

## State of Rhode Island

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# Journal of the Senate

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**JANUARY SESSION** of the General Assembly begun and held at Rhode Island College in the City of Providence on Tuesday, the Fifth day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty One.

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Volume 148, No. 3

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

Third 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 4:05 o'clock P.M.

### ROLL CALL

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 37 Senators present and 1 Senator absent as follows:

**PRESENT – 37:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggiero, and Senators, Acosta, Algiere, Anderson, Archambault, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Cano, Ciccone, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McCaffrey, Mendes, Miller, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

**ABSENT – 1:** Senator Morgan.

### INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

**APPROVAL OF RECORD**

The Senate Journal of the Second Legislative Day of the 2021 proceedings is read in part.

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

## COMMUNICATIONS

The Honorable President of the Senate presents the following communications:



Mayor of Providence

Jorge O. Elorza

January 5, 2021

Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio, Senate President

Dear Senate President Ruggerio,

It is my honor to recommend the appointment of Edward D. Feldstein to the Rhode Island Convention Center Authority for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

I have known Ed for several years and have worked with him in a number of capacities. I am confident that his proven leadership experience in Rhode Island will be a valuable addition to the Authority.

Additionally, his enthusiasm and dedication to community involvement here in Rhode Island over the years will prove to be just as valuable to the Rhode Island Convention Center Authority.

I respectfully urge that you approve and recommend his appointment.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Elorza".

Jorge O. Elorza  
Mayor

Read and ordered to be placed on file.



Mayor of Providence

Jorge O. Elorza

January 5, 2021

To the Honorable Dominick J. Ruggiero, Senate President:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 42-99-4 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island Convention Center Authority:

**Edward D. Feldstein**

for a term expiring on June 30, 2023.

To this appointment, I respectfully request your advice and consent.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jorge O. Elorza".

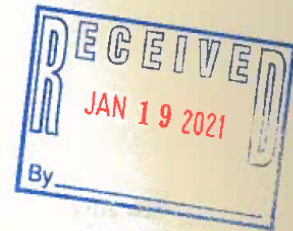
Jorge O. Elorza  
Mayor

Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.



MICHAEL B. FORTE  
CHIEF JUDGE

Family Court of the State of Rhode Island  
One Dorrance Plaza  
Providence, RI 02903



January 19, 2021

The Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio  
Senate President  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street, Room 318  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

***Re: Appointment of Daniel V. Ballirano as  
General Magistrate of the Rhode Island Family Court***

Dear President Ruggerio:

I am pleased to appoint, subject to the advice and consent of the Rhode Island Senate, Daniel V. Ballirano, Esquire as General Magistrate of the Rhode Island Family Court.

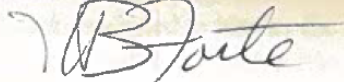
Attorney Ballirano is a graduate of Suffolk University Law School and Rhode Island College. He is a member in good standing of the Rhode Island Bar.

As an attorney he has served the citizens of the state of Rhode Island in both the private sector as well as the public sector. Attorney Ballirano is currently the Acting Deputy Personnel Administrator in charge of labor relations. Additionally, he has served as Chief Legal Counsel for the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals, Legal counsel for the Rhode Island Executive Office of Health & Human Services and the Rhode Island Office of Child Support Enforcement. He was a Special Assistant Attorney General for the Rhode Island Department of Attorney General and has engaged in private practice as a criminal and civil litigator as well as a mediator and arbitrator.

Attorney Ballirano's understanding of the law, experience, temperament and skills well equip him to carry out the responsibilities demanded of a jurist. My appointment of Attorney Ballirano to the position of General Magistrate is without hesitation that he will be an invaluable addition to the Family Court Bench.

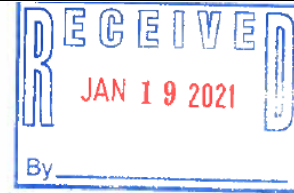
It is with great confidence that I have executed the attached Order selecting him, subject to Senate confirmation.

