

# 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. 20

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

Twentieth Day

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The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, and is called to order at 4:14 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, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi,.

**ABSENT** – 6: Representatives Alzate, Batista, Kennedy, Serpa, and Voas.

## INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi presents Representative Michelle E. McGaw, 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 Thursday, March 19, 2026, is approved.

RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

**CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST**

**2026**

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii), Rep. Edwards  
hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of Bill # H-8073  
Entitled: Relating to Criminal Offenses – Unlawful Sale of Prohibited  
Firearms  
which is currently in the House Committee on Judiciary.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

House District: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 3/24/2026

Acknowledgement: \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker

*NOTE: This request must be submitted to the Clerk of the House, who will retain the original and a copy to be placed in the committee's original bill file*

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Representative Karen Alzate is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, March 24, 2026.  
Representative Jose F. Batista is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, March 24, 2026.

**GUESTS**

Chairman McNamara, in recognition of Scouts Day, proudly welcomes Chief Operating Officer for Narragansett Council - Scouting America, Mark Arnold, Southwest Pack 4 F - Gaspee Plateau, Ben Arnold, Northwest Pack 88 FP of Providence, Erik Sandiford, Southeast Pack 77F in Middletown, Lyla and Olivia Tepfenhart, and Southeast Troop 1B in Portsmouth, Nicholas Tepfenhart, Carlos Vargas, and Jillian Scott to the House. Speaker Shekarchi and Chairman Casey welcome the Scouts to the House.

Chairman Casey warmly welcomes Sojourner House Board Chair Richard Godfrey and Vice President of Housing and Residential Services Kelly Henry to the House. They are here today to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Sojourner House. Speaker Shekarchi thanks them and welcomes them to the House.

Representative Cruz, in honoring inductees to the Rhode Island Hip Hop Hall of Fame, proudly welcomes to the House co-founder of the Rhode Island Hip Hop Hall of Fame Vincent (Dennis) Lopes, 2026 Hall of Fame inductee for DJ Mason Santos, 2026 inductee for Prospectors On A Mission (POAM), Action Wear Paris Fisher, and founder of the Rhode Island Hip Hop Hall of Fame DJ Donald (Donnie) Senna.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

**CALENDAR**

From the Calendar are taken:

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026:

**Speaker Shekarchi moves item #1 to the bottom of the Calendar. There is no objection.**

**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.

Read, and by unanimous consent, ordered to be placed on the bottom of the Calendar.

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

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Boylan, Speakman, Spears, Fogarty, Knight, and Cortvriend.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

Read and passed, 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, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

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

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Boylan, Knight, and Casimiro.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 64 members voting in the affirmative and 2 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 64: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales,

Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Sanchez, Santucci, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi.

NAYS - 2: Representatives Nardone, Roberts.

RECUSED - 0:

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

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Phillips, Marszalkowski, Cortvriend, Azzinaro, Solomon, and Carson.

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, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

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

Committee on Special Legislation recommends passage.

Vice-Chairwoman Diaz moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Minority Leader Chippendale.

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, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz,

Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**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.

Vice-Chairwoman Messier moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Corvese, Speakman, Carson, and Majority Whip Kazarian.

Vice-Chairwoman Messier and Representative Carson discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 67 members voting in the affirmative and 2 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 67: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi.

NAYS - 2: Representatives Chippendale, Fascia.

RECUSED - 0:

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairwoman Donovan announces that the Committee on Health & Human Services will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 135 of the State House.

Vice-Chairman Phillips announces that the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources will meet tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. in the House Lounge.

Chairwoman McEntee announces that the Committee on Judiciary will meet today, at the rise of the House, in the House Lounge of the State House.

Chairwoman Tanzi announces that the Finance Subcommittee on Human Services will meet tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. in Room 35 of the State House.

Minority Leader Chippendale extends his deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the late Terry Canuel, including his father, William Chippendale. Mrs. Canuel was a U.S. Navy Vietnam veteran, and Leader Chippendale honors her memory and the impact she had on those who knew and loved her. Speaker Shekarchi also offers his heartfelt condolences.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the next House session will be held on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. However, three committees are meeting tomorrow: the Finance Subcommittee on Human Services, the Environment Committee, and the Small Business Committee.

### IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

#### **House Resolution No. 8340**

**BY** Cruz, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Stewart, Morales, Felix, Potter, Giraldo, Brien  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE RHODE ISLAND HIP HOP HALL OF FAME ON ITS INAUGURAL CEREMONY HELD MARCH 8, 2026, AND HONORING ITS INDUCTEES {LC6195/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Cruz discusses the resolution.

