

**State of Rhode Island**

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**JOURNAL**  
-OF THE-  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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**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-Six.**

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Volume 153, No. 10

Thursday, February 5, 2026

Tenth Day

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The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Thursday, February 5, 2026, and is called to order at 4:10 o'clock P.M. by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called, and a quorum is declared present with 69 members present and 6 members absent as follows:

**PRESENT** – 69: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, 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** – 6: Representatives Abney, Baginski, Cruz, Knight, Lima, and Perez.

**INVOCATION**

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi presents Representative Brandon C. Potter, 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 3, 2026, is approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Representative Cherie L. Cruz is unable to attend session today, Thursday, February 5, 2026.  
Representative Ramon A. Perez is unable to attend session today, Thursday, February 5, 2026.

**CALENDAR**

From the Calendar are taken:

**IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026:**

- 1. 2026-H 7007**  
**BY O'Brien**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS**

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman, Representatives Corvese, McNamara, Shallcross Smith, Fogarty, Ajello, Cortvriend, Biah, Speakman, Donovan, Spears, and Alzate.

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

By unanimous consent, Chairman Shanley, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, offers a written motion to amend.

**FLOOR AMENDMENT**  
**TO**  
**2026 -- H 7007**

**AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS**

Mr. Speaker:

I hereby move to amend 2026 -- H 7007, entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS", as follows:

1. On page 3, lines 24 through 27, by deleting all the language thereon, and by inserting in place thereof the following language:

"(h) For purposes of this section, "eligible disabled voter" means a person with disabilities eligible to vote who certifies, subject to the provisions of §§ 17-20-8(d) and 17-26-1, that they are incapacitated to such an extent that it would be an undue hardship to vote at the polls because of illness, mental or physical disability, blindness, or a serious impairment of mobility."

Respectfully submitted,

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Representative Shanley

Chairman Shanley discusses the amendment.

The motion to amend prevails on a roll call vote, 68 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative, as follows:

**YEAS** - 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, 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, Voas.

**NAYS** - 0:

**RECUSED** - 0:

Read and passed, as amended, on a roll call vote, 61 members voting in the affirmative and 8 members voting in the negative, as follows:

**YEAS** - 61: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

**NAYS** - 8: Representatives Fascia, Nardone, Newberry, Paplauskas, Place, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Santucci.

**RECUSED** - 0:

**2. 2026-H 7049**

**BY** Baginski

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Representative Corvese.

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

By unanimous consent, Chairman Shanley, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, offers a written motion to amend.

FLOOR AMENDMENT  
TO  
2026 -- H 7049

AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Mr. Speaker:

I hereby move to amend 2026 -- H 7049, entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARY ELECTIONS", as follows:

1. On page 1, line 9, by deleting the language "17-9-7", and by inserting in place thereof the language "17-19-7".

Respectfully submitted,

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Representative Shanley

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LC003210/2  
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Chairman Shanley discusses the amendment.

The motion to amend prevails on a roll call vote, 68 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative, as follows:

YEAS - 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

Read and passed, as amended, on a roll call vote, 57 members voting in the affirmative and 9 members voting in the negative, as follows:

YEAS - 57: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Noret, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Voas.

NAYS - 9: Representatives Chippendale, Fascia, Hopkins, Nardone, Newberry, Place, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

**3. 2026-H 7223**

**BY** Boylan

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS**

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Vice-Chairwoman Fogarty moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Boylan, Speakman, Solomon, Ajello, and Edwards.

Vice-Chairwoman Fogarty and Representative Boylan discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 69 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative, as follows:

YEAS - 69: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, 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, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

**GUESTS**

In honor of the life and legacy of the late Delores Melillo, Representative Paplauskas extends a warm welcome to her son, Anthony, and his wife, Elna Melillo, to the House. Delores spent many years as an assembler at Quil Pen before retiring. She was also known for her love of cooking and took great joy in hosting Sunday dinners and creating cherished memories. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends. Representative Paplauskas offers his heartfelt condolences to the entire Melillo family.

Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman proudly welcomes her son, Samuel, to the House.

Chairwoman Shallcross Smith warmly welcomes her intern, Robert Mark Livingston, who is a Senior at Providence College, to the House. Speaker Shekarchi also welcomes Robert to the House.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

In honor of Black History Month, Representative Biah shares a few remarks.

