

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-Six.

Volume 153, No. 19

Thursday, March 19, 2026

Nineteenth Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Thursday, March 19, 2026, and is called to order at 4:03 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 Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

ABSENT – 6: Representatives Batista, Craven, Newberry, Noret, Paplauskas, and Perez.

INVOCATION

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

(For Invocation, see Appendix, this Journal.)

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Honorable Speaker invites Angel Gautreaux to perform What a Wonderful World on his trumpet.

RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST
2026

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii) Representative Quattrocchi
hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of 2026 - H- 7230
entitled: An Act Relating to Holidays and Days of Special Observance
which is currently in the House Committee on Special Legislation

Signature: [Signature]
Representative

House District# 41

Date: 3/17/26

Acknowledgement:
[Signature]
Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker

*NOTE: This request must be submitted to the Clerk of the House, who shall retain the original.
A copy shall be delivered to the Recording Clerk
A copy shall be delivered to Legislative Data, and a copy shall be placed in the committee's original bill file.*

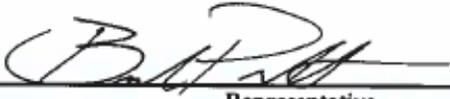
RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

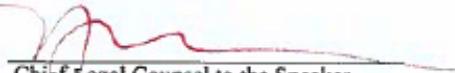
CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST
2026

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii) Representative POTTER
hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of 2026 – H - 7309
entitled: AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION – COASTAL
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
which is currently in the House Committee on SGE

Signature: 
Representative

House District# 16

Date: 2/10/2026

Acknowledgement:

Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker

*NOTE: This request must be submitted to the Clerk of the House, who shall retain the original.
A copy shall be delivered to the Recording Clerk
A copy shall be delivered to Legislative Data, and a copy shall be placed in the committee's
original bill file.*

APPROVAL OF RECORD

By unanimous consent, the House Journal of Tuesday, March 17, 2026, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Jose F. Batista is unable to attend session today, Thursday, March 19, 2026.

Representative Thomas E. Noret is unable to attend session today, Thursday, March 19, 2026.

CALENDAR

From the Calendar are taken:

- 1. 2026-H 7111**
BY Solomon
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PRODUCER LICENSING ACT

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski.

Chairman Solomon discusses 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, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, 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:

- 2. 2026-H 7265**
BY Knight
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- THE RHODE ISLAND SPECIAL DEPOSITS ACT

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski.

Chairman Solomon discusses 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, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, 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:

- 3. 2026-H 8232**
BY Chippendale
ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT EMBRACING THE TOWNS OF FOSTER AND GLOCESTER

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Minority Leader Chippendale.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

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

FLOOR AMENDMENT
TO
2026 -- H 8232

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
EMBRACING THE TOWNS OF FOSTER AND GLOCESTER

Mr. Speaker:

I hereby move to amend 2026 -- H 8232, entitled "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT EMBRACING THE TOWNS OF FOSTER AND GLOCESTER", as follows:

1. On page 1, line 5, by striking the language "8:00 p.m." and inserting in place thereof the language "7:00 p.m.".

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Casey

=====
LC005988/2
=====

Chairman Casey discusses the amendment.

The motion to amend prevails on a roll call vote,65 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 65: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Costantino, Cotter, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

Read and passed, as amended, 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, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, 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:

4. 2026-S 3051
BY de la Cruz
ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT EMBRACING THE TOWNS OF FOSTER AND GLOCESTER

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

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Minority Leader Chippendale.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

Read and passed, in concurrence, 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 Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, 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:

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the next House session will be next Tuesday, March 24, 2025, and Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. There will be hearings held on Wednesday, March 25, 2026. Keep an eye out for Speaker Shekarchi's newsletter tomorrow for more details.

NOW PRESIDING

At 4:17 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi yields the rostrum to the Honorable Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

GUESTS

Chairwoman Alzate extends a warm welcome to Rhode Island College President Dr. Jack Warner, Hope Scholarship Director Dr. Jennifer Boulay, Student Body President and Hope Scholar Smithfield Political Science student Dante DiGregorio, and Providence Hope Scholar Bormey Cargoe, who studies Digital Media, to the House Chamber to commemorate Rhode Island College Day. Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy applauds their contributions and presence, extending a hearty welcome to them in the House Chamber.

