

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. 29

Thursday, April 30, 2026

Twenty-Ninth Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence on Thursday, April 30, 2026, and is called to order at 4:09 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, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, O'Brien, Paplauskas, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, and Voas.

ABSENT – 6: Representatives Diaz, Knight, Noret, Quattrocchi, and Spears.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi presents Representative Julie A. Casimiro, 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, April 28, 2026, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Thomas E. Noret is unable to attend session today, Thursday, April 30, 2026.

Representative Grace Diaz is unable to attend session today, Thursday, April 30, 2026.

Representative Jason P. Knight is unable to attend session today, Thursday, April 30, 2026.

CALENDAR

From the Calendar are taken:

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026:**1. 2026-H 7090**

BY McNamara

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARIES FOR ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND FOR PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Casey, Potter, McEntee, and Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman.

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 64 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 64: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Nardone, Newberry, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

2. 2026-H 7572

BY Ackerman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Casey, Corvese, and Deputy Whip Ackerman.

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

Read and passed, 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, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Nardone, Newberry, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

3. 2026-H 7378
BY Baginski
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- LOCAL CANVASSING
AUTHORITIES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

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

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 66 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 66: 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, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Nardone, Newberry, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

4. 2026-H 7358**BY** Baginski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

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

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 66 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 66: 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, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Nardone, Newberry, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

5. 2026-H 7377**BY** Carson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- LOCAL CANVASSING AUTHORITIES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Cortvriend, and Carson.

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 67 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 67: 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, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara,

Messier, Nardone, Newberry, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.
NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

6. 2026-H 8282

BY Voas

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- NOMINATION OF PARTY AND INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, and Representatives Speakman.

Chairman Shanley, Minority Leader Chippendale, Representatives Newberry, Lima, Perez, Voas, Brien, Fascia, Hopkins, and Corves discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 47 members voting in the affirmative and 20 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 47: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Bennett, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, O'Brien, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Speakman, Stewart, Voas.

NAYS - 20: Representatives Baginski, Biah, Brien, Casey, Chippendale, Costantino, Fascia, Fellela, Hopkins, Lima, Nardone, Newberry, Perez, Phillips, Place, Roberts, Santucci, Serpa, Solomon, Tanzi.

RECUSED - 0:

7. 2026-H 8123

BY Azzinaro

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

Committee on Veterans` Affairs recommends passage.

Chairman Azzinaro moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Carson, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fogarty, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kennedy, Lima, Lombardi, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, O'Brien, Phillips, Potter, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Tanzi, Voas.

Chairman Azzinaro discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 66 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 66: 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, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

8. 2026-H 8251

BY Azzinaro

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO AUTHORIZE THE AWARD OF THE ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL, OR SIMILAR RECOGNITION, TO UNITED STATES SERVICE MEMBERS WHO SERVED IN HONDURAS FROM 1981 TO 1992

Committee on Veterans' Affairs recommends passage.

Chairman Azzinaro moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Carson, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Giraldo, Hopkins, Hull, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, McNamara, Messier, Morales, O'Brien, Phillips, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley.

Chairman Azzinaro discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 67 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 67: 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, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

9. 2026-H 8008 SUB A**BY** Speakman**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY CURRENT CONDOMINIUM LAW AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND ONGOING AFFORDABILITY OF CONDOMINIUMS IN RHODE ISLAND

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

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Speakman, Carson, Cortvriend, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Edwards, Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman.

Chairman Solomon discusses the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, 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, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

10. 2026-H 8003 SUB A**BY** Noret**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RHODE ISLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND LAND USE ACT

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

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, and Representative Speakman.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 57 members voting in the affirmative and 10 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 57: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 10: Representatives Casimiro, Chippendale, Edwards, Fascia, Fogarty, Nardone, Newberry, Place, Roberts, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

11. 2026-H 8001 SUB A

BY Shekarchi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE -- ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

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

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Cortvriend, and Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman.

Chairman Casey and Minority Leader Chippendale discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 62 members voting in the affirmative and 5 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 62: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 5: Representatives Costantino, Fascia, Place, Roberts, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

12. 2026-H 8005 SUB A**BY** Giraldo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

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

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representative Speakman.

Chairman Casey and Minority Leader Chippendale discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, 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, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fascia, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hopkins, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Read, Roberts, Sanchez, Santucci, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

13. 2026-H 8007**BY** Casey**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- SUBDIVISION OF LAND

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

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

Chairman Casey and Minority Leader Chippendale discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 58 members voting in the affirmative and 10 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 58: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Furtado, Giraldo, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi,

Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Potter, Read, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

NAYS - 10: Representatives Chippendale, Costantino, Cotter, Fascia, Hopkins, Nardone, Newberry, Place, Roberts, Santucci.