Chairman Corvese announces that the Committee on Labor will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 135 of the State House.

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

Representative McNamara requests that the House wish the New England Patriots the best of luck in the Super Bowl this weekend. Speaker Shekarchi welcomes Talia to the House.

### **GUESTS**

Representative Potter warmly welcomes his intern, Talia Chester, a Junior at Providence College, to the House.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Vice-Chairman Dawson announces that the Committee on Judiciary will meet today, at the rise of the House, in the House Lounge of the State House.

### **PROXY VOTES**

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces, pursuant to Rule 33(e), authorizing Proxy Votes, he has received a request from Chairman Abney to be recorded in the affirmative for items #1 through #6.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the House will hold its sessions next week on Tuesday, February 10, and Wednesday, February 11, at 4:00 p.m. There will be no session on Thursday. All members should watch for the Speaker's newsletter tomorrow for the scheduled committee hearings.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the deadline for submitting legislation is Thursday, February 12th, but Speaker Shekarchi has extended it to the end of the session, Tuesday, February 24th. Members must deliver their legislation to the Legislative Council office no later than Tuesday, February 17th, by the close of the business day. The Legislative Council needs time to prepare the bills for you. After Thursday, February 17th, any introductions of legislation will be subject to Rule 7(d) of the House Rules.

**IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**

**House Resolution No. 7510**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Kennedy, Ajello, Tanzi, Shallcross Smith, Fellela, Boylan

**ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF RUTH ANN DESMARAIS {LC4822/1}**

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.

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

**House Resolution No. 7511**

**BY** Paplauskas, Chippendale, Blazejewski, Potter, Fascia, Quattrocchi, Solomon, Bennett, Handy, McNamara

**ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF DELORES (RAVO) MELILLO {LC4628/1}**

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

There is no objection.

Representative Paplauskas discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi extends his condolences to the entire Melillo family.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Paplauskas, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising 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. 7512**

**BY** Casey

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS -- CONTRACTORS' REGISTRATION AND LICENSING BOARD (Expands various definitions relative to contractors, home inspectors, and claim adjusters to provide clarity regarding licensed and unlicensed vendors, consultants, or third-party representatives.) {LC3737/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7513**

**BY** Corvese, Brien, DeSimone, Read, Azzinaro, Shanley, Noret

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- REAL ESTATE SALES DISCLOSURES (Requires radon testing within one year of any residential real estate transaction and the installation of a radon mitigation system if unsafe radon levels are present, at the seller's expense.) {LC4923/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7514**

(Lieutenant Governor)

**BY** Diaz, Slater, McEntee, Shallcross Smith, Edwards

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- PROTECTING RHODE ISLANDERS FROM COERCIVE ECONOMIC TACTICS AT GROCERY STORES (Creates a new chapter to protect Rhode Island consumers from coercive tactics at grocery stores.) {LC4786/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7515**

**BY** Casey

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES (Strengthens consumer protections by including definitions related directly to deceptive trade practices inherent in the insurance claim process.) {LC3736/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7516**

**BY** Casey

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURES -- PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS -- ARBITRATION (Strengthens consumer protections in insurance claims by improving the fairness and timeliness of arbitration and appraisal proceedings, and preventing insurers from delaying or obstructing the dispute resolution process.) {LC3738/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7517**

**BY** Casey

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- CAUSES OF ACTION (Strengthens consumer protections in insurance claims by

expanding definitions of unfair claims settlement practices and clarifies an insured's right to pursue bad-faith remedies.) {LC3739/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7518**

**BY** McGaw, Furtado, Carson, Boylan, Sanchez, Cotter, Kislak, Tanzi, Stewart, Fogarty

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- THE RHODE ISLAND KRATOM ACT** (Provides that all kratom products for sale would be stored and kept in a locked case, until sold.) {LC4917/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7519**

**BY** Craven, Casimiro, Azzinaro

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF STATE ROADS** (Provides that roads located within the Quonset Business Park be under the control of the Quonset Development Corporation.) {LC4735/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7520**

**BY** Corvese, Brien, DeSimone, Read, Azzinaro, Shanley, Noret

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- LIABILITY INSURANCE -- UNINSURED MOTORIST COVERAGE** (Adds property damage to statutory underinsured motor coverage, rather than just uninsured motorist coverage, as it is presently.) {LC4854/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7521**

