

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

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 first day of January in the year of Our Lord two thousand and nineteen.

Volume 146, No. 59

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Fifty-ninth Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence, Wednesday, June 5, 2019 and is called to order at 4:20 o'clock P.M., by the Honorable Nicholas A. Mattiello, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 72 members present and 3 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 72: The Honorable Speaker Mattiello and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Almeida, Alzate, Azzinaro, Barros, Bennett, Blazejewski, Caldwell, Canario, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cassar, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Filippi, Fogarty, Handy, Hawkins, Hull, Jackson, Jacquard, Johnston, Kazarian, Kennedy, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Lyle, Maldonado, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McLaughlin, McNamara, Mendez, Messier, Millea, Morin, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Price, Quattrocchi, Ranglin-Vassell, Roberts, Ruggiero, Serodio, Serpa, Shanley, Shekarchi, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Tanzi, Tobon, Ucci, Vella-Wilkinson, Walsh, Williams.

ABSENT – 3: Representatives Amore, Kislak, McKiernan.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Representative Millea who delivers the Invocation and leads the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

(For Invocation, see Appendix, this Journal.)

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Honorable Speaker Mattiello presents Olivia Picard who will sing the National Anthem.

APPROVAL OF RECORD

By unanimous consent, the House Journal of Tuesday, June 4, 2019, is approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Dan McKiernan is unable to attend session today, Wednesday, June 5, 2019.

Representative Gregg Amore is unable to attend session today, Wednesday, June 5, 2019.

Representative Rebecca Kislak is unable to attend session today, Wednesday, June 5, 2019.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SENATE

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

Senate Bill No. 138 SUB A as amended

BY Euer, Goldin, Coyne, Crowley, Miller

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- LABORATORIES (Restores provisions of chapter 16.2 of title 23 as well as all of chapter 16.3 of title 23, which were repealed or deleted in the 2015 Budget Act, relating to definitions, licensing, and the operation of medical laboratories.) {LC733/A/1}

06/05/2019 Referred to House H.E.W.

Senate Bill No. 203

BY Miller

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - MUSICAL AND THEATRICAL PRODUCTION TAX CREDITS (Extends the period for musical and theatrical productions to obtain tax credits to July 1, 2024.) {LC1046/1}

06/05/2019 Referred to House Finance

Senate Bill No. 215 SUB A

BY Miller

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - THE HEALING ART OF ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE (Allows individuals otherwise certified to practice acupuncture and Chinese medicine using Chinese medical diagnostic methods.) {LC1123/A/3}

06/05/2019 Referred to House H.E.W.

Senate Bill No. 223

BY Coyne, Lynch Prata, Miller, McCaffrey, Satchell

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ADDRESS ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE (Establishes the Rhode Island program to address Alzheimer's disease and would also create a thirteen (13) member advisory council. This act would also establish a training requirement for medical professionals.) {LC1120/1}

06/05/2019 Referred to House H.E.W.

Senate Bill No. 233**BY** Felag, Algieri, Coyne, Seveney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS (Exempts volunteer fire companies under the supervision, control, or jurisdiction of another public body from certain posting requirements of the open meetings act.) {LC784/1}

06/05/2019 Referred to House Judiciary

Senate Bill No. 253 SUB A**BY** Cano, Goldin, Goodwin, Miller, Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- LOCAL OWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY ACT (Creates a process that provides affected employees an opportunity to purchase the business that employs them, but is in danger of being sold or going out of business.) {LC1349/A/1}

06/05/2019 Referred to House Committee on Small Business

Senate Bill No. 321 SUB A**BY** Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS - DOMESTIC ABUSE PREVENTION (Allows plaintiffs seeking a domestic abuse protective order in family court to include any of their minor children who are not related to the defendant by blood or marriage within the same complaint and restraining order.) {LC1820/A/1}

