

State of Rhode Island

Journal of the Senate

JANUARY SESSION of the General Assembly begun and held at the State House in the City of Providence on Tuesday, the Seventh day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.

Volume 152, No. 8

Tuesday, March 04, 2025

Eighth Legislative Day

CALL TO ORDER

The Senate meets pursuant to recess and is called to order by The Honorable Hanna M. Gallo, Senate President Pro Tempore, at 4:18 o'clock P.M.

ROLL CALL

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 36 Senators present and 2 Senators absent as follows:

PRESENT –36: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

ABSENT – 2: The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio and Senator Vargas.

INVOCATION

The Honorable President Pro Tempore, by unanimous consent, presents Senator DiPalma to deliver the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The Honorable President Pro Tempore, by unanimous consent, presents Senator DiPalma, to lead the Senate in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF RECORD

The Senate Journal of the Sixth Legislative Day of the 2025 proceedings is read in part.

Upon suggestion of Senator DiPalma and by unanimous consent, further reading of the Journal is dispensed with and the Journal approved as recorded.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Raptakis and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber Hillary Lima, Coventry Town Council President.

Upon suggestion of Senator de la Cruz and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber Maria Friedman, Executive Director, Rhode Island Coalition for Israel.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATIONS**Senate Resolution No. 597**

BY Urso

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 8, 2025, AS "INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY", AND THE MONTH OF MARCH AS "WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH", IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
{LC2227/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Urso requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Urso moves passage, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissailon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Valverde, and Zurier.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

Senate Resolution No. 596**BY** Kallman**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF DR. JOSEPH J. BOX
{LC1494/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Kallman requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Kallman moves passage, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gu, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

The resolution is read and passed upon a rising vote.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Kallman and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber the family of Dr. Joseph J. Box.

Appendix**CONSENT CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 04, 2025:****1. 2025-S 595****BY** Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE MATUNUCK OYSTER BAR ON BECOMING ONE OF USA TODAY'S 2025 RESTAURANTS OF THE YEAR AND ON BEING AWARDED WINE SPECTATOR'S TWO-GLASS BEST OF AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

Upon motion of Senator Lawson, seconded by Senator de la Cruz, the following measures on Today's Consent Calendar, by unanimous consent, are read and passed, upon a roll call vote:

YEAS – 35: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 04, 2025:

1. *The Reappointment of Ernest Almonte to the Narragansett Bay Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2028.*

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Senator Sosnowski moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gu, LaMountain, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

The advice and consent of the Senate is given, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 33 members voting in the affirmative, and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 33: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, LaMountain, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Sosnowski and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber Ernest Almonte.

2. *The Reappointment of Lisa M. Andoscia to the Narragansett Bay Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2026.*

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Senator Sosnowski moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Felag, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

The advice and consent of the Senate is given, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 33 members voting in the affirmative, and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 33: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Sosnowski and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber Lisa Andoscia.

3. *The Reappointment of James S. Bennett to the Narragansett Bay Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2028.*

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Senator Sosnowski moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Thompson, Tikoian, Valverde, and Zurier.

The advice and consent of the Senate is given, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 29 members voting in the affirmative, and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 29: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Valverde, and Zurier.

NAYS – 1: Senator Bell.

4. *The Reappointment of Michele L. Brais to the Narragansett Bay Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2027.*

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Senator Sosnowski moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

The advice and consent of the Senate is given, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 36 members voting in the affirmative, and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 36: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

5. *The Reappointment of Mario G. Carlino to the Narragansett Bay Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2026.*

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Senator Sosnowski moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Thompson, Tikoian, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

The advice and consent of the Senate is given, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 31 members voting in the affirmative, and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 31: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

6. *The Reappointment of Christine M. DiBiase to the Narragansett Bay Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2026.*

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Senator Sosnowski moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

The advice and consent of the Senate is given, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 35 members voting in the affirmative, and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 35: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

7. *The Reappointment of Michelle R. DeRoche to the Narragansett Bay Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2027.*

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Senator Sosnowski moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Felag, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

The advice and consent of the Senate is given, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 34 members voting in the affirmative, and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 34: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

8. *The Reappointment of Leonard L. Lopes to the Narragansett Bay Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2026.*

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Senator Sosnowski moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Felag, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, and Zurier.

Senators Bell and DiPalma discuss on the appointment.

The advice and consent of the Senate is given, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 33 members voting in the affirmative, and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 33: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, and Zurier.

NAYS – 1: Senator Bell.