**BY** Casey

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- FIRE INSURANCE POLICIES AND RESERVES** (Amends Rhode Island's standard fire insurance policy by codifying uniform, transparent appraisal procedures and payment obligations that reflect contemporary claim-handling practices while preserving long-standing consumer protections.) {LC3735/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7522**

**BY** Craven, Casimiro, Azzinaro

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- MUNICIPAL STREETLIGHT INVESTMENT ACT** (Permits the Quonset Development Corporation to acquire, own, maintain, and control all streetlights located within the Quonset Business Park.) {LC4736/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7523**

**BY** Fascia, Quattrocchi, Santucci, Chippendale, Hopkins

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS** (Establishes a five (5) year moratorium from July 1, 2026, until June 30, 2031, on the RE growth program charge, renewable energy distribution charge and the energy efficiency programs public policy charges on electricity bills.) {LC3630/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Resolution No. 7524**

**BY** Fascia, Quattrocchi, Brien, Santucci, Chippendale, Hopkins

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY URGING THE GOVERNOR TO SUPPORT AND TAKE ACTION TO EXPAND THE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE CAPACITY INTO NEW ENGLAND {LC3631/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 7525**

**BY** Place

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COOPERATIVE SERVICE AMONG SCHOOL DISTRICTS -- CHARTER SCHOOL REFORM (Allows charter schools to engage in nontraditional approaches to learning.) {LC4885/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 7526**

**BY** Read, Place, Noret, Phillips, Casimiro, Paplauskas, O'Brien, Biah, Donovan, Bennett

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS -- STUDENT AND TEACHER CLASSROOM SAFETY (Establishes provisions for student and teacher classroom safety and provides the authority to remove students from classrooms. This act provides for student and educator protections from said removals.) {LC4763/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 7527**

**BY** Casimiro, McNamara, Potter, Read, Hopkins, Shallcross Smith, Kazarian, Alzate, Diaz, Stewart

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- EDUCATION MENTORSHIP PROGRAM ACT (Requires that student mentors in public schools be certified support educators, ensuring mentors have professional training, established student relationships, and access to skills and information needed to support student success.) {LC4826/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 7528**

**BY** Casimiro, Chippendale, Brien, Hopkins, Roberts, Place, Furtado, Cortvriend, Potter, Paplauskas

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF TEACHERS GENERALLY (Requires the department of elementary and secondary education to disclose whether a potential applicant's name appears on a list of teachers terminated for good cause.) {LC4824/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 7529**

**BY** O'Brien

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF TEACHERS GENERALLY (Broadens the definition of "teacher" and create a comprehensive bill of rights for school teachers.) {LC3868/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 7530**

**BY** Quattrocchi, Fascia, Nardone, Santucci, Paplauskas, Perez, Place, Chippendale, Cotter, Hopkins

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE (Exempts homes under two thousand (2,000) square feet from automatic statewide IECC energy

mandates, allowing municipalities to decide whether to adopt climate-focused building code requirements for small and modest homes.) {LC3618/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

**House Bill No. 7531**

**BY** Quattrocchi, Roberts, Place, Newberry, Hopkins, Santucci, Nardone, Chippendale, Paplauskas  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- 2021 ACT ON CLIMATE (Repeals the 2021 Act on Climate which established a statewide greenhouse gas emission reduction mandate in its entirety.) {LC4694/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

**House Resolution No. 7532**

**BY** Cortvriend, Noret, Phillips

**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY SLUDGE MANAGEMENT IN RHODE ISLAND (Creates a 19-member joint commission to study and provide recommendations for effective sludge management, and who would report back to the General Assembly by January 5, 2027, and would expire on March 5, 2027.) {LC4425/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

**House Resolution No. 7533**

**BY** Carson, McGaw, Fogarty, Boylan, Cortvriend, Speakman, Spears, Cotter  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT A RECYCLING/WASTE AUDIT BE CONDUCTED ON THE RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE WHICH PROVIDES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A WASTE REDUCTION STRATEGY {LC4883/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