RECUSED - 0:

14. 2026-H 7562

BY Dawson

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

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

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

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

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

15. 2026-H 7371

BY Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Morales, and Shallcross Smith.

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

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

Majority Leader Blazejewski moves item #16 to be placed on Thursday's Calendar. There is no objection.

16. 2026-H 7369

BY Felix

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS AND INSTALLATION OF SYSTEMS

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Read and, by unanimous consent, placed on the Calendar for Thursday, May 7, 2026.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

GUESTS

Representative Casimiro warmly welcomes Karen Santilli, CEO of the Greater Providence YMCA, and Carol Kizzi, COO of the Newport County YMCA, to the House Chamber in celebration of YMCA Day.

NOW PRESIDING

At 4:53 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi yields the rostrum to the Honorable Deputy Speaker Hull.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 Azzinaro would like to wish his grandson, Ryan Gulluscio, a happy 33rd birthday!

Representative Fogarty announces that May 4th marks Rhode Island's 250th anniversary of the General Assembly's Act of Renunciation from England. On Saturday, May 2, RI Independence Day, the State House will be open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Hosted by Secretary of State Gregg Amore, the event features RI250-themed tours of the building, an opportunity to view the Act of Renunciation (one of Rhode Island's founding documents), and various exhibits. All are invited to attend.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the next House sessions will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, and Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

GUESTS

On behalf of Speaker Shekarchi and Minority Leader Chippendale, Majority Leader Blazejewski extends heartfelt congratulations to one of his constituents, R.J. Heim, on his retirement after more than 30 years as a dedicated meteorologist and reporter at NBC 10. He welcomes R.J. to the House Chamber and wishes him the best of luck in his new creative media endeavors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Majority Leader Blazejewski wishes Representative John Lombardi a happy birthday!

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

House Resolution No. 8491

BY Shallcross Smith, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Ajello, Fogarty, Handy, Kislak, Bennett, Fellela

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 2026 AS "OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6383/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Shallcross Smith discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 8492

BY Speakman, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Knight, Boylan, Kennedy, Ajello, Santucci, Read, Fogarty
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE FIRST SATURDAY IN MAY AS "RHODE ISLAND LABYRINTH DAY" AND RECOGNIZING MAY 2, 2026, AS "WORLD LABYRINTH DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC6189/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Speakman discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 8493

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Handy, Chippendale, Fogarty, Kennedy, Ajello, Phillips, Santucci, Boylan
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING APRIL 30, 2026, AS "NATIONAL THERAPY ANIMAL DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC4542/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Handy discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 8494

BY Ackerman, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, McNamara, Edwards, O'Brien, Kazarian, Casimiro, Kennedy
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2026, TO BE "FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC4546/1}

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

There is no objection.

Deputy Majority Whip Ackerman discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 8495

BY Brien, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Phillips, Casey, Santucci, Potter, Cruz, Kennedy
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RHODE ISLAND AND MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ALL-TIME GREAT, HALL OF FAMER NAPOLEON "NAP" LAJOIE {LC6362/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Brien discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 8496

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Casimiro, Chippendale, Solomon, Alzate, Stewart, Kazarian, Read, Kennedy

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YMCA IN THE UNITED STATES AND RECOGNIZING THE IMPACT OF THE RHODE ISLAND ALLIANCE OF YMCAS {LC6288/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Casimiro discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 8497

BY Blazejewski, Shekarchi, Chippendale, Kennedy, Ajello, Phillips, Santucci, Boylan, Read, Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING AND CONGRATULATING R.J. HEIM UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM WJAR-TV NBC 10 {LC6368/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, and on behalf of Speaker Shekarchi and Minority Leader Chippendale, Majority Leader Blazejewski requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Majority Leader Blazejewski discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Majority Leader Blazejewski, 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 the 195 Commission

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.

