

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

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Volume 146, No.41

Thursday, May 2, 2019

Forty First Legislative Day

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The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable Dominick J. Ruggiero, President of the Senate, at 4:09 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:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggiero, and Senators, Algieri, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, 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 Coyne, and Crowley.

## **INVOCATION**

The Honorable President, by unanimous consent, presents Senator Rabbi Sara Mack to deliver the invocation.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

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

**APPROVAL OF RECORD**

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

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

**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Honorable President of the Senate presents the following communications:

**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations****Senate Chamber**

May 16, 2018

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

Dear Mr. President,

Please be advised and let the record reflect that I will be absent from the Chamber today, May 2, 2019, as I will be out of state for a professional obligation.

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

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Cynthia A. Coyne  
Senator, District 32

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations



Senate Chamber

May 3, 2019

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

Dear Mr. President:

Please be advised and let the record reflect that due to illness, I will be absent from the chamber on Thursday, May 2, 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". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Senator Elizabeth A. Crowley  
Senate District 16

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES****COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL LEGISLATION AND VETERAN'S AFFAIRS**

Chairman Felag, from the Committee on Special Legislation and Veteran's Affairs, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

**Senate Bill No. 178**

**BY** Felag, Raptakis, Seveney, Ciccone, DiPalma

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - FEES FOR STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES - VETERANS (Authorizes state higher education institutions to waive application and transcript fees for veterans.)

{LC779/1}

From the Committee on Special Legislation and Veteran's Affairs to the Calendar.

**Senate Bill No. 625 SUB A**

**BY** Picard

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - RHODE ISLAND UNIFORM COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE ACT (Permits applicants for commercial driver's licenses to carry over parts of the required examinations that they passed for a period of two years and require them to retake those portions not passed.)

{LC2094/A/1}

From the Committee on Special Legislation and Veteran's Affairs to the Calendar.

**COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE**

Chairwoman Sosnowski, from the Committee on Environment and Agriculture, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

**Senate Bill No. 405 SUB A**

**BY** Sosnowski, Conley, Coyne, DiPalma, Archambault

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY -- AGRICULTURAL FUNCTIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (Defines the term "farm products" for the purposes of enforcement and regulation of the agricultural functions of the department of environmental management.)

{LC1639/A/1}

From the Committee on Environment and Agriculture to the Calendar.

**NEW BUSINESS****Senate Resolution No. 852****BY** Miller, Goldin, Raptakis, Ruggerio, Lombardi**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING "HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY" ON MAY 2, 2019, AND RECOGNIZING THE 71ST ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL'S ESTABLISHMENT

{LC2377/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Miller requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

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

Senator Bell discusses the amendment.

The resolution is read and passed upon a rising vote.

**GUESTS**

Upon the suggestion of Senator Goldin and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Rabbi Sarah Mack, Rick Glucksman, Lawrence Katz, Nia Cafri, and Aram Garabedian.

Upon the suggestion of Senator Gallo and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Aram Garabedian..

**NEW BUSINESS****Senate Resolution No. 853****BY** de la Cruz, Metts, Ruggerio, DiPalma, Seveney**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY 2, 2019, AS "NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

{LC2539/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator de la Cruz requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator de la Cruz moves passage, Senators, Algieri, Archambault, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, McKenney, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Nesselbush, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Satchell, Seveney, Sheehan, and Sosnowski.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

**Senate Resolution No. 854****BY** Sosnowski, Ruggerio, Paolino, Pearson, Lombardi**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 4, 2019, TO BE "GREEN UP DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

{LC2483/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Sosnowski requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Sosnowski moves passage, Senators, Algieri, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, 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, and Valverde.

The resolution is read and passed upon a voice vote.

**Senate Bill No. 855****BY** McCaffrey, Lynch Prata, McKenney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AERONAUTICS -- RHODE ISLAND T.F. GREEN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (Renames the state airport in Warwick from "T.F. Green state airport" to "Rhode Island T.F. Green International Airport.")

{LC2442/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

In order for the day is taken up as follows:

**IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019:****1. 2019-S 811****BY** Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

**2. 2019-S 813****BY** Ciccone**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 –36:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggiero, and Senators, Algieri, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, 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:**

## CALENDAR

In order for the day is taken up as follows:

**IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019:**

1. **2019-S 151**  
**BY** Felag  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Felag moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Lombardi, Sosnowski, Nesselbush, McCaffrey, Gallo, Lawson, Morgan, McKenney, Rogers, Bell, Murray, and DiPalma.

The act is read and passed, on a roll call vote, with 36 Senators voting in the affirmative, and 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS –36:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggiero, and Senators, Algieri, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, 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:**

2. **2019-S 313**  
**BY** Crowley  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Nesselbush moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Lombardi, Goodwin, Felag, Quezada, Archambault, and DiPalma.