**House Bill No. 7534**

**BY** Tanzi, Stewart, Giraldo, Edwards, Bennett, Diaz, Fogarty, Ajello, Shallcross Smith  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES (Sets conditions for pharmacists to prescribe tobacco cessation drug therapies, including education approved by the state board of pharmacy.) {LC4623/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 7535**

**BY** Donovan, Potter, Cotter, Fogarty, Ajello, Edwards, Spears, Boylan, Hopkins, Furtado  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- COMPASSIONATE ACCESS TO MEDICAL CANNABIS ACT (Requires certain health care facilities to allow a terminally ill patient's use of medicinal cannabis within the health care facility, subject to certain restrictions.) {LC4936/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 7536**

**BY** Casimiro, McGaw, Boylan, Kislak, Solomon, Brien, Hopkins, Furtado, Cortvriend, Potter  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS**  
INSURANCE POLICIES (Requires health insurance providers to provide insurance coverage for pharmacists' services.) {LC4805/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 7537**

**BY** Alzate, Read, Dawson, Kazarian, Casimiro, Caldwell, Handy, Fogarty, Shallcross Smith, Ajello  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS**  
INSURANCE POLICIES (Mandates insurance coverage for scalp cooling treatments for cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy to prevent hair loss during chemotherapy treatments.) {LC4761/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 7538**

**BY** Tanzi, McGaw, Felix, Hull, Lombardi, Stewart, Giraldo, Edwards, Bennett, Diaz  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE BY HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS NOTIFICATION ACT** (Requires healthcare providers and healthcare facilities to inform patients of the use of artificial intelligence to memorialize patient visits.) {LC4720/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 7539**

**BY** McGaw, Boylan, Speakman, Donovan, Caldwell, Carson, Potter, Dawson, DeSimone, Kislak  
**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.) {LC4782/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 7540**

**BY** Tanzi, McGaw, Felix, Hull, Lombardi, Stewart, Giraldo, Edwards, Bennett, Donovan  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH** (Require that routine childhood and adult immunization vaccine recommendations that are developed from evidence based, medically sound scientific research by the department of health.) {LC4722/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 7541**

**BY** Boylan, Carson, McGaw, Potter, Cortvriend, Fogarty, Kislak, Donovan, Handy, Speakman  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- DETERMINATION OF NEED FOR NEW HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT AND NEW INSTITUTIONAL HEALTH SERVICES** (Requires all major hospitals within the state constructed or substantially renovated or expanded on or after 1/1/2028 to use renewable energy sources for power.) {LC4049/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 7542**

**BY** Casimiro, Shekarchi, Ackerman, McNamara, Shallcross Smith, Diaz, McEntee, Craven, Carson, Casey

**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.) {LC4976/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

**House Bill No. 7543**

**BY** Voas, Potter, O'Brien, Slater, Read

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- INTERNET ACCESS AND ADVERTISING BY FACSIMILE (Requires that video or photography generated by artificial intelligence or "AI" that is posted on a public platform contain a marking disclosing that it has been generated by AI.) {LC4085/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, & Technology

**House Bill No. 7544**

**BY** Casimiro, Brien, Hopkins, Furtado, Potter

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- STATE PURCHASES (Prohibits state agencies from entering into software contracts that limit the agency's ability to install or run the software of the agency's choosing on their hardware.) {LC4771/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, & Technology

**House Bill No. 7545**

**BY** Noret, Brien, Kazarian, O'Brien, Felix, Santucci, Dawson, Craven, Costantino, Serpa

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (Creates a cause of action for the intentional or negligent injury or death of a pet.) {LC3890/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7546**

**BY** Dawson

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- ARREST (Expands the definition of peace officers to include juvenile program workers and shift coordinators at the department of youth, children and families.) {LC5022/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7547**

(General Treasurer)

**BY** Furtado, Stewart, McGaw, Dawson, Cotter, Potter, Donovan, Alzate, Messier, Kislak

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION (Permits victims of stalking to recover for expenses related to relocation or home modification under the crime victim compensation program.) {LC4643/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7548**

**BY** Fogarty, Boylan, Casimiro, Carson, Shallcross Smith, Spears, Kazarian, Handy, Hull, Donovan  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE**  
GENERALLY -- EVIDENCE (Provides that statements by a health care provider regarding the unanticipated outcome of a patient's medical care and treatment shall be inadmissible as evidence of an admission of liability or as evidence of an admission.) {LC4744/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7549**