Very truly yours,



Michael B. Forte

Chief Judge



FAMILY COURT  
ORDER

Pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §8-10-3.2, I hereby appoint, subject to the advice and consent of the Rhode Island Senate,

Daniel V. Ballirano

to the position of General Magistrate of the Rhode Island Family Court.

General Magistrate Ballirano shall have all the duties, powers, privileges and responsibilities described in Rhode Island General Laws §8-10-3.2 and §8-10-3.1 including those powers and duties necessary to fulfill tasks assigned to him by the Chief Judge as may be needed to assist the court in the conduct of business within the jurisdiction the Family Court as set forth in § 8-10-3.

General Magistrate Ballirano has been recommended by the Family Court General Magistrate Selection Committee and has been vetted by the Rhode Island State Police. His extensive service as an attorney in a number of positions with the government of the State of Rhode Island, including, as Deputy Personnel Administrator for the Rhode Island Department of Administration, as Chief Legal Counsel for the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals, as Legal Counsel for the Rhode Island Executive Office of Health & Human Services, as an attorney for the Rhode Island Office of Child Support Enforcement, and as a Special Assistant Attorney General for the Rhode Island Department of Attorney General, as well as his extensive experience as a lawyer in the private sector, has prepared him in a uniquely valuable way to assume the duties and responsibilities of a jurist.

I make this appointment with the strong confidence that General Magistrate Ballirano will be an invaluable addition to the Family Court Bench and a credit to the State of Rhode Island.

Ordered:

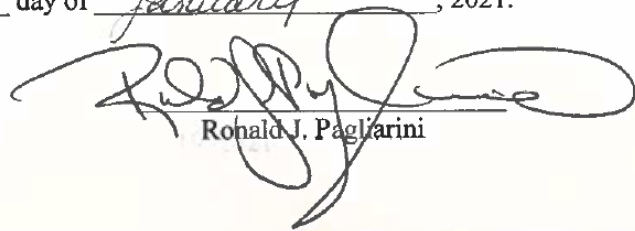
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael B. Forte", written over a horizontal line.

Michael B. Forte  
Chief Judge

Date: 1-19-21

CERTIFICATION

I, Ronald J. Pagliarini, Administrative Clerk and Chief of Staff of the Rhode Island Family Court, hereby certify that I caused this Order to be forwarded to the Honorable Nellie M. Gorbea, Secretary of State of the State of Rhode Island, State House, Room 217, 82 Smith Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903 on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021.



Ronald J. Pagliarini

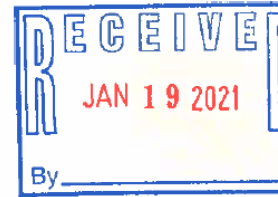
Referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary.





MICHAEL B. FORTE  
CHIEF JUDGE

Family Court of the State of Rhode Island  
One Dorrance Plaza  
Providence, RI 02903



January 19, 2021

The Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio  
Senate President  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street, Room 318  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

***Re: Appointment of Denise Cassisi Finkelman, Esquire, as  
Magistrate of the Rhode Island Family Court***

Dear President Ruggerio:

I am pleased to appoint, subject to the advice and consent of the Rhode Island Senate, Denise Cassisi Finkelman, Esquire, as Magistrate of the Rhode Island Family Court with all the duties and powers enumerated in RIGL §8-10-3.1 and the power to execute arrest and search warrants, take oaths, sign complaint forms and perform such other duties as may be assigned to her by the Chief Judge of the Rhode Island Family Court.

Attorney Cassisi Finkelman has been recommended by the Family Court Magistrate Selection Committee. She is a member in good standing of the Rhode Island Bar since 2007.

She is a graduate of Roger Williams University School of Law School and Quinnipiac University where she received a Bachelor of Science in Accounting. Her accounting skills and experience combined with her commendable legal background equip her with advantageous tools to assist her in the performance of her duties as magistrate of Family Court.