TRANSFER OF BILLS

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 Judiciary:

Senate Bill No. 2985

(Judiciary)

BY Quezada, Pearson, Mack, Euer, DiMario

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT (Allows for the electronic filing of domestic violence/sexual assault reporting forms by law enforcement agencies, enhances the information to be included on the reporting forms, and clarifies that the reporting forms should be submitted monthly.) {LC5275/1}

05/01/2026 Committee transferred to House Judiciary

NEW BUSINESS

House Bill No. 8498

BY Brien, Baginski, Chippendale

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RESPONSIBLE RECYCLING, REUSE AND DISPOSAL OF MATTRESSES (Repeals the system for responsible recycling, reuse and disposal of mattresses.) {LC4429/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 8499**BY** Brien, Baginski, Chippendale**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PROPER MANAGEMENT OF UNUSED PAINT (Repeals the system for proper management of unused paint.) {LC4430/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

House Bill No. 8500

(Dept. of Executive Office of Health and Human Services)

BY Donovan, Speakman, Boylan, McGaw, Cotter, Carson, Kislak, Potter, Giraldo, Stewart**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (Promotes fiscal integrity, transparency, and accountability in the state's healthcare system by mandating that certain reporting covered health entities submit quarterly financial reports to the secretary.) {LC4971/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 8501**BY** Blazejewski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATUTES AND STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION (Re-enacts certain chapters of title 45 relating to towns and cities and provides various technical statutory construction edits throughout the general laws.) {LC6193/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 8502**BY** Cotter, Brien, Corvese, McGaw, Speakman, Santucci**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- VICTIM PROXIMITY PROTECTION ACT (Prohibits those people convicted of sex offenses from living within proximity to their victim's residences, workplaces or schools and automatically be prohibited from having any direct or indirect contact with the victim(s).) {LC6391/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Resolution No. 8503**BY** Felix, Cruz, Potter, Lombardi, Hull, Tanzi, Kislak, Shallcross Smith, Ajello, Fogarty**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CREATING A HOUSE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY-BASED SOLUTIONS TO REDUCE THE INCARCERATION OF WOMEN (Creates a special legislative commission to study and provide recommendations relating to supporting community-based solutions to reduce the incarceration of women in Rhode Island.) {LC6403/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 8504**BY** Felix, Tanzi, Cruz, Stewart, Alzate, Diaz, Morales, Lombardi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES (Changes the definition of employee to include individuals employed in the domestic service of any person.) {LC6242/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 8505**BY** Lombardi, Hull, Sanchez, Cruz, Potter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- WORKPLACE PSYCHOLOGICAL SAFETY ACT (Protects bullying/psychological abuse in workplace inflicted upon employees by employers/co-employees/provides civil remedies to affected employees/fines against employers/imprisonment/fines against co-employees.) {LC6390/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 8506**BY** Giraldo, Alzate, Voas**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RELATING TO CENTRAL FALLS PENSION PLAN (Amends the terms of the pension plan set forth in the respective collective bargaining agreements in effect on July 1, 2026, between Central Falls and the labor organizations representing members of the Central Falls plan.) {LC6396/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 8507**BY** McEntee, Tanzi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF NARRAGANSETT TO FINANCE THE EQUIPPING, EXPANSION, IMPROVEMENT AND RENOVATION OF FIRE STATIONS IN THE TOWN OF NARRAGANSETT AND TO ISSUE NOT MORE THAN \$3,000,000 BONDS AND NOTES THEREFOR (Authorizes the town of Narragansett to issue up to \$3,000,000 in bonds and notes to finance the equipping, expansion, improvement and renovation of fire stations.) {LC6402/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 8508**BY** Batista**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Exempts from taxation the real and tangible personal property of Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center, located in the city of Providence.) {LC6327/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 8509**BY** Donovan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Joseph Couto to join Brandon Kemmy and Jacqueline Manousos in Marriage on or about August 2, 2026, within the Town of Tiverton, Rhode Island.) {LC6412/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

House Bill No. 8510**BY** Brien, Baginski, Chippendale**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Removes the vehicle registration restriction for Kei cars and Kei trucks and spells out the restrictions on the Kei vehicles in order to be operated on public highways in the state.) {LC6333/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

House Bill No. 8511

BY Morales, DeSimone, Biah, Ajello, Lombardi, Sanchez, Cruz, Potter, Stewart, Slater
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Amends the school funding formula to ensure that local education authorities do not lose funding due to disruptions in the supplemental nutrition assistance program.) {LC6399/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 8512

BY Cotter, Brien, Corvese
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION (Exempts from sales tax the amount paid for food and beverages during summer restaurant week and winter restaurant week.) {LC6367/1}

05/01/2026 Introduced, referred to House Finance

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**COMMITTEE ON CORPORATIONS**

Chairman Solomon, for the Committee on Corporations, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 7477 SUB A

BY Voas, Chippendale
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CORPORATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS -- UNIFORM PARTNERSHIP ACT -- THE RHODE ISLAND LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY ACT (Replaces the existing limited liability company act with a newer and updated model act.) {LC4088/A/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/07/2026)

House Bill No. 7608

BY Dawson
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- OPERATION OF RAILROADS GENERALLY (Provides that no train or light engine would be used in connection with the movement of freight could be operated unless it had a crew consisting of at least 2 persons, would also include the imposition of fines upon a company for violation of the act.) {LC5020/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/07/2026)

