department of health to determine the need for new health care equipment and new institutional health services.) {LC1034/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5356**BY** Place, Paplauskas, Quattrocchi, Hopkins, Santucci, Brien, Newberry**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- DETERMINATION OF NEED FOR NEW HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT AND NEW INSTITUTIONAL HEALTH SERVICES

(Limits the application fees paid under the certificate of need program within the department of health to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).) {LC1036/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5357**BY** Ajello, Morales, Cruz, Felix, Tanzi, Craven, Shallcross Smith, Speakman, Boylan, McGaw**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --

CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT (Repeals provisions that assess costs for women in the community corrections program for women offenders.) {LC441/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5358**BY** Ajello, Cruz, Felix, Tanzi, Craven, Shallcross Smith, Speakman, Boylan, McGaw, Furtado**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- COMMERCIAL SEXUAL

ACTIVITY (Under certain circumstances, provides immunity from arrest and prosecution for prostitution, procurement of sexual conduct for a fee, loitering for prostitution and soliciting from motor vehicles for indecent purposes.) {LC440/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5359**BY** Place, Fascia, Quattrocchi, Lombardi, Cruz, Felix, Hull**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- SEARCH WARRANTS --

INDICTMENTS, INFORMATION AND COMPLAINTS -- BILL OF RIGHTS ENHANCEMENT

(Requires law enforcement to obtain consent before placing audio or video recorders on the private property of another.) {LC833/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5360**BY** Place, Quattrocchi, Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- ELECTRONIC

INFORMATION AND DATA PRIVACY ACT (Requires search warrant for electronic information, prohibits stingray cell-site simulators.) {LC831/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5361**BY** Felix, Place, McEntee, Morales, Batista, Tanzi, Lombardi, Potter, Cruz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- ELECTRONIC

INFORMATION AND DATA PRIVACY ACT (Requires law enforcement agencies to obtain search warrants for electronic information, data, location information and other identifying information of subscribers and customers, except in specified circumstances.) {LC1064/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5362**BY** Casimiro, Spears, Felix, Morales, Cruz, Lombardi, Place, McEntee, Caldwell, Craven**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATED TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- SENTENCING

RECONSIDERATION ACT (Allows eligible individuals serving sentences of imprisonment to seek sentence reductions from the superior court, individuals serving life without parole or minimum mandatory sentences pursuant to law, would not be eligible for such relief.) {LC1091/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5363**BY** Place, Felix, Lombardi, Cruz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- UNIFORM CONTROLLED

SUBSTANCES ACT-- POWERS OF ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL -- CIVIL FORFEITURE

PROCEDURE (Prohibits civil asset forfeiture regarding violations of the controlled substances laws until a criminal conviction is obtained.) {LC838/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5364**BY** Hull, Biah, O'Brien, Azzinaro, Bennett**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- SELF-SERVICE STORAGE FACILITIES

(Amends notice requirements for self-storage facility before perfecting lien, to wit; 7 consecutive days of publication on a publicly accessible website or subsequent written notice to lessee, or publication once time in newspaper of general circulation.) {LC1074/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5365**BY** Craven, Caldwell, McEntee**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FIDUCIARIES -- APPLICATION OF LAWS TO TRUSTS

(Provides that a communication between an attorney and client acting as a trustee or other fiduciary, is privileged and protected from disclosure to the same extent as if the client was acting in his, her, or its individual capacity.) {LC1312/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 5366**BY** Morales, Potter, Felix, Ajello, Edwards, Cruz, Bennett, Craven, McNamara, Kazarian**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- PAYMENT OF

WAGES (Provides employees with civil administrative remedies against contractors, subcontractors involved in the contract with joint/severable liability imposed on contractors or subcontractors.

Effective 9/1/2025.) {LC1258/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Resolution No. 5367**BY** Place, Fascia, Paplauskas, Roberts

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE MANNER IN WHICH HEALTH INSURANCE, DISABILITY INSURANCE, UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, RETIREMENT PLANS AND OTHER TRADITIONAL EMPLOYER PROVIDED BENEFITS ARE ACCORDED TO UBER AND LYFT DRIVERS, SELF EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS, AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS ENGAGED IN PROVIDING SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC (Creates a 5 member commission to study the way insurance plans and traditional employer provided benefits are given to Uber and Lyft drivers, and others providing services to the public, and would report by January 5, 2026, and expire March 5, 2026.) {LC800/1} 02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 5368

