

# State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

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# Journal of the Senate

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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 second day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Eighteen.

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Volume 145, No.21

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Twenty First Legislative Day

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The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio, President of the Senate, at 4:23 o'clock P.M.

## ROLL CALL

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 35 Senators present and 1 Senator absent as follows:

**PRESENT – 35:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Algiere, Archambault, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goldin, Goodwin, Jabour, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski.

**ABSENT – 1:** Senator Calkin.

## INVOCATION

The Honorable President, by unanimous consent, presents Senator Quezada, to deliver the invocation.

(See Appendix for Invocation)

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

**GUESTS**

Upon the suggestion of Senators Quezada and Metts, and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President welcome to the Chamber Belky Pena, Ecelia Garcia, Mercedes Lopez, Luz Caraballo, Charol Perez, Jose Aleman, Kathy Quero, Shania Pequero, Yarlis Rivas, Leonis Teveras, Melani Tavez, and Liliana Ramos.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Honorable President presents the following communications:



**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
STATE HOUSE**

February 27, 2018

The Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio  
President of the Senate  
State House, Room 318  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear President Ruggerio:

Please be advised and let the record reflect that due to illness I will be absent from the chamber on Tuesday, February 27, 2018.

I would appreciate your recording my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jeanine Calkin  
Senator District 30  
Warwick

Read and placed on file.



**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
STATE HOUSE**

February 27, 2018

Mr. Robert L. Ricci  
Secretary of the Senate  
State House, Room 145  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mr. Ricci:

As prime sponsor, pursuant to Senate Rules, I respectfully request the withdrawal of Senate Bill S2370 entitled, an act relating to Taxation – Public Service Corporation Tax. This bill has been assigned to the Senate Finance Committee and no hearings have been scheduled.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Archambault  
Senator, District 22

SRA/moj

cc: Senator William J. Conley, Jr.  
Kristen Silvia

Read and placed on file.

**SENATOR NICHOLAS KETTLE**

February 22, 2018

Rhode Island State Senate  
Senate Chamber  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, Rhode Island

Members of the Senate,

After taking several days to speak with my legal counsel and family members, I have determined that it is in my best interest to resign and concentrate on the unfounded allegations against me. I want to thank the constituents from District #21 for the privilege of serving them as their Senator for the last seven years.

I am grateful for the many individuals who have continued to support me during these difficult times as it is clear that they understand that I am innocent until proven guilty. However, I am extremely disappointed in Senate Leadership on both sides of the aisle because Mr. Algieri and Mr. Ruggerio do not appear to understand the importance of due process as a cornerstone of our legal system.

Senator Nicholas Kettle

Read and placed on file.

**NEW BUSINESS****Senate Resolution No. 2491****BY** Quezada, DiPalma, Crowley**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 174TH ANNIVERSARY OF DOMINICAN REPUBLIC INDEPENDENCE ON FEBRUARY 27, 2018

{LC5025/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Morgan requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Quezada moves passage, seconded by Senators Algiere, Archambault, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Coyne, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goldin, Goodwin, Jabour, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Raptakis, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski.

The resolution is read and passed, upon a voice vote.

**Senate Bill No. 2492****BY** Goodwin, Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Euer, DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--COURTS -- EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDERS -- CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (Persons subject to extreme risk protection orders for being an imminent danger of causing personal injury shall surrender all firearms while subject to the order.)

{LC5022/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 2493****BY** Miller, Goodwin, Lynch Prata, Coyne, Conley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS (Restricts possession and sale of new assault weapons. Limits magazine capacity to 10 rounds or less. Grandfathers current possession/ownership.)

{LC4989/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEE  
TRANSFER OF BILLS**

Senator Fogarty, In accordance with Senate Rule 6.14, moves to transfer the following bill from the Committee on Labor to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

**Senate Bill No. 2248**

**BY** Quezada, Nesselbush, Calkin, Metts, Crowley

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE (Prohibits a physician or agent thereof from informing a patient of their life expectancy unless asked. No physician or facility or any agent thereof shall be liable for not communicating this information.)

Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

**SPECIAL PERFORMANCE**

Senator Quezada introduces her guests to perform a Dominican dance.

**TRANSMITTAL**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Senator Raptakis announces that the Committee on Special legislation and Veterans Affairs will meet tomorrow at the rise of the Senate in Room 310 of the State House.

Senator Cote announces that the Committee on Commerce will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Room 212 of the State House.

Senator Archambault announces that the Committee on Judiciary will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Room 313 of the State House.

Senator Metts announces that the Committee on Education will meet tomorrow at the rise of the Senate in Room 313 of the State House.

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

Senator Coyne announces that the Committee on Environment and Agriculture will meet tomorrow at the rise of the Senate in the Senate Lounge of the State House.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion of Senator Goodwin, seconded by Senator Algieri, the Senate adjourns at 4:44 o'clock P.M.

***ROBERT L. RICCI***  
*Secretary of the Senate*

**Appendix**

**INVOCATION**

**SENATOR ANA B. QUEZADA**

Almighty God, as we return to this chamber, we ask that you fit us for today's work and for the work in days ahead. Amen.