06/05/2019 Referred to House Judiciary

Senate Bill No. 395 SUB A**BY** Seveney, DiPalma, Coyne, Euer**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS (Enables Rhode Island businesses to voluntarily promulgate standards to guide its business activities in a sustainable and responsible manner, as well as metrics for assessing whether it has met its objectives.) {LC2010/A/1}

06/05/2019 Referred to House Committee on Small Business

Senate Bill No. 397**BY** Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANY SERVICES (Exempt New Shoreham from the jurisdiction of the division of PUC for purposes of regulating transportation network companies, and allows the town to establish its own regulatory framework regarding transportation network company services.) {LC1055/1}

06/05/2019 Referred to House Corporations

Senate Bill No. 606

(Dept. of Corrections)

BY Archambault, Lombardi, McKenney, Coyne, Lynch Prata**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL CODE PROVISIONS (Classifies all vehicles used by the department of corrections in the performance official duties as authorized emergency vehicles.) {LC1410/1}

06/05/2019 Referred to House Corporations

Senate Bill No. 823 as amended**BY** Raptakis, Valverde**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Allows the town of East Greenwich to adopt a flexible tiered tax classification system regardless of whether it is a revaluation or update year and also to provide an exemption to small businesses for tangible personal property taxes.) {LC2451/1}

06/05/2019 Referred to House Municipal Government

Senate Bill No. 846**BY** Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS SECTION 16-7-44 APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF \$160,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE TO FUND THE SCHOOL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 2019-2024 {LC2535/1}

06/05/2019 Referred to House Finance

Senate Bill No. 892**BY** Conley, Lawson, Coyne**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Exempts from taxation the real and tangible personal property of Providence Country Day School, a Rhode Island nonprofit corporation, located in East Providence, Rhode Island.) {LC2620/1}

06/05/2019 Referred to House Finance

Senate Bill No. 893**BY** Lombardo, Archambault**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES -- JOHNSTON (Amends the property tax classification for the town of Johnston to be consistent with state law.) {LC2703/1}

06/05/2019 Referred to House Municipal Government

NEW BUSINESS**House Bill No. 6182****BY** Mattiello, Shekarchi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Casey Doherty to join Christina Yurchak and Justin Byrne in marriage on or about November 2, 2019, within the City of Newport, Rhode Island.) {LC2755/1}

06/05/2019 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

House Bill No. 6183**BY** Donovan, Canario**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Joseph Bains to join Mikaela Esau and Earl Coppa in marriage on or about August 3, 2019, within the Town of Portsmouth, Rhode Island.) {LC2768/1}

06/05/2019 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

House Bill No. 6184

BY Caldwell, Speakman, Mendez, Vella-Wilkinson, Ackerman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES AND RESERVES (Prohibits insurer from denying application/exclude/limit coverage under any life insurance policy based solely on prescription to carry or possess naloxone.) {LC2568/1}

06/05/2019 Introduced, referred to House H.E.W.

House Bill No. 6185

BY Azzinaro, Filippi, Kennedy

ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF WESTERLY TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$71,410,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE TOWN, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF STATE HOUSING AID AT A REIMBURSEMENT RATE OR STATE SHARE RATIO OF NOT LESS THAN 35% FOR EXPENDITURES ELIGIBLE FOR STATE AID AND PROVIDED THAT THE AUTHORIZATION SHALL BE REDUCED BY ANY GRANT RECEIVED FROM THE SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY CAPITAL FUND (Authorizes the town of Westerly to issue general obligation bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness not to exceed \$71,410,000 for school improvements.) {LC2771/1}

06/05/2019 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 6186

BY Millea, McKiernan, Williams, Vella-Wilkinson, Caldwell

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MISCELLANEOUS (Provides no person may use wireless handset/personal wireless device for texting while driving.) {LC2733/1}

06/05/2019 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

By unanimous consent, the House takes up:

GUESTS

Representative Hawkins welcomes to the House as guests in celebration of the **100th Anniversary of A&W Root Beer on June 19th**: Pennie Nero, manager, and Karen Gauthier, employee. Speaker Mattiello also welcomes Pennie to the House.