(City of Providence)

BY Slater, Ajello

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Permits the city of Providence to tax in excess of the levy cap for fiscal year 2026.) {LC965/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 5369**BY** Ajello, Morales, Lombardi, Hull, Slater, DeSimone, Diaz, Kislak

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Exempts from property taxation, the real and tangible personal property of the Providence Preservation Society.) {LC594/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 5370**BY** Casimiro, Craven

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Provides tax credits or the equivalent assessment dollars to veterans, gold star parents, visually impaired persons and the elderly.) {LC1242/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 5371**BY** Place, Paplauskas

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - BURRILLVILLE AND GLOCESTER PUBLIC NOTICE ACT (Allows the towns of Burrillville and Glocester to publish notices in any newspaper located within their municipalities and would also allow publication in other designated digital or print platforms selected by their city or town councils.) {LC866/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 5372**BY** Craven, O'Brien, Shanley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RELIEF OF INJURED AND DECEASED FIRE FIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS (Includes police officers to fire fighters who are unable to perform duties as a result of heart disease, stroke or hypertension to be presumed to have suffered an in-the-line-of-duty disability, unless contrary evidence is presented.) {LC1305/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing**House Bill No. 5373****BY** Speakman, Shekarchi, Diaz, Slater, Casey, Corvese**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE (Defines a quorum of the building code standards committee be a majority of the current board members and amends the state building code to require that sections provide that dwelling units from one to four (4) units use the international residential code.) {LC1263/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing**House Bill No. 5374****BY** Stewart, Speakman, Morales, Spears, Potter, Cruz, Felix, Kislak, Lombardi, Tanzi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE -- RHODE ISLAND INCLUSIVE HOME DESIGN ACT (Establishes a new article in the state building code that provides that certain new housing construction contain at least one floor that meets the requirements for a Type C "ANSI" Standards for Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities.) {LC1124/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing**House Bill No. 5375****BY** Morales, Handy, Cruz, Furtado, Slater, Kislak, Giraldo, Carson, Ajello, Bennett**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LEAD POISONING PREVENTION ACT (Allows municipalities to enact ordinances that would permit municipalities and water suppliers to enter properties to perform lead service line replacements and permit tenants to request and schedule private side lead service line replacements.) {LC849/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing**House Bill No. 5376****BY** Donovan, Speakman, Carson, Boylan, Spears**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Allows for a special RI license plate to raise awareness for colon cancer. The plate would be designed by the partnership to reduce cancer in RI. The fees for the plate would be divided equally between the general fund and the partnership not-for-profit.) {LC1174/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation**House Bill No. 5377****BY** Casimiro, Noret, Spears, Donovan, Speakman, Morales, Roberts, Read, Chippendale**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- CHILD ADVOCATE OFFICE (Requires DCYF to implement recommendations made by the child advocate and child fatality review panel within 6 months and provide a report of the measures taken to address the recommendations.) {LC1122/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 5378**BY** Place, Paplauskas**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- ORGANIZATION AND COMMAND OF MILITARY AND NAVAL FORCES (Requires an official declaration of war or an action to call forth the state militia by the United States Congress before members of the National Guard may be released from state control to participate in active duty combat.) {LC841/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 5379**BY** Morales, Felix, Cruz, Caldwell, Craven, McEntee, Casimiro, Stewart, Slater, Ajello**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINALS -- CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS -- COMMISSION ON PARDONS (Establishes a commission to promulgate rules, regulations and make recommendations to the governor as to petitions for pardons under Article IX, Section 13 of the Constitution of Rhode Island.) {LC1116/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 5380**BY** Place, Fascia, Paplauskas, Quattrocchi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - AGREEMENT TO PHASE OUT CORPORATE INCENTIVES COMPACT ACT (Establishes a compact agreement among at least two (2) states to prohibit the use of subsidies to selectively retain industry or company entice relocation from one state to another state or to open a new facility.) {LC821/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 5381

(Secretary of State)

BY Speakman, McGaw, Carson, Donovan, Tanzi, Boylan, McEntee, Ajello**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- NOMINATION OF PARTY AND INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES (Amends several statutes relating to elections and the dates for primaries and dates within which to file nomination papers and object to nomination papers.) {LC1111/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 5382**BY** Felix, Cruz, McNamara, Kislak, Diaz, Giraldo, Stewart, Furtado, Potter, Batista**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL PROVISIONS (Allows citizens of a city or town who are at least sixteen (16) years of age to register to vote and to vote in school committee elections in municipalities where school committees are elected entities.) {LC1121/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 5383**BY** Place, Paplauskas, Roberts**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS --PRIMARY ELECTION DATES (Changes primary election to Wednesday if after Labor Day and does not mandate local boards of election to have voter registration drive at high school.) {LC828/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 5384