ADDRESS

Chairwoman Diaz addresses the members in recognition of the 182nd Anniversary of Dominican Independence Day. This historic occasion honors the resilience, courage, and unwavering spirit of the Dominican people in their pursuit of freedom.

GUESTS

Chairwoman Diaz proudly welcomes to the House Chamber Brianna Vega, Miss Rhode Island, USA, Angel Gautreaux, Trumpet Player; Ariel Rodriguez, Print Shop Business Owner; and Luz Filpo from Meals on Wheels, in celebration of Dominican Independence Day.

In celebration of Dominican Independence Day, when Dominicans worldwide proudly honor their nation's independence, a day that reflects a profound legacy of freedom, resilience, and national pride, here in Rhode Island, the Dominican American community continues to grow and thrive, making invaluable contributions to our state's culture, economy, and civic life. Representative Felix proudly welcomes radio producer Dilenia De la Cruz, and business owners Alvin Candelario of Candelario Supplies LLC, Yudith Santiago of Mia Hair Creation, and Felix Enriquez of La Sonrisa Restaurant to the House Chamber. Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy welcomes them to the House.

Representative Slater celebrates Dominican Independence Day and proudly acknowledges the many contributions of Dominican Americans whose dedication, service, and perseverance continue to enrich the Ocean State. To mark this special occasion, Representative Slater invites several distinguished guests to the House, including Anthony Solano, Central Falls Councilman, Arelis Pena-Brito, Dominican Journalist, and Mary Cruz, CEO of the Mary Cruz Agency.

Chairwoman Alzate, in celebration of Dominican Independence Day, proudly welcomes Chico Music owners Henry Casso and Gilkania Benitez to the House Chamber.

Representative Messier welcomes "Friends of Ireland" Vincent McCormack, Mayor of the Athlone-Moate Municipal District in Westmeath, Ireland; Barry Kehoe, Chief Executive of Westmeath County Council in Ireland; John Henson; Patrick Griffin; Aengus O'Rourke; and Frankie Keena, who will participate in the Providence St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 21, 2026. Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy welcomes them all to the House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice-Chairman O'Brien announces that the Committee on Corporations will meet today, at the rise of the House, in the House Lounge of the State House.

Representative O'Brien, on behalf of the entire House of Representatives, congratulates Colin Dorgan and his hockey team, Blackstone Valley, for their victory in the State Division II Championship game against Lincoln High School.

Chairwoman Tanzi announces that the Finance Subcommittee on Human Services 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 Room 101 of the State House.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

House Resolution No. 8319

BY Ackerman, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, McNamara, Fellela, Finkelman, Messier, Furtado, Roberts

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MARCH 20, 2026, TO BE "ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC3537/1}

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

There is no objection.

Deputy Whip Ackerman discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Deputy Whip Ackerman seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 8320

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Serpa, Chippendale, Fellela, McEntee, Lima, Shanley, O'Brien, Kennedy
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF MICHAEL J. MURPHY {LC6147/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Representative Serpa, on behalf of Speaker Shekarchi, requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Representative Serpa discusses the resolution. Speaker Por Tempore Kennedy extends condolences to the entire Murphy family.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Serpa seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, Majority and many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

House Resolution No. 8321

BY Diaz, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Paplauskas, Stewart, Cruz, Alzate, Kennedy, Azzinaro

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING AND CONGRATULATING BRIANNA VEGA, MISS RHODE ISLAND USA, FOR HER OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS, LEADERSHIP, AND PROUD REPRESENTATION OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6157/1}

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 several others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 8322

BY DeSimone, Azzinaro, Costantino, Corvese, Shekarchi, Fascia, Blazejewski, Nardone, Chippendale, Paplauskas

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE CELEBRATION OF ST. JOSEPH'S DAY {LC3532/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative DeSimone discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 8323

BY Alzate, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Bennett, Potter, Messier, Shallcross Smith, O'Brien, Donovan, Chippendale

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING MARCH 19, 2026, AS "RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC4519/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Alzate discusses the resolution.