House Bill No. 7836

(Dept. of Health)

BY Giraldo, Alzate, Cruz, Donovan, Morales
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- BARBERS, HAIRDRESSERS, COSMETICIANS, MANICURISTS, AND ESTHETICIANS (Allows electronic notifications modernize language for notifications, synchronize renewal dates for certain license-types, streamline licensing requirements across several license-types, and update the unlicensed health care practices statute.) {LC5256/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/07/2026)

House Bill No. 7859 SUB A

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

BY Kennedy, Edwards, O'Brien, Serpa, Azzinaro, Phillips, Diaz, Shallcross Smith**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- DOMESTIC INSURANCE COMPANIES

(Provides an update to certain insurance sections of law to update or eliminate outdated sections of the insurance law.) {LC5413/A/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/07/2026)

House Bill No. 7865 SUB A

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

BY Kennedy, Solomon, Edwards, O'Brien, Serpa, Spears, Cotter, Azzinaro, Diaz, Shallcross Smith**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- WEATHER-RELATED LOSSES

(Provides a framework through which the department of business regulation can seek grants to fund a home hardening program.) {LC5410/A/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/05/2026)

House Bill No. 8213**BY** Serpa, Fellela, Read**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGULATION OF BUSINESS PRACTICES AMONG MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS, DISTRIBUTORS, AND DEALERS (Extends certain protocols applicable to motor vehicle manufacturers to their distributors and factory branches, as well as updates warranty reimbursement and recall obligation policies.) {LC5026/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/05/2026)

Senate Bill No. 3204**BY** Pearson, Thompson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE CUMBERLAND LODGE #14, FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE {LC6253/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/07/2026)

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 Resolution No. 7952**BY** Diaz, Shallcross Smith, Casimiro, Edwards, Donovan, Cruz**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION AMENDING THE JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A

PERMANENT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON CHILD CARE IN RHODE ISLAND (Amends the membership of the permanent legislative commission on child care with twenty-seven (27) members to ensure that the state has high quality and affordable childcare and early learning services network.) {LC5306/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/05/2026)

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Chairwoman McEntee, for the Committee on Judiciary, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 7079 SUB A

BY Craven, Biah, Cortvriend, Shanley, O'Brien

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- EXPUNGEMENT OF CRIMINAL RECORDS (Permits those individuals convicted of multiple felonies and misdemeanors to have their records expunged and provides criteria for the court to consider in determining whether the person is of good character.) {LC3887/A/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/05/2026)

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}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/07/2026)

House Bill No. 8247

BY Casimiro, Stewart, Cruz, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Bennett, Read, Potter, Giraldo, Diaz

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- SUPERIOR COURT (Changes the term of drug court to recovery court.) {LC5924/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/05/2026)

COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING

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

House Bill No. 7149

BY Read, Noret, Hull, Fascia, O'Brien, Casey, Casimiro

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RELIEF OF INJURED AND DECEASED FIRE FIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS (Requires that before any fire fighter or police officer is eligible to receive benefits for illness or injury sustained off duty, they prove they had reasonable grounds to believe that an emergency existed that required immediate need of their assistance.) {LC3878/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/05/2026)

House Bill No. 8000 SUB A

BY Shekarchi, Speakman, Spears, Voas, DeSimone, Biah, Noret, O'Brien

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS (Provides certain procedures that must be followed before an encampment can be removed or relocated.) {LC5661/A/2}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/05/2026)

House Bill No. 8006 SUB A**BY** Slater, Baginski, Casey, Speakman, Corvese**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Provides cities and towns with the authority to tax properties considered qualifying affordable housing at a rate higher than otherwise permitted.) {LC5578/A/2}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/05/2026)

House Bill No. 8009 SUB A**BY** Giraldo, Alzate, Voas, Cruz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- TEMPORARY EXTENDED SERVICE HOURS (Allows, but not require, local licensing authorities to grant temporary periods for extended indoor service hours under existing liquor licenses for certain 2026 FIFA World Cup Tournament matches.) {LC5706/A/2}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/05/2026)

COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS

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

House Bill No. 7092**BY** Perez, Fellela, Slater, Corvese, Shallcross Smith, Felix, Hull, Hopkins, Fascia, Brien**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARIES FOR ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND FOR PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE

(Amends certain signature requirements and deadlines regarding primaries for election of delegates to national conventions for presidential preference.) {LC3930/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/07/2026)

House Bill No. 7154**BY** Edwards, Bennett, Kislak, Corvese, Shanley, Potter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS

(Amends the definition of public record to exempt from public disclosure the city or town of residence of the justices, judges, and magistrates of the unified judicial system.) {LC4114/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/05/2026)

House Bill No. 7676**BY** Speakman, Tanzi, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Cortvriend, Carson, Spears, Cotter**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS (Allows advisory bodies to participate in a public meeting using videoconferencing, subject to certain requirements.) {LC4865/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/05/2026)

House Bill No. 7677

(CRMC)

BY Spears, Cortvriend, McEntee, Carson, Boylan, Fogarty, Tanzi, Caldwell, Shanley, Kazarian**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (Provides that the legislature would be the body that negotiates on behalf of the state for all activities occurring in, on and over state submerged land

extending beyond twenty-five (25) acres.) {LC4997/1}
05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/07/2026)

House Bill No. 7782

(Board of Elections)

BY Boylan, Knight, Kazarian, Dawson, Shallcross Smith, Tanzi, Speakman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES (Increases from seven (7) days to nine (9) days the period of time in which a request for a recount of the votes cast can be made to the board of elections. No certificates of election may be issued, until the recount if any is completed.) {LC4582/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/07/2026)

House Bill No. 7989 SUB A

BY Baginski, Biah

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Exempts certain vehicles that are not manufactured with the proper front plate registration bracket from the requirement that motor vehicles display a front facing registration plate.) {LC5266/A/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/05/2026)

House Bill No. 8297

(Secretary of State)

BY Read, Noret, McGaw

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES (Amends the refiling process for rules and regulations under the administrative procedures act by implementing a confirmation and attestation system to confirm agency rules and regulations are active and effective.) {LC5961/1}

05/01/2026 Placed on House Calendar (05/05/2026)

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:06 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Azzinaro, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Raymond J. Capalbo; on motion of Representative Fogarty and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Margaret "Dodie" Burke; on motion of Representative Brien and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Napoleon "Nap" Lajoie; seconded by Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE JULIE A. CASIMIRO

Dear God, today we seek your guidance for the tasks before us. Help the members of this House to govern with compassion and understanding, and with the determination to do what is best for our constituents, our state, and our country. Amen.

APPENDIX

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026:

1. **2026-H 7865 SUB A**
BY Kennedy
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- WEATHER-RELATED LOSSES

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

2. **2026-H 8213**
BY Serpa
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGULATION OF BUSINESS PRACTICES AMONG MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS, DISTRIBUTORS, AND DEALERS

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

3. **2026-H 7952**
BY Diaz
ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION AMENDING THE JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A PERMANENT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON CHILD CARE IN RHODE ISLAND

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

4. **2026-H 7154**
BY Edwards
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

5. **2026-H 7676**
BY Speakman
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

6. **2026-H 7989 SUB A**
BY Baginski
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

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

7. 2026-H 8297

BY Read

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

8. 2026-H 7079 SUB A

BY Craven

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- EXPUNGEMENT OF CRIMINAL RECORDS

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

9. 2026-H 8247

BY Casimiro

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS - SUPERIOR COURT

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

10. 2026-H 7149

BY Read

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RELIEF OF INJURED AND DECEASED FIRE FIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

11. 2026-H 8000 SUB A

BY Shekarchi

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS

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

12. 2026-H 8006 SUB A

BY Slater

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES

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

13. 2026-H 8009 SUB A**BY** Giraldo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- TEMPORARY EXTENDED SERVICE HOURS

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

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026:**1. 2026-H 7369****BY** Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS AND INSTALLATION OF SYSTEMS

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

2. 2026-H 7608**BY** Dawson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- OPERATION OF RAILROADS GENERALLY

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

3. 2026-H 7477 SUB A**BY** Voas**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CORPORATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS -- UNIFORM PARTNERSHIP ACT -- THE RHODE ISLAND LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY ACT

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

4. 2026-H 7836**BY** Giraldo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- BARBERS, HAIRDRESSERS, COSMETICIANS, MANICURISTS, AND ESTHETICIANS

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

5. 2026-H 7859 SUB A**BY** Kennedy**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- DOMESTIC INSURANCE COMPANIES

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

6. **2026-H 7551**
BY Kennedy
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- FRAUD AND FALSE DEALING

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

7. **2026-H 7092**
BY Perez
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARIES FOR ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND FOR PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

8. **2026-H 7782**
BY Boylan
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

9. **2026-H 7677**
BY Spears
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

10. **2026-S 3204**
BY Pearson
ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE CUMBERLAND LODGE #14, FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

Committee on Corporations recommends passage in concurrence.

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Thursday, April 30, 2026
Updated: Friday, May 1, 2026