The act is read and passed, on a roll call vote, with 36 Senators voting in the affirmative, and 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS –36:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggiero, and Senators, Algieri, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, 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:**

**3. 2019-S 452**

**BY** Sosnowski

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --  
HOUSING RESOURCES

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Sosnowski moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Lombardi, Lombardo, Ciccone, Sheehan, Algieri, Archambault, Valverde, and Seveney.

The act is read and passed, on a roll call vote, with 36 Senators voting in the affirmative, and 1 Senator voting in the negative as follows:

Senator Bell discusses the act.

**YEAS –35:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggiero, and Senators, Algieri, Archambault, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, 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 – 1:** Senator Bell.

**4. 2019-S 585**

**BY** Lawson

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS --  
CONTRACTORS' BONDS

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Lawson moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Felag, Nesselbush, Lynch Prata, Lombardi, Lombardo, Quezada, Metts, Cano, and McCaffrey.

The act is read and passed, on a roll call vote, with 36 Senators voting in the affirmative, and 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS –36:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggiero, and Senators, Algieri, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, 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:**

5. **2019-S 586**  
**BY** Lombardo  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Lombardo moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Goodwin, Lynch Prata, Miller, Felag, Ciccone, Lombardi, Nesselbush, Archambault, Seveney, and DiPalma.

The act is read and passed, on a roll call vote, with 36 Senators voting in the affirmative, and 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS –36:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators, Algieri, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, 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:**

6. **2019-S 688**  
**BY** Lombardo  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Lombardo moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Lombardi, Sosnowski, Gallo, Sheehan, Nesselbush, Archambault, and Bell.

The act is read and passed, on a roll call vote, with 36 Senators voting in the affirmative, and 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS –36:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators, Algieri, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, 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:**

7. **2019-S 690**  
**BY** Crowley  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - STATE BUILDING CODE

Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.

Senator Lombardo moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Lombardi, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Archambault, Valverde, and Murray.

The act is read and passed, on a roll call vote, with 31 Senators voting in the affirmative, and 5 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS –31:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, 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.

**NAYS – 5:** Senator Algieri, de la Cruz, Morgan, Paolino, and Rogers.

8. **2019-S 691 SUB A**  
**BY** Lombardi  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - ZONING ORDINANCES

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

Senator Lombardi moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators Lombardo, McCaffrey, Ciccone, Lawson, Satchell, Valverde, and DiPalma.

The bill marked Substitute “A” is read and passed and the original bill indefinitely postponed, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 35 Senators voting in the affirmative and 1 Senator voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS –35:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators, Algieri, Archambault, Bell, Cano, Ciccone, Conley, de la Cruz, DiPalma, Euer, 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 – 1:** Senator Felag.

**GUESTS**

Upon the suggestion of Senator Miller and by Unanimous consent, The Honorable President of the Senate, welcomes to the Chamber Judith Jameson, Alice Eichbaum, Babara Wahlberg, Dr. Al Silverstien, Jorge Gardos, Donna Gardos, Kate Fortey, Grace DeSanti, Paula Oliver, and Marty Cooper.

**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 Metts announces the Special Legislative Committee to evaluate Project sustainability will be held Monday May 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 o'clock P.M, in the Senate Lounge 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 Senate Lounge of the State House.

Senator Cano announces that the Business Delegation of Colombia will meet Monday from 5:00 o'clock to 6:00 o'clock P.M. in the State Room 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 Lombardo announces that the Committee on Housing and Municipal Government will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Room 310 of the State House.

Senator Lombardi announces that the Committee on Labor will meet Tuesday and Wednesday at 3:30 o'clock P.M, in Room 212 of the State House.

Senator Felag announces that the Joint Committee on Finance and Environment and Agriculture will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Room 211 of the State House.

Senator McCaffrey announces that Senators Miller and Goldin received the "Never Again Award" by the Jewish Alliance.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the Motion of Senator Goodwin seconded by Senator Algieri the Senate adjourns at 4:58 o'clock P.M.

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

Appendix

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019:

1. 2019-S 851

BY Rogers

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF COVENTRY

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

**Appendix****CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019:**

- 1. 2019-S 431 SUB A**  
**BY** Ruggerio  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- NON-ERISA COVERED PENSION PLANS

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

- 2. 2019-S 494**  
**BY** Lynch Prata  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS - CONTRIBUTION AMONG JOINT TORTFEASORS

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

- 3. 2019-S 812**  
**BY** Sosnowski  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

**IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2019:**

- 1. 2019-S 178**  
**BY** Felag  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - FEES FOR STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES - VETERANS

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

- 2. 2019-S 625 SUB A**  
**BY** Picard  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - RHODE ISLAND UNIFORM COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE ACT

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

**IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2019:**

**1. 2019-S 405 SUB A**

**BY** Sosnowski

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY --  
AGRICULTURAL FUNCTIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
MANAGEMENT

Committee on Environment & Agriculture recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.