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

RULE 7D

The following bills were received pursuant to Rule 7D:

Representative Baginski-An Act relating to Public Records

Representative Cortvriend-An Act relating to Health Safety-Department of Health

Representative Hull-An Act relating to State Affairs and Government- State Police

Representative McNamara-An Act relating to the RI Education Funding Formula Act

Representative Solomon-An Act relating to Public Officers and Employees-Insurance Benefits

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

TRANSMITTAL

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

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

DESK HELD OPEN

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES TRANSFER OF BILLS

COMMITTEE ON CORPORATIONS

Chairman Solomon, for the Committee on Corporations, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of transfer to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources:

House Bill No. 7069

BY McGaw, Speakman, Boylan, Spears, Handy, Fogarty, Stewart, Carson, Cortvriend, Kislak
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- ENERGY FACILITY SITING ACT (Removes clean coal as a renewable fuel given priority as an energy generation project.) {LC3549/1}

03/20/2026 Committee transferred to House Environment and Natural Resources

COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING

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

House Bill No. 7081

BY Boylan, Kislak, McGaw, Handy, Fogarty, Spears, Speakman, Cortvriend, Carson
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- NEXT GENERATION PUBLIC BUILDINGS ACT (Prohibits the use of heating systems utilizing fossil fuels as well as air or water heating systems in any state or municipal building open to the public constructed, altered or renovated on or after January 1, 2028.) {LC3135/1}

03/20/2026 Committee transferred to House Environment and Natural Resources

NEW BUSINESS

House Bill No. 8324

(Secretary of State)

BY Shallcross Smith, Casey, Fogarty, Hull, Azzinaro, DeSimone, Casimiro, Solomon, Furtado, Messier

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE -- SECURED TRANSACTIONS (Makes a series of amendments and adds new provisions of law to address business identity theft and deceptive solicitations sent to businesses and the unauthorized formation of entities.) {LC6142/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 8325

BY Hopkins, Cruz, Brien, Casimiro, Cotter, Boylan, Shanley, Phillips, Lima

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- EQUITABLE ACCESS PRIMARY CARE PRACTICES ACT (Allows primary care practices to offer optional fees for non-covered services while requiring equal medical care for all patients and protecting access to medically necessary services regardless of ability to pay.) {LC6083/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 8326

BY Biah, Read, Speakman, Chippendale, Paplauskas, Potter, Cruz, McNamara, Lombardi, Hull

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS (Provides that any schools days a public school is closed due to a declared state of emergency be deemed excused for purposes of compliance with minimum school days calendar requirements.) {LC6134/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 8327

BY Hopkins, Cruz, Brien, Casimiro, Cotter, Boylan, Shanley, Phillips, Lima, Place

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PRIMARY CARE ADMINISTRATIVE FAIRNESS ACT (Prohibits payers from requiring uncompensated referral coordination by primary care providers, require either elimination of referral prior authorizations, and prevent denial of lab coverage based solely on diagnostic coding differences.) {LC6081/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 8328

BY Diaz, Slater, Felix, Biah, Alzate, Lombardi, Hull, Potter, Edwards

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- PERMITTING VIRTUAL OR REMOTE COURT HEARINGS (Permits all Rhode Island courts to conduct hearings remotely and allow any party or attorney to appear by telephone or video conference, with remote appearances having the same legal effect as in-person appearances.) {LC6138/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 8329**BY** Slater, Diaz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- TERMINAL PATIENTS' RIGHT TO TRY ACT (Establish the terminally ill patients' right to try act.) {LC6089/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 8330**BY** Alzate, Kazarian, Casimiro**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- HEALTHY AND SAFE FAMILIES AND WORKPLACES ACT (Requires employers to provide full-time employees four (4) hours of paid leave once a year to donate blood through and any approved blood donation program.) {LC5996/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 8331**BY** Morales, Potter, Voas, Cruz, Tanzi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- THE TRADES WORKER JUSTICE AND SAFETY ACT (Establishes the trades worker justice and safety act to help provide workers with a workplace free from harassment, discrimination, intimidation, bullying, abuse and retaliation.) {LC3730/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 8332**BY** Messier, Alzate, Stewart**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- REAL ESTATE CONVEYANCE TAX (Requires that the tax imposed upon the conveyance of any real property that is located in more than one municipality to be allocated between or among the municipalities in proportions to the assessed value of the property located in each municipality.) {LC6167/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 8333**BY** Diaz, Felix, Batista, Perez, Giraldo, Slater, Solomon, Alzate, Stewart, O'Brien**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Empowers the division of motor vehicles to make available special motor vehicle registration plates for the Dominican independence heritage award committee of Rhode Island.) {LC5031/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