9. *The Reappointment of Jina N. Petrarca, Esq. to the Narragansett Bay Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2026.*

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Senator Sosnowski moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by Senators

The advice and consent of the Senate is given, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 35 members voting in the affirmative, and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 35: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, Dimitri, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Gu, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Ujifusa, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

NAYS – 1: Senator Bell.

10. 2025-H 5035

BY Kazarian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage in concurrence.

Senator Britto moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 33 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS – 33: Senators Acosta, Appollonio, Bell, Bissaillon, Britto, Burke, Ciccone, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, Lawson, Mack, McKenney, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Patalano, Pearson, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Sosnowski, Thompson, Tikoian, Urso, Valverde, and Zurier.

NAYS – 0:

TRANSMITTAL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Tikoian announces that the Senate Annual Training will be held on Thursday, March 6th at the rise of the senate.

Senator Britto announces that the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture will meet tomorrow at 4:00 pm in the senate lounge.

Senator Murray announces that the Senate Committee on Education will meet tomorrow at 4:00 pm in Room 313.

Senator Felag announces that the Senate Committee on Finance will meet today at the rise of the senate in Room 211.

Senator Lauria announces that the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services will meet today at the rise of the senate in the Senate Lounge.

Senator Raptakis announces that the Senate Committee on Special Legislation will meet tomorrow at 4:30pm in Room 211.

RECESS

Upon the Motion of Senate Majority Whip Tikoian, seconded by Senate Majority Leader Lawson, and upon suggestion of Senator Kallman the Senate stands in Recess at 4:59 o'clock P.M. *in memory of Dr. Joseph J. Box.*

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT**

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

The Appointment of Deborah J. Goddard as the Secretary of Housing

Placed on the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 57

BY Rogers, Ciccone, LaMountain, DiPalma, Tikoian, Burke, Pearson, McKenney, de la Cruz, Paolino

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

{LC393/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 199**BY** Lauria**ENTITLED**, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF BARRINGTON (Validates and ratifies the amendments to the Barrington Home Rule Charter which were approved by the electors of the town of Barrington on November 5, 2024.)

{LC1103/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 201**BY** Felag, DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF TIVERTON (Validates and ratifies the amendments to the Tiverton Home Rule Charter which were approved by the electors of the town of Tiverton on November 5, 2024.)

{LC1045/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 351**BY** DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Allows the town of Middletown to adopt a tax classification plan for residential real estate which divides the class into non-owner and owner-occupied properties with separate tax rates.)

{LC603/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Chairman DiPalma, from the Committee on Finance, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

Senate Bill No. 242**BY** McKenney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- WARWICK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUDGET COMMISSION (Creates the Warwick public schools budget commission consisting of 5 members to oversee the operations of Warwick public schools and to present a preliminary analysis of the school district's financial situation.)

{LC955/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 422**BY** DiMario

ENTITLED, AN ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS SECTION 16-7-44 APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF \$10,400,000 BONDS BY THE TOWN OF NEW SHOREHAM TO FINANCE ADDITIONS, RENOVATIONS, IMPROVEMENTS, ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS TO SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES IN THE TOWN INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, BONDS AND NOTES ISSUED PURSUANT TO FINANCING AGREEMENTS WITH THE RHODE ISLAND HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION (Serves as the enabling act required by Rhode Island General Laws§ 16-7-44 in order for the principal and interest on bonds issued in support of school housing projects to be eligible for state housing aid reimbursement.)

{LC978/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

Senate Bill No. 443**BY** Sosnowski, Bissaillon

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE KINGSTON WATER DISTRICT -- BONDS (Increases the maximum amount of the Kingston water district bonding authority from four million dollars (\$4,000,000) to fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000).)

{LC2021/1}

Placed on the Calendar.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Bill No. 598**

(Division of Public Utilities & Carriers)

BY Patalano, Tikoian, Thompson, Mack, Kallman, Dimitri, Burke, de la Cruz, Britto, Rogers
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DRIVER NATIONAL CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK (Provides a criminal background check procedure for for-hire intrastate passenger transportation services.)

{LC1799/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 599

(Division of Public Utilities & Carriers)

BY Sosnowski, Murray, Britto

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (Increases the public utilities reserve fund cap and the cap on expenses relating to the public utilities commission and the division of public utilities and carriers representing the state before federal agencies.)
{LC1349/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 600

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

BY Sosnowski, Murray, Britto

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- VOLUNTARY RESTRUCTURING OF SOLVENT INSURERS (Makes numerous technical corrections related to insurance, provides a definition for "cybersecurity insurance", and would repeal the chapter relating to reciprocal exchanges and interinsurers.)
{LC1777/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 601

(Division of Public Utilities & Carriers)

BY Britto, McKenney, Sosnowski, Gu, Felag, LaMountain, DiPalma, Bissaillon

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS (Increases the penalties for public utilities for violations of the general law governing the duties of utilities and carriers.)
{LC1351/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 602

(Commerce)

BY Zurier

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COUNCIL (Eliminates one of two (2) conflicting versions of the science and technology advisory council authorizing statute, clarifying the structure of the council.)
{LC2169/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 603

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

BY Britto, McKenney, Sosnowski, Gu, Felag, LaMountain, DiPalma, Bissailon

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- LICENSED

ACTIVITIES (Provides standards for developing, implementing, and maintaining reasonable administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of customer information.)