Since 2007, Attorney Cassisi Finkelman has served the citizens of the state of Rhode Island in both the private sector as well as the public sector. In addition to her extensive litigation practice, Attorney Cassisi Finkelman has ably performed as a mediator and guardian *ad*

*litem* for children in Family Court matters. As a former legislative counsel, she has also advised members of the Rhode Island Legislature with regard to proposed legislation.

Attorney Cassisi Finkelman is a member and former officer of the American Inns of Court—Family Law, the Board of Directors of Rhode Island Legal Services and the Rhode Island Women’s Bar Association where she has served both as President and Board Member.

Her understanding of the law, experience, temperament and skills well equip her to carry out the responsibilities demanded of a jurist. My appointment of Attorney Cassisi Finkelman to the position of Magistrate is made with the conviction that she will be an important addition to the Family Court Bench.

It is with confidence that I have executed the Order selecting her as Magistrate subject to senate confirmation.

Very truly yours,



Michael B. Forte

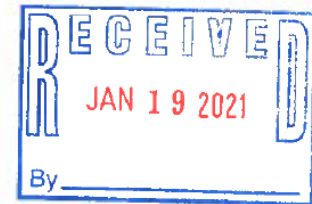
Chief Judge

## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND



## FAMILY COURT

## ORDER



Pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §8-10-3.1, I hereby appoint, subject to the advice and consent of the Rhode Island Senate,

**DENISE CASSISI FINKELMAN**

to the position of Magistrate of the Rhode Island Family Court.

Magistrate Cassisi Finkelman shall have all the duties, powers, privileges and responsibilities described in Rhode Island General Laws §8-10-3.1 including the power to execute arrest and search warrants, take oaths and sign complaint forms and perform such other duties as assigned to her by the Chief Judge as may be needed to assist the court in the conduct of business within the jurisdiction of the Family Court as set forth in § 8-10-3.

Magistrate Cassisi Finkelman has been recommended by the Family Court Magistrate Selection Committee and is a member in good standing of the Rhode Island Bar. Her experience in the field of litigation, her service as a mediator and *guardian ad litem* in Family Court matters as well as legislative counsel to the Rhode Island Legislature along with her accounting skills has prepared her in a uniquely valuable way to assume the duties and responsibilities of a jurist.

I make this appointment with the confidence that Magistrate Cassisi Finkelman will be an important addition to the Family Court Bench and a credit to the State of Rhode Island.

Ordered:

Michael B. Forte  
Chief Judge

Date: 1-19-21

## Certification

I, Ronald J. Pagliarini, Administrative Clerk and Chief of Staff of the Rhode Island Family Court, hereby certify that I caused this Order to be forwarded to the Honorable Nellie M. Gorbea, Secretary of State of the State of Rhode Island, State House, Room 217, 82 Smith Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903 on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021.



Ronald J. Pagliarini

Referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES****COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Chairman Miller, from the Committee on Health and Human Services, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

**Senate Bill No. 3**

**BY** Sosnowski, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Gallo, Felag, Coyne, Lawson, Cano, Acosta, DiPalma **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Prohibits insurance companies from varying the premium rates charged for a health coverage plan based on the gender of the individual policy holder, enrollee, subscriber, or member.)

{LC417/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar for January 26th.

**Senate Bill No. 4 SUB A**

**BY** Miller, Goldin, Valverde, Goodwin, Felag, Coyne, Burke, Cano, Seveney, Lawson, Kallman **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- THE TELEMEDICINE COVERAGE ACT (Amends the provisions of the telemedicine coverage act and provide coverage for telemedicine under Rhode Island Medicaid.)

{LC597/A/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar for January 26th.

**Senate Bill No. 5 SUB A**

**BY** Miller, Pearson, Lawson, Kallman, Lombardo, Mack, DiPalma, Quezada, Euer, Bell  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- INDIVIDUAL HEALTH  
INSURANCE COVERAGE (Requires individual health insurers, large group health insurers and  
small employer health insurers to provide coverage for ten (10) categories of essential health  
benefits listed in the act.)  
{LC360/A/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar for January 26th.

