

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

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 First day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Nineteen.

Volume 146, No.13

Tuesday, February 5, 2019

Thirteenth Legislative Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable Harold M. Metts, Senate President Pro Tempore, at 4:11 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, Algieri, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

ABSENT – 2: Senators Crowley and Ruggiero.

INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Coyne and by unanimous consent, The Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber new intern Rees Harold from Roger Williams University.

APPROVAL OF RECORD

The Senate Journal of the Twelfth Legislative Day of the 2019 proceedings is read in part.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore presents the following communication:



February 5, 2019

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

Dear Mr. President:

Please be advised and let the record reflect that due to personal business, I will be absent from the chamber on Tuesday, February 5, 2019.

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

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Elizabeth A. Crowley'.

Senator Elizabeth A. Crowley
Senate District 16

Read and ordered to be placed on file.



February 5, 2019

The Honorable Harold M. Metts
Senate President Pro Tempore
Room 333 State House
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mr. President Pro Tempore:

Please be advised and let the record reflect that I will be absent from the chamber on Tuesday, February 5, 2019.

I would appreciate your recording my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Dominick J. Ruggerio
President of the Senate

Read and ordered to be placed on file.



January 30, 2019

Rhode Island Senate
Senate Chamber
State House
Providence, RI 02903

To the Honorable Senate:

Pursuant to Section 5.1-2 of the Interim Senate Rules, I am making the following appointments as Subcommittee Chairs for the Senate Committee on Finance for the years 2019 and 2020:

Subcommittee on Municipal Finance

Senator Sandra Cano

Subcommittee on Health & Human Services and General Government

Senator Louis P. DiPalma

Subcommittee on Veterans' Affairs

Senator Walter S. Felag, Jr.

Subcommittees on Education, Commerce

Senator Ryan W. Pearson

Subcommittee on Public Safety and Transportation

Senator James A. Seveney

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment, and Energy

Senator V. Susan Sosnowski

Sincerely,

William J. Conley, Jr.
Chairman
Senate Committee on Finance

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Chairwoman Lynch Prata, from the Committee on Judiciary, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measure:

The Appointment of Melissa E. Darigan, Esq. VICE Associate Justice Walter R. Stone as Associate Justice of the Rhode Island Superior Court.

Placed on the Senate Calendar for Wednesday, February 6, 2019.

FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

A message from the House of Representatives transmits with announcement of passage, of the following measure:

House Bill No. 5015

BY Marshall, Casey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- VOTING DISTRICTS AND OFFICIALS (Allows the board of canvassers of the town of Bristol to combine two (2) or more voting districts for the representative district 68 special election in March, 2019.)

{LC319/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Coyne requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Coyne moves passage, seconded by Senators, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Gallo, Seveney, Archambault, Felag, and Lombardi.

The act is read and passed, by unanimous consent, and in concurrence, upon a roll call vote with 36 Senators voting in the affirmative and 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS –36: Senators, Algieri, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

NAYS – 0:

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Resolution No. 244

BY Nesselbush, Lombardi, Satchell, Felag, McKenney

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2019 AS "CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
{LC711/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Nesselbush requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Nesselbush moves passage, seconded by Senators, Lombardi, Sosnowski, Lynch Prata, Goodwin, Miller, Lawson, Satchell, Algiere, Morgan, Bell, Valverde, Coyne, Cano, Goldin, Murray, and Sheehan.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Nesselbush and by unanimous consent, The Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber Dr. Sam Zwetchkenbaum DOH Dental Director and Dental Medicaid Director. Sadie DeCourcy DOH Oral Health Program Manager. Chris Klimecko RI Dental Association Executive Director. Dr. Robert Barto Dental Administrator Dental Board. Pat Quinlan RI Dental Association representative. Devan Quinn RI Kids Count. Marie Jones-Bridges UntitedHealthcare Rite Smiles Community Coordinator. Rachael Sardinha of the RI DOH.