**BY** Noret, Read, Shanley, Casey, Dawson, Biah, Cotter, Corvese, McNamara, O'Brien  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- ASSAULTS** (Makes an assault upon a sports official during and in the course of their official duties a felony.) {LC4718/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7550**

**BY** Casey, Lima, Chippendale, Phillips, Read, Costantino, Brien, Hopkins, Edwards, Fascia  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- DISORDERLY CONDUCT**  
(Criminalizes and sets mandatory minimum sentences for the unlawful interference with traffic upon the federal and state highways of this state.) {LC4504/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7551**

**BY** Kennedy, Solomon, Kazarian, Azzinaro, Edwards, Corvese, Ackerman, McEntee, Serpa, Cotter  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- FRAUD AND FALSE**  
DEALING (Establishes the criminal offense of real estate title fraud. Allows municipalities to refuse to record "suspicious documents" from persons who are not trusted submitters. Also creates penalties for real estate title fraud.) {LC4273/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7552**

**BY** Noret, Cortvriend, Speakman, Messier, Casey, Phillips, McNamara, McEntee, Shallcross Smith, Brien  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- THREATS AND EXTORTION**  
(Adds school superintendents, central office officials, school principals, and all other school employees, to the definition of a "public official" for purposes of the criminal prohibition against making threats to public officials.) {LC4374/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7553**

**BY** Noret, Place, Corvese, Chippendale, Dawson, Phillips, Bennett, Brien, Casey, Read  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS** {LC3892/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7554**

**BY** Fogarty, Kazarian, Handy, Ajello, Lombardi, Carson, Shallcross Smith, Spears, Alzate  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- PUBLIC UTILITIES (Expands meaning of bomb threats and false reports to include any warning or threat of the existence of an explosive device and allows judge to impose conditions of bail to include extreme risk protection orders, no trespass orders and counseling.) {LC4404/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7555**

**BY** Felix, McEntee, Knight, Craven, Ajello, Batista, Cruz, Dawson, Lombardi, Sanchez  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURES -- IDENTIFICATION AND APPREHENSION OF CRIMINALS (Provides that individual counts of a district court criminal complaint dismissed pursuant to Rule 48(a) would be sealed administratively by the court clerk upon the defendant's request.) {LC4431/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7556**

**BY** O'Brien, Dawson, Noret, Hull, Read, Solomon, Casey, Phillips  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- MAINTENANCE OF ORDER ON CAMPUS (Requires that all campus police officers be equipped with ballistic body armor.) {LC3872/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7557**

**BY** Donovan, Boylan, Speakman, Carson, Tanzi, Potter, Fogarty, Ajello, McGaw, Casimiro  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY --THE RHODE ISLAND FIREARM INDUSTRY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2026 (Establishes the Rhode Island firearm industry accountability act of 2026.) {LC4651/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7558**

**BY** Potter, Ajello, Dawson, Batista, Felix, Stewart, Lombardi  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSES -- VIOLATIONS (Repeals the section of law relating to suspension of operator licenses for failure to pay fines.) {LC4601/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7559**

**BY** Casey, Lima, Brien, Phillips, Chippendale, Corvese, Costantino, Noret, Read  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Requires landlords to register certain information for residential properties constructed prior to 1978 with the department of health on a statewide registry and defines which information may be viewed on a public database.) {LC4684/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7560**

**BY** Casey, Lima, Brien, Chippendale, Phillips, Corvese, Costantino, Noret, Read  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- LEAD HAZARD MITIGATION (Substitutes "housing resources commission" with "department of health" for lead hazard mitigation purposes. It also makes it easier for a property owner to release funds put into an escrow account, if needed to make required repairs or improvements.) {LC4696/1}  
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 7561**

**BY** Voas, Stewart, Potter, Dawson, McNamara, O'Brien, Boylan, Fogarty, Hull, Lombardi  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- TEMPORARY DISABILITY INSURANCE -- BENEFITS (Enables employees to no longer have to utilize sick leave, vacation leave, personal leave or other paid time off as a condition to their maternity leave.) {LC4083/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

**House Bill No. 7562**

**BY** Dawson, O'Brien  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (Allows animal control officers in the cities and towns to lawfully take charge of and provide adequate care to any animal found abandoned or neglected or hazardously accumulated and includes them as agents authorized to enforce the provisions of this law.) {LC5009/1}  
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 7563**