**NEW BUSINESS****Senate Resolution No. 17**

**BY** Miller, Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Gallo, Ciccone, Cano, Lawson, Felag, Quezada  
**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING CONDOLENCES AND  
RECOGNIZING THE 400,000 AMERICANS WHO HAVE PASSED AS A RESULT OF  
COVID-19  
{LC880/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Miller requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Miller moves passage, seconded by The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and  
Senators, Acosta, Algieri, Anderson, Archambault, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Cano, Ciccone, Coyne,  
de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson,  
Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McCaffrey, Mendes, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada,  
Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

The act is read and passed upon a rising vote.

**Senate Resolution No. 18**

**BY** Mack, Felag, Quezada, Lombardo, Cano, Picard, Sosnowski, DiPalma, Murray, Coyne,  
Goldin  
**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE CELEBRATION OF THE  
BIRTH OF THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
{LC629/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Mack requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Mack moves passage, seconded by The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators, Acosta, Algieri, Anderson, Archambault, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Cano, Ciccone, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, McCaffrey, Mendes, Miller, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

The act is read and passed upon a voice vote.

Senators Cano, Quezada, Mendes, and Costa discuss the resolution.

**Senate Resolution No. 19**

**BY** DiPalma, Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Gallo, Lombardi, Lombardo, Felag, Ciccone, Cano

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT-ELECT JOSEPH BIDEN, JR., AND VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT KAMALA HARRIS  
{LC810/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator DiPalma requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator DiPalma moves passage, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Goodwin, Gallo, Cano, Anderson, Lombardo, Lombardi, Mendes, Felag, Pearson, Lawson, Coyne, Ciccone, Seveney, Burke, Miller, Murray, Euer, Sosnowski, and Goldin.

The act is read and passed upon a voice vote.

**Senate Resolution No. 20**

**BY** Lawson, Coyne, Mendes, Algieri, Felag, Ciccone, Cano, Lombardi, Lombardo, Quezada  
**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF STEPHEN P. BRUN  
{LC882/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Lawson requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Lawson moves passage, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Goodwin, Gallo, Coyne, Quezada, Picard, Lombardi, Felag, Lombardo, Ciccone, Bell, Kallman, Euer, and Cano.

The act is read and passed upon a rising vote.

### 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.

### RECESS

Upon the Motion of Senator Goodwin, seconded by Senator Algieri, and upon suggestion of Senator Lawson, the Senate recesses at 4:43 o'clock P.M. in memory of Stephen P. Brun.

### ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

#### **Senate Bill No. 21**

**BY** Cano, Kallman, Euer, Acosta, Valverde, DiPalma, Murray, Quezada  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- RHODE ISLAND FOOD, DRUGS, AND COSMETICS ACT (Limits the amount of fees charged by a third-party food delivery service to fifteen percent (15%).)  
{LC495/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

#### **Senate Bill No. 22**

**BY** Sosnowski  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- NET METERING (Amends the maximum allowable capacity for net metering systems in the Block Island Utility District and Pascoag Utility District.)  
{LC421/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

#### **Senate Bill No. 23**

**BY** Sosnowski  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANY SERVICES - TOWN OF NEW SHOREHAM (Provides New Shoreham has the exclusive authority to prescribe rules and regulations pertaining to the operation, licensing, and regulation of transportation network service companies and their services when TNCs are operating in the town of New Shoreham.)  
{LC420/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

**Senate Bill No. 24****BY** Bell, Murray, Picard, Ciccone, Quezada, Mack**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CORPORATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS, AND PARTNERSHIPS -- RHODE ISLAND BUSINESS CORPORATIONS ACT -- NONPROFIT CORPORATION ACT -- LIMITED-LIABILITY COMPANY ACT (Removes the 10 year period within which time the secretary of state's office is authorized to withdraw a certificate of revocation for all Rhode Island business corporations, foreign corporations, nonprofit corporations and limited liability companies.)