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Resolution No. 245

BY Pearson, Picard, Lynch Prata, Satchell, Nesselbush

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SINCERE CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF DEBRA J. KERN
{LC1284/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Pearson requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Pearson moves passage, seconded by Senators, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Conley, Cano, Archambault, Algieri, Lynch Prata, Sosnowski, Lombardo, Lombardi, Nesselbush, Sheehan, Lawson, and Piccard.

The resolution is read and passed upon a rising vote.

CONSENT CALENDAR

In order for the day is taken up as follows:

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2019:

1. **2019-S 75**
BY DiPalma
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

2. **2019-S 87**
BY Lynch Prata
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Upon motion of Senator McCaffrey, seconded by Senator Algieri, the following measures on today's Consent Calendar, by unanimous consent, are read and passed, upon a roll call vote:

YEAS –33: Senators, Algieri, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Miller, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

NAYS – 0:

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2019:

1. *The Appointment of Melissa DuBose, Esq. VICE Associate Judge Rafael A. Ovalles as Associate Judge of the Rhode Island District Court.*

Committee on Judiciary recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Senator Lynch Prata moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by Senators Lombardi, Felag, McCaffrey, Conley, Gallo, Euer, Goldin, Murray, Bell,

Cano, McKenney, Algiere, Miller, Felag, Sosnowski, Nesselbush, Quezada, Pearson, Piccard, and Lawson.

Senators Nesselbush and Goldin discuss the appointment.

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

YEAS –36: Senators, Algiere, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

NAYS – 0:

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Lynch Prata and by unanimous consent, The Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber Melissa DuBose, Esq.

Upon the suggestion of Senator Goldin and by unanimous consent, The Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber Cameron Harrington, Amy Harrington, Dionne Gomez, Jane Harrington, Bill Harrington, Lisa Galvin, and Heather DuBose.

2. *The Appointment of Christopher Knox Smith, Esq. VICE Associate Judge William C. Clifton as Associate Judge of the Rhode Island District Court.*

Committee on Judiciary recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

Senator Lynch Prata moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by Senators Algiere, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Murray, Nesselbush, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

Senators Archambault and Sheehan discuss the appointment.

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

YEAS –36: Senators, Algiere, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, Sosnowski, and Valverde.

NAYS – 0:

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Lynch Prata and by unanimous consent, The Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber Christopher Knox Smith, Esq.

Upon the suggestion of Senator Miller and by unanimous consent, The Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber Allie Hirsch, Ralph Smith, Adrienne Smith and Collin Geiselman.

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, and to the Honorable House of Representatives forthwith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Lombardi announces that the Committee on Labor will meet tomorrow at the rise of the Senate, in Room 212 of the State House.

Senator Raptakis announces that the Committee on Special Legislation and Veteran's Affairs will meet tomorrow at the rise of the Senate, in Room 313 of the State House.

Senator Felag announces that the Committee on Finance will meet today at the rise of the Senate, in the Lounge of the State House.

GUESTS

Upon the suggestion of Senator Quezada and by unanimous consent, The Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore, welcomes to the Chamber Jennifer Dalton Vincent.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon the Motion of Senator Goodwin seconded by Senator Pearson, and upon the suggestion of Senator Goodwin the Senate adjourns at 4:44 o'clock P.M, in memory of Debra J. Kern.

ROBERT L. RICCI
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix

INVOCATION

SENATOR HANNA M. GALLO

Heavenly Father, we ask you to teach us to give and not count the cost, and to labor and not ask for rewards. Above all, teach us that it is only what we give in love and service to others which endures forever. Amen.

Appendix

TRANSMITTAL TO THE GOVERNOR

House Bill No. 5015

BY Marshall, Casey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- VOTING DISTRICTS AND OFFICIALS (Allows the board of canvassers of the town of Bristol to combine two (2) or more voting districts for the representative district 68 special election in March, 2019.)

{LC319/1}

Transmitted to the Governor.

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2019:

1. *The Appointment of Melissa E. Darigan, Esq. VICE Associate Justice Walter R. Stone as Associate Justice of the Rhode Island Superior Court.*

Committee on Judiciary recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.