BY Boylan, Knight, Ajello, McGaw, Stewart, Tanzi, Shanley, Speakman, Furtado, DeSimone
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES (Increases from 7 days to 9 days the period of time in which a request for a recount of the votes cast can be made to the board of elections and no certificates of election may be issued until the recount, if any, is completed.) {LC1185/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Resolution No. 5385

BY Corvese

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING A CONVENTION OF THE STATES UNDER ARTICLE V OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION (Petitions congress to call a convention for the purpose of proposing amendments to the U.S. Constitution to impose restraints on the federal government.) {LC1294/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Resolution No. 5386

BY Place, Fascia, Paplauskas, Santucci, Lombardi, Roberts, Felix, Hull, Furtado, Cruz
ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION -- JURY NULLIFICATION AS PROPER TRIAL DEFENSE ARGUMENT (This joint resolution would propose to the voters a constitutional amendment which would allow a criminal defendant to argue jury nullification as a defense.) {LC842/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 5387

(Office of Veterans Services)

BY Azzinaro, Fellela, Casimiro, Ackerman, Donovan, Hopkins, Hull, Lombardi, Newberry, Kennedy
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- RHODE ISLAND VETERANS' HOME (Adds "space force" to the branches of the military included in various sections of general law regarding the veterans home, veterans cemetery and the power of armed forces officers to take acknowledgements.) {LC1261/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Veterans Affairs

House Bill No. 5388

(Dept. of Human Services)

BY Marszalkowski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION (Makes a technical amendment to correctly reference a section of general law that allows for a tax refund deduction for contributions to the Rhode Island organ transplant fund.) {LC1262/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5389

(City of Providence)

BY Slater, Diaz

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING EDUCATION -- THE PAUL W. CROWLEY RHODE ISLAND STUDENT INVESTMENT INITIATIVE. (Removes the authority of the commissioner or elementary and secondary education to withhold funds from a debtor community through the general treasure.) {LC969/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5390

BY Craven, Dawson, Kazarian, Furtado, Boylan, McEntee, Caldwell

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY -- VICTIMS OF CRIME TRAUMA INFORMED MOBILIZATION ACT (Establishes VICTIM Fund grant program to support nonprofit organizations providing victim services in Rhode Island with the state allocating \$30,000,000 per year to fund the program and staffing within the department of public safety.) {LC958/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5391

BY Azzinaro, Kennedy, Fellela, Ackerman, Hull, Santucci, Lombardi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PARKS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS -- PREFERENCE FOR RESIDENTS (Provides Rhode Island residents over nonresidents with priority when making reservations to secure a campsite and other recreational facilities.) {LC1138/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5392

BY Place, Quattrocchi, Hopkins, Santucci, Newberry, Paplauskas, Brien

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- THE RHODE ISLAND WORKS PROGRAM (Provides that a family eligible for cash assistance pursuant to § 40-5.2-11, shall if qualified, be provided SNAP benefits.) {LC1040/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5393

BY Shallcross Smith, Nardone, Hopkins, Fascia, Santucci, Place, Paplauskas, Quattrocchi, Phillips, Roberts

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- SIDEWALKS (Requires that all maintenance of sidewalks along state highways, with the exception of snow and ice removal, be the responsibility of the state.) {LC1298/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5394

BY Fellela, Serpa, Fogarty, Hull, Lombardi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND MOTOR VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION FEES (Provides that when a registrant voluntarily cancels the registrant's motor vehicle registration, that person would receive a partial refund of the fee that had been paid.) {LC122/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5395

BY McEntee, Casimiro, O'Brien, Fogarty, Spears, Tanzi, Morales, Caldwell, Craven, Solomon
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Allows an appeal of the valuation of a motor vehicle, upon which the sales tax is calculated, when registering the motor vehicle.) {LC1135/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5396

BY Casimiro, Noret, Spears, Donovan, Speakman, Carson, Morales, Roberts, Shanley
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES (Establishes general caseload limits for DCYF workers similar to those contained in the Council on Accreditation standards.) {LC1191/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5397