{LC287/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

**Senate Bill No. 25****BY** Seveney, Acosta, Anderson, Calkin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- NONREGULATED POWER PRODUCER CONSUMER BILL OF RIGHTS (Excludes municipal and government bodies that aggregate electrical loads for residential retail customers from the requirement that a new contract is required when there is a change of terms for electric-generation services.)

{LC383/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

**Senate Bill No. 26****BY** Euer, DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (Creates the uniform natural gas leaks classification act which classifies gas leaks into different grades and identifies the steps and procedures to be taken and provides a reporting requirement for a gas company subsequent to a leak.)

{LC626/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

**Senate Bill No. 27****BY** DiPalma, Rogers, Coyne, Paolino, Archambault**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- PERSONAL DELIVERY DEVICES (Establishes rules and regulations concerning the use and registration of personal delivery devices and mobile carrying devices.)

{LC298/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.



**Senate Bill No. 28****BY** Euer, Lawson, Murray, Miller, DiMario, Valverde**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANY SERVICES--WHEELCHAIR LIFT EQUIPMENT VEHICLES (Requires ride sharing services to provide wheelchair lift equipment vehicles as part of their fleet; establishes accessibility program for persons with disabilities in unserved or underserved geographic areas of the state.)

{LC615/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

**Senate Resolution No. 29****BY** DiPalma, Ruggerio, Miller, Ciccone, Euer**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENDORSE THE NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE BANK

{LC491/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

**Senate Bill No. 30****BY** Goldin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- AIR QUALITY IN SCHOOLS (Requires the department of health, in conjunction with the department of environmental management, to conduct indoor and outdoor air quality tests in all public and private schools throughout the state on an annual basis.)

{LC743/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

**Senate Bill No. 31****BY** Seveney, Euer, DiPalma, Miller, Coyne, Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SUICIDE PREVENTION--THE NATHAN BRUNO AND JASON FLATT ACT (Creates the "Nathan Bruno and Jason Flatt Act" which requires training of teachers/students/school personnel regarding suicide awareness and prevention, and the establishment of a conflict resolution process between teachers or school personnel/students.)

{LC368/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

**Senate Bill No. 32****BY** Seveney, Lawson, Cano, Pearson, DiMario, Calkin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- STUDENT PRIVACY ON SCHOOL-OWNED TECHNOLOGY (Establishes certain student privacy rights in regard to take-home technology devices from school.)

{LC498/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

**Senate Bill No. 33****BY** Goldin, DiMario**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- EDUCATION ACCOUTABILITY ACT (Requires that the board of education incorporate additional questions into its annual assessment of schools and related surveys and provide annual reports to the house of representatives and the senate.)

{LC745/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

**Senate Bill No. 34****BY** Miller, Coyne, Cano, Quezada, Murray, Valverde, DiMario, Acosta**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Allows students in public schools to possess and use sunscreen without a physician's note or prescription, if the product is regulated by the FDA for over-the-counter use.)

{LC327/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

**Senate Bill No. 35****BY** Pearson, Euer, Coyne, Anderson, Valverde, Archambault, Kallman, Bell, DiMario, Acosta**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- THE OCEAN STATE CLIMATE ADAPTATION FUND (Establishes the Ocean State Climate Adaptation and Resilience Fund. Enables municipalities and the state to apply for grants to improve public safety and community climate resilience for coastal habitats, as well as river and stream floodplains.)

{LC414/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Environment and Agriculture.

**Senate Bill No. 36**

**BY** Miller, Sosnowski, Quezada, Euer, Valverde, Kallman, Murray, Archambault, Burke, Coyne  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- DISPOSABLE FOOD SERVICE CONTAINERS (Prohibits a covered establishment from preparing, selling, processing or providing food or beverages in or on a disposable food service container that is composed in whole or in part of polystyrene foam.)  
{LC359/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Environment and Agriculture.

**Senate Bill No. 37**

**BY** Ruggerio, Sosnowski, Euer, Coyne, Kallman, McCaffrey  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - PLASTIC WASTE REDUCTION ACT (Creates the "Plastic Waste Reduction Act" designed to reduce the use of plastic bags by retail establishments by offering recyclable bag options and providing penalties for violations.)  
{LC670/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Environment and Agriculture.