Representative Fogarty welcomes and congratulates Pennie.

CALENDAR

From the Calendar are taken:

IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2019:

1. 2019-H 5674**BY** Jacquard**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- SERVICE CONTRACTS

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

Chairman Jacquard moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Casey, Johnston, Nardone, and Chippendale.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 72 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 72: The Honorable Speaker Mattiello and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Almeida, Alzate, Azzinaro, Barros, Bennett, Blazejewski, Caldwell, Canario, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cassar, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Filippi, Fogarty, Handy, Hawkins, Hull, Jackson, Jacquard, Johnston, Kazarian, Kennedy, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Lyle, Maldonado, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McLaughlin, McNamara, Mendez, Messier, Millea, Morin, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Price, Quattrocchi, Ranglin-Vassell, Roberts, Ruggiero, Serodio, Serpa, Shanley, Shekarchi, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Tanzi, Tobon, Ucci, Vella-Wilkinson, Walsh, Williams.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

2. 2019-H 5251 SUB A**BY** Corvese**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - ELECTROLYSIS

Committee on Health, Education & Welfare recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

Chairman McNamara moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives McLaughlin, Corvese, Bennett, Johnston, Alzate, Casimiro, Phillips, Vella-Wilkinson, Fogarty, and O'Brien.

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 4 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 68: The Honorable Speaker Mattiello and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Almeida, Alzate, Azzinaro, Barros, Bennett, Blazejewski, Caldwell, Canario, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cassar, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Filippi, Fogarty, Handy, Hawkins, Hull, Jackson, Jacquard, Johnston, Kazarian, Kennedy, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Lyle, Maldonado, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McLaughlin, McNamara, Mendez, Messier, Millea, Morin, Nardone, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Price, Ranglin-Vassell, Ruggiero, Serodio, Serpa, Shanley, Shekarchi, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Tanzi, Tobon, Ucci, Vella-Wilkinson, Walsh, Williams.

NAYS - 4: Representatives Newberry, Place, Quattrocchi, Roberts.

RECUSED - 0:

3. 2019-H 5351

BY Marszalkowski

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO BE KNOWN AS THE "RHODE ISLAND CITY AND TOWN REVALUATION STUDY COMMISSION"

Committee on Municipal Government recommends passage.

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the resolution, seconded by Representatives Casey, Johnston, Blazejewski, Maldonado, McLaughlin, Corvese, Cortvriend, Cassar, Vella-Wilkinson, Bennett, Serodio, Ackerman, and Carson.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 71 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 71: The Honorable Speaker Mattiello and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Almeida, Alzate, Azzinaro, Barros, Bennett, Blazejewski, Caldwell, Canario, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cassar, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Filippi, Fogarty, Handy, Hawkins, Hull, Jackson, Jacquard, Johnston, Kazarian, Kennedy, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Lyle, Maldonado, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McLaughlin, McNamara, Mendez, Messier, Millea, Morin, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Price, Quattrocchi, Ranglin-Vassell, Roberts, Ruggiero, Serodio, Serpa, Shanley, Shekarchi, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Tanzi, Tobon, Ucci, Vella-Wilkinson, Walsh, Williams.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

GUESTS

Representative O'Brien welcomes to the Chamber Olivia Picard who sang the National Anthem today and attends Burrillville Middle School, along with her family: Jonathan Picard, father; Molly Picard, mother; Leo Picard, brother; Marianne Deangelus, great aunt; Tim Kelley, uncle; Kerri Kelley, aunt; Jack Kelley, cousin; Katherine Kelley, cousin; Leo Picard, grandfather; and Karen Picard, grandmother. Speaker Mattiello also welcomes Olivia and her family to the House.

Representative Jackson welcomes to the Chamber in recognition of the "**50th**" **Anniversary of the Thundermist Health Center**-Jeanne LaChance, President and CEO of Thundermist Health Center; Linda Cannistra, Secretary of the Thundermist Health Center Board of Directors and daughter of the organization's founding medical director, Dr. Francesco Cannistra.