**BY** Quattrocchi, Fascia, Nardone, Santucci, Perez, Place, Chippendale, Cotter, Hopkins  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- THE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW EFFICIENCY ACT (Provides property owners to hire licensed third-party to review development documents and performs building inspections.) {LC3617/1}  
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 7564**

**BY** Spears, Speakman, Carson, McEntee, Azzinaro, Kennedy, Stewart, Cotter, Donovan, Boylan  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- HOME-FIT DWELLING UNITS (Creates the home-fit dwelling units act to apply to all new construction of covered dwelling units to incorporate design features that provide safe and convenient use of to the greatest extent feasible, regardless of age or physical ability.) {LC4676/1}  
02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 7565**

**BY** Fellela, Fascia, Costantino, Serpa  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING (Changes the residential limit for any substantial multi-family housing project not to exceed forty thousand (40,000) residents according to the United States Census Bureau.) {LC4658/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 7566**

**BY** Casey, Serpa, O'Brien, Edwards, Shanley, Messier, Spears, Read, Casimiro

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES** (Authorizes retired police officers and firefighters to earn income in addition to their earnable compensation; provided that, the amount would not exceed 5 times the rate of earnable compensation currently in force.) {LC3896/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 7567**

**BY** Cotter, Chippendale, Speakman, Spears, Santucci, Casimiro, Kazarian, Caldwell, Kislak, Read

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES -- TAX DEFERRAL PROGRAM** (Establishes a property tax deferral program for senior citizens, disabled persons or veterans.) {LC4647/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 7568**

**BY** Noret, Cortvriend, Shallcross Smith, Nardone, Place, Speakman, Costantino, Read, Solomon, Santucci

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES** (Allows the waiver of interest on overdue taxes for commercial properties.) {LC3888/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Resolution No. 7569**

**BY** Tanzi, Ajello

**ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION AMENDING THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE YEARS 2025 AND 2026** (Amends the House Rules to enable any member to have up to three (3) bills that are held for further study either substituted in committee or allowed to have a committee vote for placement on the floor calendar exclusively at the discretion of the Speaker.) {LC4383/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Rules Committee

**House Bill No. 7570**

(Lieutenant Governor)

**BY** Diaz, McEntee, Shallcross Smith, Edwards

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE ISLAND CENTER FOR EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP** (Establishes the Rhode Island center for employee ownership to facilitate businesses in transitioning to an employee-owned business model.) {LC4776/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Small Business

**House Bill No. 7571**

**BY** Tanzi, McEntee

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES** (Creates a special motor vehicle registration plate for the Friends of the Historic Narragansett Towers.) {LC4681/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

**House Bill No. 7572**

**BY** Ackerman, McNamara, Edwards, Kazarian, Kennedy, Dawson, Serpa, Chippendale, Place, Potter  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES** (This act would add early voting to the 50 feet buffer prohibitions against politicking during election day voting.) {LC4411/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 7573**

**BY** McNamara, Hopkins, Solomon, Read, Shanley  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF STATE ROADS** (Permits municipalities to enter into contracts with the department of transportation for the municipality to perform minor and routine maintenance work on state highways, roadways, and shoulders located within the municipality.) {LC4697/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 7574**

**BY** Voas, Potter, Giraldo, Slater, Casey, Noret, Shanley, Read, McEntee, McGaw  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES** (Car rental company not subject to registration penalties resulting from out-of-state toll violations from operators using their rental vehicles but are responsible for any outstanding toll amounts due.) {LC4894/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 7575**

**BY** Dawson, Boylan

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- PARKING FACILITIES AND PRIVILEGES** (Allows persons with disabilities to receive up to two (2) motor vehicle disability parking privilege placards.) {LC5011/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 7576**

**BY** Kislak, Potter, Serpa, Cortvriend, McGaw, Boylan, Caldwell, Cotter, Spears, Carson  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS** (Makes traffic accident data a public record, subject to federal law.) {LC4897/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 7577**

**BY** Voas, Potter, Slater, Casey, Noret, Read, McEntee, McGaw, Brien

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES** (Allows any city, town, state and/or agency of a municipality or the state to report unpaid fines of two hundred dollars (\$200) or more to the division of motor vehicles as grounds for refusal of registration.) {LC4895/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 7578**