**Senate Bill No. 38**

**BY** Sosnowski, Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Coyne, Euer  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- BALLOONS (Prohibits the release of balloons inflated with lighter-than-air gas.)  
{LC423/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Environment and Agriculture.

**Senate Resolution No. 39**

**BY** DiPalma, Sosnowski, Rogers, Euer, Valverde  
**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION PROTECTING AND ENSURING FARMLAND PRESERVATION  
{LC300/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Environment and Agriculture.

**Senate Bill No. 40****BY** Ruggerio, Goodwin, McCaffrey, Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ENABLING THE STATE LOTTERY DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE TO CONTRACT WITH IGT GLOBAL SOLUTIONS CORPORATION AND TWIN RIVER (Enables the state lottery division of the department of revenue to enter into a contract extension with IGT Global Solutions Corporation and contract extensions with Twin River and affiliates of Twin River.)

{LC767/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 41****BY** DiPalma, Seveney, Paolino, Pearson, Murray**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASELOAD ESTIMATING CONFERENCES (Requires the participation and input of the EOHHS, DHS, DCYF and BHDDH in medical assistance and public assistance caseload estimating conferences and the generation of monthly data to the members of the case load estimating conference.)

{LC317/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 42****BY** Seveney, DiPalma, Lombardo, Coyne, Archambault, McCaffrey, Bell, DiMario, Acosta, Anderson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION (Defines light duty, non-emergency and zero emission vehicles and requires the state to convert its fleet of vehicles to no less than fifty percent (50%) of vehicles in those categories by the year 2029.)

{LC370/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 43****BY** DiPalma, Seveney, Murray, de la Cruz, Pearson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION (Requires the contracting department of the department of human services or the department of administration to pilot at least one contract for professional or technical services using automatic verification software to verify hours billed under contract.)

{LC294/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 44****BY** Sosnowski, DiPalma, Seveney, Rogers, Raptakis**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION -- VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER/EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION ENABLING LEGISLATION (Allows municipalities to establish a program providing property tax exemption to active duty individuals who volunteer services as a firefighter or emergency medical technician.)  
{LC419/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 45****BY** Pearson, Cano, Gallo, Murray, Valverde, Archambault, DiMario, Anderson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- STAY INVESTED IN RI WAVEMAKER FELLOWSHIP (Expand the Wavemaker Fellowship Program to include public school teachers in the high-need fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.)  
{LC820/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 46****BY** Bell, Mack, Anderson, Calkin, Mendes**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION (Creates an agreement to limit corporate incentives.)  
{LC286/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 47****BY** Miller, Bell, Murray, Quezada, Cano, DiMario, Acosta, Anderson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- THE HEALING ART OF ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE (Changes title of chapter 37.2 of title 5 and throughout, replacing the words "Oriental medicine" with "Chinese medicine". Allows individuals who are otherwise certified, to practice acupuncture & Chinese medicine using Chinese medical diagnostic methods.)  
{LC354/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

**Senate Bill No. 48**

**BY** Miller, Seveney, Coyne, Quezada, Bell, Murray, Valverde, Archambault, Burke, Cano  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOODS AND DRUGS -- THE UNIFORM  
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT (Expands drug awareness programs to high schools,  
directs funding from certain civil fines and mandates establishment of criteria for funding.)  
{LC325/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

**Senate Resolution No. 49**

**BY** Bell, Mack, Anderson, Calkin, Valverde  
**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE RHODE  
ISLAND STATE AUDITOR GENERAL TO CONDUCT OR OVERSEE A STUDY OR  
AUDIT ON THE PRIVATIZATION OF RHODE ISLAND'S MEDICAID PROGRAMS  
LC486/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