{LC1327/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 604

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

BY Sosnowski, Murray, Britto

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- RHODE ISLAND PROPERTY AND

CASUALTY INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION (Provides a framework through which the department of business regulation can seek grants to fund a home hardening program.)

{LC1778/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 605

(RI Energy Resources)

BY Sosnowski, Murray, Britto

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF

UTILITIES AND CARRIERS (Provides that the renewable energy fund remains in existence until December 31, 2033, to align with the mandate that 100% of Rhode Island's electricity demand is from renewable energy and also complies with federal grant requirements.)

{LC1353/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

Senate Bill No. 606

(Dept. of Health)

BY Zurier

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- VITAL RECORDS

(Provides that public historical vital records maintained by the state archives shall not be amended.)

{LC1416/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 607

(Dept. of Health)

BY DiMario, Urso, Murray, Ujjifusa, Valverde, Appollonio, Thompson, Lauria**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- NURSES

(Makes a series of amendments to several statutes regarding businesses and professions to provide clarity or align with new federal requirements.)

{LC1414/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 608

(Dept. of Health)

BY Tikoian, DiPalma, Lawson, Felag, Murray, LaMountain, Ciccone, Appollonio, Thompson, Rogers**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- DENTISTS AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS (Standardizes successor appointment language for various boards and adds language providing that a quorum be a majority of appointed members and the language applies across several healthcare professional boards that currently lack this language.)

{LC1762/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 609

(EOHHS)

BY Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- DENTISTS AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS (Permits reimbursement for dental hygienist's from "other insurance" or a third-party payor such as Medicare.)

{LC1361/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 610

(Dept. of Business Regulation/OHIC)

BY Lawson, Tikoian, Murray, Lauria, Britto, Burke, Bissaillon, Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE POLICIES (Adds several consumer protections to existing Medicare Supplement law.)

{LC1359/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

Senate Bill No. 611

(Housing)

BY Bissaillon, DiMario, Gu, Murray**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING (Clarifies roles and regulatory authority for the administration of the program involving the repurposing of vacant schools for housing.)

{LC1355/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 612

(Housing)

BY Bissaillon, DiMario, Gu, Murray**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING (Ensures that the Rhode Island department of housing is able to access the full calendar year worth of housing choice voucher data for the annual report by moving the report submission deadline back to align with availability of federal data.)

{LC1357/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

Senate Bill No. 613

(Commerce)

BY Urso, Britto, Ciccone, McKenney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- RHODE ISLAND NEW QUALIFIED JOBS INCENTIVE ACT 2015 (Provides that businesses awarded tax credits, under the qualified jobs incentive act, within a specified time period are able to submit certain required documentation by December 31, 2025.)

{LC2168/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 614

(Dept. of Revenue)

BY Britto, McKenney, Sosnowski, Gu, Felag, LaMountain, DiPalma, Bissaillon**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- TAXATION OF BEVERAGES (Provides technical and other corrections to various general laws relating to taxation.)

{LC1321/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 615

(Dept. of Corrections)

BY LaMountain**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM--CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS (Includes the deputy chief of inspection and inspector within the provision of law related to retirement on service allowance relating to correctional officers.)

{LC1367/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 616

(Dept. of Administration)

BY Zurier**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- STATE PURCHASES (Defines public-private partnerships and provide the framework to encourage the use of public-private partnerships for proposals for state purchases.)

{LC2123/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

Senate Bill No. 617

(State Police)

BY LaMountain**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- SEARCH WARRANTS (Dictates the length a search warrant involving a tracking device would be valid and provide a process to extend the time frame of the tracking device for good cause.)

{LC1369/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 618

(Dept. of Corrections)

BY Mack, Acosta, Zurier, Ujifusa, Euer, McKenney, LaMountain, Bissaillon, Dimitri**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- VITAL RECORDS

(Provides an exemption for certain incarcerated persons from the payment of fees for a first request for vital statistics from the department of health.)