**BY** McGaw, Boylan, Furtado, Sanchez, Carson, Kislak, Potter, Tanzi, Stewart, Fogarty

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- MOTOR VEHICLES OWNED BY A GOVERNMENTAL BODY** (Requires as part of the director of

administration's report to the general assembly to include information on the number of hybrid, combustion engine, plug-in hybrid, and ZEV vehicles in the light duty fleet. This act would take effect upon passage.) {LC4477/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Resolution No. 7579**

**BY** Solomon, Biah, Hull, Shekarchi, Felix, Lombardi, Sanchez, Diaz, O'Brien, Giraldo, Casimiro  
**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION REPEALING RHODE ISLAND'S RATIFICATION OF THE CORWIN AMENDMENT (This Joint Resolution would repeal the General Assembly's previous ratification of the Corwin Amendment.) {LC4802/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 7580**

**BY** Casey, Solomon, Phillips, Brien, Hull

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS (Allows that public records stored in a computer system, upon request, be provided at no charge.) {LC3895/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 7581**

**BY** Speakman, Ajello, McNamara, Biah, Messier, Stewart, Spears, Phillips, Donovan

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Establishes a new categorical funding category for civics education.) {LC4784/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7582**

**BY** Cotter, Read, Chippendale, Casimiro, Fogarty, Donovan, Shallcross Smith, Potter, Furtado, Noret

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Requires inspections and evaluations of the indoor air quality of each school building, including heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems.) {LC4775/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7583**

**BY** Dawson

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- FEES (Increases fees paid to jurors to fifty dollars (\$50.00) per day.) {LC5002/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7584**

(General Treasurer)

**BY** Hull, Felix, Tanzi, Kennedy, Alzate, Shallcross Smith, Fogarty, Boylan, Lombardi

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION (Funds the state crime victim compensation program through an additional one dollar (\$1.00) fine on traffic violations, exclusive of violations related to the parking of vehicles.) {LC4640/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7585**

(General Treasurer)

**BY** Voas, Giraldo, Solomon, Potter, Dawson, Read, O'Brien, McNamara, Boylan, Fogarty  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- CRIMINAL INJURIES  
COMPENSATION (Permits hit and run victims suffering serious bodily injury to recover under the  
crime victim compensation program.) {LC4639/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7586**

**BY** Cotter, Read, Chippendale, Casimiro, Fogarty, Donovan, Shallcross Smith, Potter, Furtado,  
McGaw

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- MATERNAL AND CHILD  
HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS (Updates the  
description of the early intervention program and the agency responsible for the program under Part  
C of the federal Individuals with disabilities education act.) {LC4774/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7587**

**BY** Casey, Potter, Chippendale, Hopkins, Paplauskas, Santucci, Speakman, Serpa, McGaw

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE --  
PRESCRIPTION DRUGS (Prohibits the Rhode Island medical assistance program from requiring  
prior authorization or a step therapy protocol for the coverage of a medication classified as an  
anticonvulsant or antipsychotic.) {LC4281/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7588**

**BY** Fogarty, Carson, Kazarian, Handy, Hull, Donovan, Voas, Tanzi, Speakman, Alzate

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- THUNDERMIST FAMILY  
MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM (Appropriates the sum of five hundred thousand dollars  
(\$500,000) to fund the Thundermist family medicine residency program during fiscal year 2027 and  
every fiscal year thereafter.) {LC4405/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7589**

**BY** Cortvriend, McGaw

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT (Provides the general assembly make an annual appropriation of not less than  
eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000) to the Rhode Island emergency management agency to assist with  
emergency communications during major or multiple emergency incidents.) {LC3194/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7590**

**BY** Nardone, Cotter, Tanzi, Edwards, Noret, Perez, Fascia, Paplauskas, Newberry, Shanley

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- INSPECTOR  
GENERAL (Establishes the office of inspector general as an independent administrative agency  
charged with the responsibility to investigate, detect, and prevent fraud, waste, abuse, and  
mismanagement in the expenditure of public funds.) {LC4536/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7591**

**BY** Hopkins, Casimiro, Hull, Lombardi, Nardone

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- LICENSING AND MONITORING OF CHILD PLACING AGENCIES, CHILD CARING AGENCIES, FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE HOMES, AND CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS (Requires all out-of-state foster care placement facilities be registered with Medicaid as a Medicaid provider.)