**Senate Bill No. 50**

**BY** Euer  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENT TO THE  
CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF JAMESTOWN (This act would ratify the town of Jamestown  
Home Rule Charter amendment to Section 219 of the charter adopted at a November 3, 2020  
referendum, concerning the process and procedures by which voter initiative can be activated.)  
{LC665/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

**Senate Bill No. 51**

**BY** DiPalma  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SIZE, WEIGHT  
AND LOAD LIMITS -- MIDDLETOWN (Prohibits the operation of through commercial  
vehicles on Turner Road in Middletown.)  
{LC396/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

**Senate Bill No. 52****BY** Rogers, Raptakis**ENTITLED**, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF COVENTRY (Validates and ratify amendments to the Home Rule Charter of the town of Coventry, which amendments were adopted and approved by the electors of the town of Coventry on November 3, 2020.)

{LC248/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

**Senate Bill No. 53**

(by request)

**BY** Algieri**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF WESTERLY TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000,000 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 IN THE TOWN

{LC663/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

**Senate Bill No. 54****BY** Acosta, Quezada, Anderson, Calkin, Cano, Kallman, Mack**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - COURTS - FAMILY COURT (Family Court to hear abuse allegations for immigrants up to 21 years of age.)

{LC812/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 55****BY** Ruggerio, Miller, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Euer**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HOSPITAL WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PROTECTION ACT (Establishes procedures for employees to file complaints with hospital or director of department of health, for assaultive behavior or other violation of law occurring on hospital grounds and require hospitals to institute safety training for employees.)

{LC673/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 56****BY** DiPalma, Ruggerio, McCaffrey, de la Cruz, Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - PRESERVATION OF FAMILIES WITH DISABLED PARENT ACT (Precludes a parent's disability from serving as the sole basis for the state to institute an investigation of the disabled parent's family.)

{LC314/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 57****BY** McCaffrey, Raptakis, DiPalma, Gallo, Goodwin**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL STATE OFFICES (Requires a special election to fill a vacancy in the office of secretary of state, attorney general or general treasurer if more than one year is left in the term of office.)

{LC791/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 58****BY** Seveney, DiPalma, Lombardo, Sosnowski, Archambault, Acosta, Anderson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES (Imposes a two hundred fifty dollar (\$250) substance abuse education assessment for any conviction of driving under the influence or a violation for refusal to submit to a breathalyzer.)

{LC366/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 59****BY** Ruggerio, Coyne, Seveney, DiPalma, Burke**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - STATEWIDE PUBLIC SAFETY COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (Establishes a statewide public safety computer aided dispatch records management system.)

{LC672/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.



**Senate Bill No. 60****BY** Goldin, Valverde, DiMario, Cano, Murray**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - RHODE ISLAND CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES REPORTING (Permits campaign funds to be used to pay all childcare expenses that are incurred as a direct result of campaign activity.)

{LC755/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 61****BY** Picard**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- INSURERS' REHABILITATION AND LIQUIDATION ACT -- INSURANCE RECEIVERSHIP MODEL ACT (Adopts a portion of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) model act with respect to receiverships, specifically with regards to how derivative contracts are treated in cases of insurance receiverships.)

{LC443/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 62****BY** Goldin, Valverde, DiMario, Mendes, Miller**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- CONFIDENTIALITY OF HEALTH CARE COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ACT (Requires health insurers to accommodate the request for communication in the form and format requested by the insured.)

{LC744/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

**Senate Bill No. 63****BY** Gallo, Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Pearson**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - DEPARTMENTS OF STATE GOVERNMENT (Requires that the secretary of EOHHS, the secretary of commerce of the commerce corporation and the commissioners of elementary and secondary education and postsecondary education be appointed subject to the approval of the senate.)

{LC671/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 64****BY** Seveney, Sosnowski, Coyne, DiPalma, Euer**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - AUTOMATED TRAFFIC SPEED ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM (Authorizes the use of automated traffic-speed camera-enforcement systems on all state and local roads within the state, not just in school zones)

{LC591/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 65****BY** Miller, Coyne, Quezada, Archambault, Bell, Murray, Valverde, DiMario, Acosta**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS - UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT - OFFENSES AND PENALTIES (Excludes the possession of buprenorphine from those controlled substances that can result in criminal penalties.)