NEW BUSINESS**House Resolution No. 6187****BY** Jackson, McNamara, Shekarchi, Filippi, Corvese**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THUNDERMIST HEALTH CENTER ON 50 YEARS OF PROVIDING RHODE ISLANDERS WITH QUALITY SERVICE AND HEALTH CARE {LC2763/1}

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

There is no objection.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Jackson seconded by Representatives Serpa, Leaders Filippi and Shekarchi, Representatives McNamara, Corvese, Tanzi, and Fogarty by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

NOW PRESIDING

At 4:39 o'clock P.M. the Honorable Speaker Mattiello yields the rostrum to the Honorable Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairwoman Williams announces that the Committee on Labor will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 203 of the State House.

Representative Azzinaro announces that the Committee on Veterans Affairs' will meet tomorrow at 3:45 PM in the House Lounge of the State House.

Also Representative Azzinaro announces tomorrow at 10 AM in the State Room will be a ceremony for the 75th Anniversary of D-Day. Representative Azzinaro reveals at the ceremony they will be honoring the survivors.

Vice Chairman Canario announces that the Committee on Health, Education, and Welfare will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 101 of the State House.

Representative Bennett announces the RI Dermatology Society is offering free screenings today in the Library and they honored Representative Ackerman and himself today.

Representative Noret wishes his friend of 25 years, William F. Marcotte, a Happy "70th" Birthday.

Chairman Abney announces that the Committee on Finance will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 35 of the State House.

Leader Shekarchi announces that the RI Dermatology Society honored Representatives Ackerman and Bennett for their legislative achievements to prevent skin cancer. Leader Shekarchi congratulates them both.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

NEW BUSINESS

House Resolution No. 6188

BY Ranglin-Vassell, Shekarchi, Chippendale, Diaz, Williams

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE EDWARD SEAGA, FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF JAMAICA {LC2761/1}

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

There is no objection.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Ranglin-Vassell seconded by Leader Shekarchi, Representatives Chippendale, Diaz, Williams, Alzate, Tobon, Mendez, Barros, Abney, Fogarty, Walsh, Hull, and Tanzi by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

TRANSMITTAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:51 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative McNamara, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of William F. Plumb; on motion of Representatives McLaughlin, and Walsh and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Manfred Vasiliasukas; on motion of Representative Ranglin-Vassell, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Honorable Edward Seaga; seconded by Leaders Shekarchi and Filippi the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Linda M. McElroy
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTOPHER T. MILLEA

Gracious God: You have blessed us all with the great gift of service to our communities. You have created opportunities to serve other people in their needs. Help us to remain faithful to the responsibilities that we have been given. Amen

APPENDIX**CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2019:**

- 1. 2019-H 5457**
BY Kennedy
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.
- 2. 2019-H 5475 SUB A**
BY Shekarchi
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS -- CONTRIBUTION AMONG JOINT TORTFEASORS

Committee on Judiciary recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.
- 3. 2019-S 494 SUB A**
BY Lynch Prata
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS - CONTRIBUTION AMONG JOINT TORTFEASORS

Committee on Judiciary recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.
- 4. 2019-H 5827**
BY Vella-Wilkinson
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RESPONSIBLE RECYCLING, REUSE AND DISPOSAL OF MATTRESSES

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.
- 5. 2019-H 5433**
BY Ackerman
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- SEIZURE OF ANIMALS BEING CRUELLY TREATED

Committee on Health, Education & Welfare recommends passage.

- 6. 2019-H 5958 SUB A**
BY Costantino
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CONSOLIDATION OF THE ALBION AND
SAYLESVILLE FIRE DISTRICTS INTO THE NEW LINCOLN FIRE DISTRICT

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

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Thursday, May 30, 2019
Updated: Tuesday, June 4, 2019