House Bill No. 8334

(Secretary of State)

BY Kazarian, Shanley, Fogarty, Edwards, Furtado, Messier, Alzate, Casimiro, Stewart, Boylan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- RHODE ISLAND VOTING RIGHTS ACT (Creates the Rhode Island voting rights act to establish procedures to prevent discrimination in the voting process.) {LC6066/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 8335

BY Hopkins, Cruz, Brien, Casimiro, Cotter, Boylan, Shanley, Phillips, Lima, Place
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- MEDICAID AND COMMERCIAL
PRIMARY CARE RATE ENHANCEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY ACT (Expands the patient-
centered medical home program to all Medicaid-accepting independent primary care practices and
nurse practitioners and increases reimbursement rates to match Massachusetts and Connecticut rates.)
{LC6082/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 8336

BY McNamara, Alzate, Hull, Shanley, O'Brien, Phillips, Bennett, Batista, Azzinaro, Noret
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RHODE ISLAND HOPE SCHOLARSHIP
PILOT PROGRAM ACT (Converts the Rhode Island Hope Scholarship Pilot Program Act into a
continuing scholarship program at Rhode Island College, similar to the Rhode Island Promise
Scholarship at the Community College of Rhode Island.) {LC6076/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 8337

BY Serpa
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
(Requires the executive office of health and human services to consider a new element when
reviewing the appropriate Medicaid payments to be paid to nursing facilities.) {LC6127/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 8338

BY Tanzi, Ajello, Cruz, Potter, Stewart, Giraldo, Casimiro, Kislak, Fogarty, Handy
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Establishes a
child tax credit in the amount of six hundred fifty dollars (\$650) for eligible taxpayers adjusted for
inflation annually commencing January 1, 2027.) {LC6152/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Resolution No. 8339

BY Shanley, Bennett, Edwards, Solomon, McNamara, Read, Tanzi, Hopkins
ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 TO THE
RHODE ISLAND PARENT INFORMATION NETWORK (This resolution would authorize the
appropriation of the sum of \$500,000 to RIPIN.) {LC6168/1}

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
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 Bill No. 7220

(by request - Barrington)

BY Boylan, Knight

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- DOGS

(Permits the town of Barrington to assess an annual dog licensing fee of seven dollars (\$7.00).)
{LC4063/1}
03/20/2026 Placed on House Calendar (03/24/2026)

House Bill No. 7221

(by request - Barrington)

BY Boylan, Knight

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- DOGS
(Increases the fines for dog ordinance violations in the town of Barrington.) {LC4062/1}
03/20/2026 Placed on House Calendar (03/24/2026)

House Bill No. 7662

BY Cortvriend, Finkelman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION
(Authorizes the town of Middletown to adopt by ordinance, a veterans' property tax exemption to any veteran, who was honorably discharged, or discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, regardless of dates or periods of service.) {LC4881/1}
03/20/2026 Placed on House Calendar (03/24/2026)

Senate Bill No. 2328

BY Lauria

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT
COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER
STATE CONSTRUCTIONS (Names the new coveside dog park, located at Haines Memorial State
Park in Barrington "The Christine Conrad Lane Memorial Dog Park.") {LC4377/1}
03/20/2026 Placed on House Calendar (03/26/2026)

Senate Bill No. 2328

BY Lauria

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT
COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER
STATE CONSTRUCTIONS (Names the new coveside dog park, located at Haines Memorial State
Park in Barrington "The Christine Conrad Lane Memorial Dog Park.") {LC4377/1}
03/20/2026 Placed on House Calendar (03/26/2026)

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Chairwoman Donovan, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 7923

(Dept. of Health)