BY Casimiro, Noret, Spears, Donovan, Speakman, Morales, Read
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (Increases the number of state child care licensing inspectors to meet the national recommended average of one inspector for every fifty (50) to sixty (60) child care providers.) {LC1192/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5398

BY Felix, Cruz, Morales, Batista, Hull, Tanzi, Lombardi, Kislak, Potter, Furtado
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Revises the calculation for the student success factor in the education-aid formula by adding an additional multiplier.) {LC1063/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5399

BY Hopkins, Paplauskas, Chippendale, Fascia, Cotter, Messier, Tanzi, Brien, Perez, Hull
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Provides that a school district could elect and choose to not spend money on any mandate that is not fully funded through the state education aid formula.) {LC728/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5400

BY Stewart, Morales, Potter, Cruz, Dawson, McEntee, Kislak, Lombardi, Tanzi, Craven
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LIBRARIES -- STATE AID TO LIBRARIES (Requires that the state's share to public libraries be fixed at twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount appropriated by the city or town in their budgets for fiscal year 2026.) {LC1051/1}
02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5401**BY** Place, Fascia, Paplauskas, Santucci, Roberts, Quattrocchi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Repeals pet care services from the service subject to sales tax as defined by §§ 44-18-7(19) and 44-18-7.3(b)(3).) {LC563/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5402**BY** Place, Paplauskas, Quattrocchi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- BUSINESS CORPORATION TAX -- AFFORDABLE HOUSING TAX CREDIT ACT (Creates business tax credit for, eliminates sale tax on, eliminates income tax on the sale of, and creates a 10 year tax valuation freeze on newly renovated affordable housing.) {LC839/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5403**BY** Casey, Solomon, Corvese, Brien, Chippendale, Newberry, Finkelman, Santucci, Phillips, Baginski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- BUSINESS CORPORATION TAX (Repeals the corporation minimum tax.) {LC1303/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5404**BY** McEntee, O'Brien, Fogarty, Spears, Tanzi, Morales, Caldwell, Craven, Cortvriend, Casimiro**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- TAX CREDIT FOR FOOD DONATION (Provides a tax credit for food donations by qualified taxpayers to nonprofit organizations up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per year.) {LC1256/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5405**BY** Morales, Corvese, McNamara, Phillips, Donovan, Kislak, Giraldo, Furtado, Tanzi, Hull**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Establishes a restricted receipt account for the benefit of the Rhode Island public transit authority, funded by sales taxes collected from ride-share companies, which said sales taxes would be exempt from indirect cost recovery provisions.) {LC730/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5406**BY** Paplauskas, Place, Hopkins, Fascia, Baginski, Noret, Santucci, Newberry, Read, Chippendale**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts the trade-in value of pickup trucks under eight thousand eight hundred pounds (8,800 lbs.) gross weight, used exclusively for personal use, from sales tax.) {LC891/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5407**BY** Bennett, Shanley, Hull, Diaz, Perez, Slater, Casimiro, Potter, Baginski, Messier**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TEACHERS', MUNICIPAL AND STATE EMPLOYEES EARLY RETIREMENT PENALTY (Reduces the current varying percentages for early retirement penalty for teachers, municipal and state employees to a cumulative annual reduction of 3% and monthly reduction of .25%.) {LC1106/1}

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL LEGISLATION**

Chairwoman Alzate, for the Committee on Special Legislation, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 5035**BY** Kazarian**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Ryan Kenny and Brenna Sorkin to join Simran Bhajan Nebhnani and Louis Charles Miyara in marriage on April 26, 2025, within the City of Newport, Rhode Island.) {LC38/1}

02/07/2025 Placed on House Calendar (02/11/2025)

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:04 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Chippendale, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Jesse J. Townsend; on motion of Representative Kazarian, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Gloria Messerlian; on motion of Representative Cruz, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Pamela M. Perry; on motion of Representative Fogarty, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Patricia Ann Bowe and Eleanor M. Mullaney seconded by Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

**Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk**

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE LEONELA FELIX

Dear God: Black History Month is a time of reflection and education. It is a celebration of the many accomplishments of African Americans. Their history is our history. It is also a reminder of the war fought to abolish slavery and the long struggle for civil rights. Let us pray that all Americans together recognize and honor our shared history. Amen.

APPENDIX

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025:

1. **2025-H 5035**
BY Kazarian
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Special Legislation recommends passage.

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Friday, February 7, 2025