{LC1366/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 619

(DCYF)

BY Patalano, Thompson, Appollonio, LaMountain, Lawson, Tikoian, Burke, Britto, Urso, Raptakis**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- JAILS AND PRISONS (Prohibits individuals from conveying items to or from the training school for youth without prior consent by the executive director of the division of youth development at the department of children, youth and families.)

{LC1362/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 620

(Dept. of Revenue)

BY Felag, LaMountain, Raptakis, Lauria, Thompson, Ciccone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- REGULATION OF SALES (Prohibits the holding of multiple drivers licenses or identification cards and would change the term "re-constructed salvage" to "rebuilt salvage" for purposes of the Rhode Island salvage law.)

{LC1322/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 621

(Dept. of BHDDH)

BY DiMario, Urso, Murray, Lauria, Ujifusa, Valverde, Appollonio, Thompson**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.)

{LC1363/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

Senate Bill No. 622

(Dept. of Labor and Training)

BY Burke, Tikoian, Appollonio, Raptakis**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS --

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY --GENERAL PROVISIONS (Eliminates the "until June 30, 2025" sunset on the increase in the total amount of earnings a partial-unemployment insurance claimant can receive before being entirely disqualified for unemployment insurance benefits.)

{LC1365/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor and Gaming.

Senate Bill No. 623

(State Police)

BY Ciccone, Burke, Appollonio, Felag, Thompson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- CASINO

GAMING (Amends the law relating to casino crimes to be consistent with the advent of iGaming and the relevant age restrictions to participate in iGaming.)

{LC1368/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor and Gaming.

Senate Bill No. 624

(Dept. of Revenue)

BY DiPalma, Ciccone, Tikoian**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OPERATORS'

AND CHAUFFEURS' LICENSES (Implements a thirty (30) day waiting period following the issuance of a learners permit and the waiting period must expire before the person is permitted to take the road test in order to obtain a full license.)

{LC1320/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 625

(Veterans Services)

BY Felag, LaMountain, Raptakis, Lauria, Thompson, Ciccone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- RHODE

ISLAND VETERANS' HOME (Adds "space force" to the branches of the military included in various sections of general law regarding the veterans home, veterans cemetery and the power of armed forces officers to take acknowledgements.)

{LC1323/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 626

(CRMC)

BY Gu, Kallman, McKenney, Urso, DiMario, Britto, Sosnowski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (Requires municipalities to maintain and update a list of CRMC designated rights-of-way to tidal areas in their municipality.)

{LC1772/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

CALL TO ORDER

The Senate meets pursuant to recess and is called to order by the Honorable Hanna M. Gallo, Senate President Pro Tempore, on Thursday, March 06th at 4:10 o'clock P.M

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Senator Lawson, seconded by Senator de la Cruz, and the Senate adjourns at 4:11 o'clock P.M.

HELENA S. REID
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix

INVOCATION

SENATOR LOUIS P. DIPALMA

Dear God, we ask you today to grant us the strength and confidence to make the decisions that will be of the greatest benefit to our citizens. We are eternally grateful to have the opportunity to serve the people of our state, and therefore, serve you. Amen.

Appendix

TRANSMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR ON TUESDAY, MARCH 04, 2025

House Bill No. 5035

BY Kazarian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Ryan Kenny and Brenna Sorkin to join Simran Bhajan Nebhnani and Louis Charles Miyara in marriage on April 26, 2025, within the City of Newport, Rhode Island.)
{LC38/1}

Transmitted to the Governor.

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 06, 2025:

1. *The Appointment of Deborah J. Goddard as the Secretary of Housing*

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Appendix
CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025:

- 1. 2025-S 57**
BY Rogers
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- SIDEWALKS

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.
- 2. 2025-S 199**
BY Lauria
ENTITLED, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF BARRINGTON

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.
- 3. 2025-S 201**
BY Felag
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF TIVERTON

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.
- 4. 2025-S 351**
BY DiPalma
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Appendix
CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025:

1. **2025-S 242**
BY McKenney
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- WARWICK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUDGET COMMISSION

Committee on Finance recommends passage.

2. **2025-S 422**
BY DiMario
ENTITLED, AN ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS SECTION 16-7-44 APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF \$10,400,000 BONDS BY THE TOWN OF NEW SHOREHAM TO FINANCE ADDITIONS, RENOVATIONS, IMPROVEMENTS, ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS TO SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES IN THE TOWN INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, BONDS AND NOTES ISSUED PURSUANT TO FINANCING AGREEMENTS WITH THE RHODE ISLAND HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION

Committee on Finance recommends passage.

3. **2025-S 443**
BY Sosnowski
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE KINGSTON WATER DISTRICT -- BONDS

Committee on Finance recommends passage.