{LC4879/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7592**

**BY** Noret, Dawson, Bennett, Craven, DeSimone, Phillips, Shanley, Costantino, Brien, Corvese

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- CIGARETTE, OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS, AND ELECTRONIC NICOTINE-DELIVERY SYSTEM PRODUCTS (Permits dealers without a distributor's license to resell cigars, and ultra premium pipe tobacco, excluding pipe tobacco intended for cigarettes, to other dealers.)

{LC4716/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7593**

**BY** Fascia, Brien, Quattrocchi, Santucci, Chippendale, Read, Hopkins

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts from the sales tax firearm safety equipment, storage devices, gun safes, gun cabinets, gun vaults, gun cases, strong boxes, cable locks, trigger locks and biometric locks.)

{LC3628/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7594**

**BY** O'Brien, Slater, Furtado, Solomon, Messier, Corvese, Diaz, McEntee, Bennett, Serpa

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Raises the earned-income tax credit to thirty percent (30%) for the tax years 2027 and beyond.)

{LC4902/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7595**

**BY** Potter, Alzate, McGaw, Tanzi, Felix, Giraldo, Voas, Kislak, Sanchez, Batista

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- WEALTH TAX (Imposes a wealth tax on Rhode Island individuals and entities at a rate of one percent (1%) of worldwide wealth.)

{LC4605/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 7596**

**BY** Hopkins, Casimiro, Solomon, McNamara, Phillips, Shanley, Nardone, Roberts

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts from the sales tax eligible school supplies, costing less than \$50.00, purchased within one week prior to the commencement of the academic year.)

{LC4878/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Resolution No. 7597**

**BY** Morales, Stewart, Biah, Hull, Lombardi, Felix, Giraldo, Alzate, Sanchez, Ajello

**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$200,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND BLACK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$200,000 to the Rhode Island Black Business Association.) {LC4849/1} 02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES  
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Chairman Abney, for the Committee on Finance, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

**House Bill No. 7408 SUB A**

(Governor/Attorney General)

**BY** Abney, Slater, O'Brien, Brien, Shekarchi, Corvese, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Cortvriend, Hull **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MAKING REVISED APPROPRIATIONS IN SUPPORT OF FY 2026 RELATING TO ROGER WILLIAMS MEDICAL CENTER AND OUR LADY OF FATIMA HOSPITAL {LC4723/A/1}

02/06/2026 Placed on House Calendar

**COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING**

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

**House Resolution No. 7301**

**BY** Carson

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION REINSTATING THE LIFE OF AND EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO REVIEW AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICIES THAT DEAL WITH NUMEROUS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SHORT-TERM RENTALS ISSUES {LC3205/1}

02/06/2026 Placed on House Calendar

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4:41 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Paplauskas, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Delores (Ravo) Melillo; on motion of Representative Kazarian, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Ruth Desmarais; on motion of Representative Shallcross Smith and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Robert Armand Provost; on motion of Representative Chippendale, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Rony Alonso; seconded by Leader Blazejewski and Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

**Diane M. DePina  
Recording Clerk**

**APPENDIX**

**INVOCATION**

**REPRESENTATIVE BRANDON C. POTTER**

Dear God, Honoring Black History reminds us that their history in this country is different from that of any other immigrant group. Forced to come here as slaves, they overcame incredible challenges, eventually persevering to become an integral part of the very fabric of American history. Amen.

**APPENDIX**

**CALENDAR**

**IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026:**

**1. 2026-H 7408 SUB A**

**BY** Abney

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MAKING REVISED APPROPRIATIONS IN SUPPORT OF FY 2026 RELATING TO ROGER WILLIAMS MEDICAL CENTER AND OUR LADY OF FATIMA HOSPITAL**

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

**IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026:**

**1. 2026-H 7301**

**BY** Carson

**ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION REINSTATING THE LIFE OF AND EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO REVIEW AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICIES THAT DEAL WITH NUMEROUS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SHORT-TERM RENTALS ISSUES**

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

**Francis McCabe**  
Clerk of the House

**Friday, February 6, 2026**