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

#### **House Resolution No. 8341**

**BY** Azzinaro, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Fellela, Abney, Hull, Lombardi, Santucci, Hopkins  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING "MEDAL OF HONOR DAY" ON MARCH 25, 2026, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC3705/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Azzinaro discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8342**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Diaz, Chippendale, Slater, Stewart, Fogarty, Edwards, Casey, Ajello  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 24, 2026, AS “NATIONAL DIABETES ALERT DAY 2026” IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6197/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Diaz and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 8343**

**BY** Casey, Chippendale, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Brien, Phillips, Solomon, Ajello, Paplauskas, Edwards

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF SOJOURNER HOUSE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6192/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Casey discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Chairman Casey seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, Majority Leader voice vote.

**House Resolution No. 8344**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, McNamara, Casey, Edwards, Paplauskas, Felix, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Fellela

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION WELCOMING THE NARRAGANSETT COUNCIL, SCOUTING AMERICA, TO THE RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE ON MARCH 24TH OF 2026, AND JOYFULLY CELEBRATING SCOUTING MONTH IN FEBRUARY {LC3511/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman McNamara discusses the resolution.

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

### **RULE 7D**

**The following bills were received pursuant to Rule 7D:**

Representative Ackerman-An Act relating to Deceptive Trade Practices

Representative Casimiro-An Act relating to Foster Care Youth Academic Reports

Representative Craven-An Act relating to Public Utilities -Carriers

Representative Cruz-An Act relating to the Residential Landlord -Tenant Act  
An Act relating to the Residential Landlord -Tenant Act

Representative DeSimone-An Act relating to Zoning Ordinances

Representative Donovan-An Act relating to Accident-Sickness Insurance Policies  
An Act relating to Health and Safety- Hospital Conversions Act

Representative Fascia-An Act relating to Health and Safety-AEDs

Representative Fogarty-An Act relating to Health and Safety- International Public Health  
Collaboration

Representative Furtado-An Act relating to the Inspection of Motor Vehicles

Representative Kislak-An Act relating to Pharmacy Audit

Representative O'Brien-An Act relating to Taxation

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.

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE SENATE**

A message from the Honorable Senate transmits with announcement of passage, of the following measures:

**Senate Bill No. 2110**

**BY** Lauria, Lawson, DiMario, Murray, Valverde, Kallman, Ujifusa, Pearson, Zurier, Urso  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- CATASTROPHIC ILLNESS IN CHILDREN RELIEF FUND (Establishes Children's Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund to provide finance assistance to families for medical expenses not covered by state or federal programs or insurance contract.) {LC3655/1}  
03/25/2026 Referred to House Labor

**Senate Bill No. 2350**

**BY** DiPalma, Gallo, Valverde, Morgan  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Requires the department of elementary and secondary education and DOH to adopt policies, rules and regulations for the administration of seizure rescue medications for children who have been medically identified as having epilepsy/seizure disorder.) {LC4209/1}  
03/25/2026 Referred to House Education

**Senate Bill No. 2870**

**BY** Murray  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LEAD POISONING PREVENTION ACT (Requires any licensed lab performing blood lead analyses of a child under 6 to be certified by the director and said laboratory must perform this test regardless of the child or child's parent's ability to pay and at no cost.) {LC5525/1}  
03/25/2026 Referred to House Health & Human Services

**Senate Bill No. 2871**

**BY** Murray, Thompson, Valverde, Gu, Urso, DiMario, Mack, Euer, Gallo, Lauria  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN (Requires EOHHS to provide self-measured blood pressure monitoring for eligible pregnant and postpartum individuals, covering home monitors, training, data transmission, and co-interventions, with state funds if federal aid is unavailable.) {LC5595/1}  
03/25/2026 Referred to House Finance

**Senate Bill No. 2873**

**BY** DiPalma, Thompson, Murray, Valverde, Ujifusa, Lauria  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Requires inspection and evaluation of indoor air quality in public schools, departments of health shall establish and recommend thresholds and rates for environmental conditions.) {LC5458/1}  
03/25/2026 Referred to House Education

**Senate Resolution No. 3139****BY** Acosta

**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE RETURN OF CENTRAL FALLS SCHOOLS TO LOCAL GOVERNANCE (This resolution would extend the reporting and expiration dates of the special Joint Legislative Commission to Study the Return of Central Falls Schools to Local Governance, from March 3, 2026, to April 10, 2026, and would expire on July 1, 2026.) {LC6158/1}