BY Dawson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- UNIFORM CONTROLLED
SUBSTANCES ACT (Revises sections of the uniform controlled substances act to remove specific
opioid dosage requirements and revise the uniform controlled substances act in accordance with
current standards of professional practice.) {LC5258/1}
03/20/2026 Placed on House Calendar (03/26/2026)

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Chairman Craven, for the Committee on Judiciary, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 7634

(Dept. of BHDDH)

BY Bennett

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS -- MENTAL HEALTH LAW (Provides that advanced practice registered nurses have the same immunity from liability as physicians and surgeons.) {LC4955/1} 03/20/2026 Placed on House Calendar (03/26/2026)

COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS

Chairman Shanley, for the Committee on State Government and Elections, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 7050

BY Shanley, Noret, Spears, Read, Bennett, Casimiro, Morales, Chippendale, Hopkins

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- PARKING

FACILITIES AND PRIVILEGES (Updates disability parking space signage and enables municipalities to participate in the parking mobility app program where individuals submit photos on the app of vehicles parked in spaces designated for individuals with disabilities.) {LC3160/1} 03/20/2026 Placed on House Calendar (03/26/2026)

House Bill No. 7135 SUB A

BY Read, Noret, Cotter, Casey, Shanley, Casimiro, Hull, Corvese, Serpa, Paplauskas

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL (Creates a program through which fire departments and fire districts are notified of locations of registrants of electric and hybrid motor vehicles can register their vehicles with their local fire department or fire district.) {LC3426/A/1}

03/20/2026 Placed on House Calendar (03/26/2026)

House Bill No. 7496 SUB A

BY Carson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- JOINT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE SERVICES (Adds a representative of an aging adult organization and a member of a statewide disability advocacy organization who is sixty (60) years of age or older to the state planning council.) {LC4507/A/1}

03/20/2026 Placed on House Calendar (03/24/2026)

Senate Bill No. 2341 SUB A

(Secretary of State)

BY LaMountain

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS (Allows eligible disabled and military voters to continue to utilize electronically transmitted ballots as originally enacted in 2022.) {LC3679/A/1}

03/20/2026 Placed on House Calendar (03/26/2026)

COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL LEGISLATION

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

House Bill No. 7666

BY Chippendale, Santucci, Newberry, Place

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Paul J. Rao to join Spencer Rao and Michaela Smith in Marriage on or about June 20, 2026, within the Town of Foster, Rhode Island.) {LC5196/1}

03/20/2026 Placed on House Calendar (03/24/2026)

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:52 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Serpa, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Michael P. Murphy, seconded by Majority Whip Kazarian and Minority Leader Chippendale, the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE GRACE DIAZ

Dear Lord: Today, we celebrate the 182nd anniversary of the Dominican Republic's independence. It was the first country in the Caribbean to establish a democratically elected government. Our enduring history of friendship and strong economic ties has benefited all Americans. Let us always remember to appreciate and honor the people of the Dominican Republic. Amen.

APPENDIX

TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR

Senate Bill No. 3051

BY de la Cruz, Rogers

ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT EMBRACING THE TOWNS OF FOSTER AND GLOCESTER (Changes the date of the regional school district financial meeting for the Foster-Glocester regional school district to March 24, 2026.) {LC6004/1}

03/19/2026 Transmitted to Governor

APPENDIX

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026:

- 1. 2026-H 7496 SUB A**
BY Carson
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- JOINT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

- 2. 2026-H 7220**
BY Boylan
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- DOGS

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

- 3. 2026-H 7221**
BY Boylan
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- DOGS

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

- 4. 2026-H 7662**
BY Cortvriend
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

- 5. 2026-H 7666**
BY Chippendale
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Special Legislation recommends passage.

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026:

- 1. 2026-H 7634**
BY Bennett
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE,

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS -- MENTAL HEALTH LAW

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

2. 2026-H 7923

BY Dawson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

3. 2026-H 7050

BY Shanley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- PARKING FACILITIES AND PRIVILEGES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

4. 2026-H 7135 SUB A

BY Read

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

5. 2026-S 2328

BY Lauria

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 in concurrence.

6. 2026-S 2341 SUB A

BY LaMountain

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A in concurrence.

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Friday, March 20, 2026