03/25/2026 Referred to House Finance

**NEW BUSINESS****House Resolution No. 8345****BY** Caldwell, Cotter, Spears

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE USE OF THIRD-PARTY DIGITAL PLATFORMS WITHIN PUBLIC EDUCATION (Creates a special legislative commission to study the use of third-party digital platforms in public education and report its findings and recommendations to the general assembly no later than April 23, 2027, and said commission expires on May 28, 2027.) {LC5716/1}

03/25/2026 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 8346****BY** Cortvriend, Tanzi, Diaz

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (Requires the department of health to implement a tobacco control program that incorporates evidence-based best practices for tobacco prevention and cessation to prevent tobacco-related diseases and diminish tobacco use in the state.) {LC6181/1}

03/25/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health &amp; Human Services

**House Bill No. 8347****BY** Lombardi, Cruz, Perez, Alzate, Potter, Stewart, Sanchez, Morales

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RESTRICTIONS ON STATE AND MUNICIPAL COOPERATION WITH CIVIL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT (Prohibits state or local authorities from voluntary participation in federal civil immigration enforcement. It would not prohibit compliance with a judicial warrant or court order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.) {LC6165/1}

03/25/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**House Bill No. 8348****BY** Marszalkowski, Ackerman, Voas

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Exempts from taxation the property of the non-profit Mount St. Rita Health Centre located in Cumberland, RI. The exemption would be effective as of December 31, 2025.) {LC6129/1}

03/25/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government &amp; Housing

**House Resolution No. 8349****BY** Slater

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AMENDING RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAW § 44-3-3 (Creates a 7-member commission to study and provide recommendations for amending RI General Law §44-3-3, and who would report back to the General Assembly by January 5, 2027, and would expire on March 5, 2027.) {LC4453/1}

03/25/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 8350****BY** Baginski

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS (Clarifies the right of the public to have access to bulk electronic data processing records, compilations of electronic court records, including the Rhode Island adult criminal database and the Rhode Island traffic tribunal database extract.) {LC6088/1}

03/25/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 8351****BY** McNamara, Cortvriend, Ackerman, Tanzi, Kislak, Ajello, Furtado, Brien, Sanchez, Phillips

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE RHODE ISLAND EDUCATION FUNDING AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (Establishes the Rhode Island education funding and accountability act, which would include a totally revised and revamped formula for funding all levels of public education in Rhode Island.) {LC6182/1}

03/25/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 8352****BY** Solomon, Casey, Casimiro, Edwards, Messier, Baginski, Dawson

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- INSURANCE BENEFITS (Entitles correctional officers with twenty-five (25) years of service and who are at least fifty-five (55) years of age to a non-Medicare-eligible retiree health care insurance benefit.)

{LC6175/1}

03/25/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 8353****BY** Hull, Noret, Read

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- STATE POLICE (Clarifies that the three-year final average compensation provision for retiring members of the state police applies to the superintendent and all members eligible and who retire on or after July 1, 2024.) {LC6186/1}

03/25/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 8354****BY** Slater, Potter

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO THE ROGER WILLIAMS PARK ZOO -- 2026 BOND REFERENDA (Authorizes the State of Rhode Island to issue up to eighteen million dollars (\$18,000,000) in general obligation bonds, subject to voter approval, to support the Roger Williams Park Zoo.) {LC6201/1}

03/25/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Resolution No. 8355****BY** Slater, Potter

**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$300,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND OFFICE OF THE POSTSECONDARY COMMISSIONER FOR THE RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL FOR PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION (This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$300,000 to the Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner for the Rhode Island School for Progressive Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027.)

{LC6200/1}

03/25/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4:48 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Casimiro, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Jeannette D. Alyward; on motion of Representative Kazarian, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Cara C. Laffey; on motion of Representative Azzinaro and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Lilian M (Birchell) Schmitt Nuttall; on motion of Representative McNamara, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Sandra Chellel; on motion of Representative Chippendale, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Terry Canuel; seconded by Leader Blazejewski and Minority Whip Place the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

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

**APPENDIX**

**INVOCATION**

**REPRESENTATIVE MICHELLE E. MCGAW**

Dear Lord, guide us as we strive to help those struggling in their daily lives. When this responsibility feels overwhelming, grant us your support so we can make the necessary decisions, no matter how difficult, to assist those in need. Amen.

APPENDIX

## CALENDAR

## 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**