{LC356/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 66****BY** Cano, Quezada, Pearson, Lawson, Gallo, Kallman, Acosta, DiPalma, Murray**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - RHODE ISLAND EARLY EDUCATOR INVESTMENT ACT (Requires the children's cabinet, in conjunction with the department of education, to develop and implement strategies to improve the compensation of early educators.)

{LC769/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

**Senate Bill No. 67****BY** Seveney, Sosnowski, Coyne, Archambault, Murray, McCaffrey, Bell, DiMario, Burke, Mack**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- STATE EMBLEMS (This act would designate "Northern Star Coral" as the official state coral.)

{LC381/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

**Senate Bill No. 68****BY** Sosnowski, Algieri, Valverde**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- HOLLEY LANDING (Renames the landing in South Kingstown known as Wordens Pond Landing to Holley Landing.)

{LC418/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

**Senate Bill No. 69****BY** Pearson, Seveney, Murray, Acosta, Bell, Coyne, DiMario, Valverde**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- WINE DIRECT SHIPPER LICENSE (Creates a wine direct license for licensed producers to directly ship limited wine to residents of RI over the age of twenty one (21).)

{LC827/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

**Senate Bill No. 70****BY** DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF MIGRANT, LLC

{LC434/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

**Senate Resolution No. 71****BY** Archambault**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF DEACON ANTHONY E. MUSCATELLI

{LC490/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

**Senate Resolution No. 72****BY** Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL SENATE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE EFFECT AND PROCEDURES FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE RHODE ISLAND COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (CRMC) (Extends the reporting and expiration dates for the commission to study the effect and procedures for the reorganization of the CRMC from June 9, 2020, to June 1, 2022, and would expire on January 3, 2023.)

{LC424/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

**Senate Bill No. 73**

(Attorney General)

**BY** Ruggerio, Coyne, Goodwin, Gallo, Pearson, Euer, DiPalma**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - THE HAROLD M. METTS SCHOOL SAFETY ACT OF 2021 (Prohibits possession of firearms on school grounds except

for peace officers, retired law enforcement officers, persons under contract to provide school security services, and unloaded firearms in locked containers or a locked rack on motor vehicles.)

{LC259/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 74**

**BY** Goodwin, Ruggerio

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows David Raymond Thibodeau, Jr., to join Staci Rae McCabe and Brendan Edward Curran in marriage on or about June 5, 2021, within the City of Newport, Rhode Island.)

{LC640/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Senate meets pursuant to recess and is called to order by the Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio, President of the Senate, on Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:08 o'clock P.M.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the Motion of Senator Goodwin, seconded by Senator de la Cruz, the Senate adjourns at 4:09 o'clock P.M.

*John E. Fleming, Jr.*  
*Secretary of the Senate*

Appendix

INVOCATION

**SENATOR STEPHEN R. ARCHAMBAULT**

Almighty God, help us through the stresses and strains of the day by granting us your serenity and peace. Guide us through this Covid pandemic. Amen.

Appendix

CONSENT CALENDAR

**IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2021 in Sapinsley Hall at Rhode Island College**

- 1. 2021-S 70**  
**BY DiPalma**  
**ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF MIGRANT, LLC**

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

- 2. 2021-S 71**  
**BY Archambault**  
**ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF DEACON ANTHONY E. MUSCATELLI**

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

- 3. 2021-S 72**  
**BY Sosnowski**  
**ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL SENATE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE EFFECT AND PROCEDURES FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE RHODE ISLAND COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (CRMC)**

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

*John E. Fleming, Jr.*  
*Secretary of the Senate*

## Appendix

## CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2021 in Sapinsley Hall at Rhode Island College

1. **2021-S 3**  
**BY** Sosnowski  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS  
INSURANCE POLICIES

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

2. **2021-S 4 SUB A**  
**BY** Miller  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- THE TELEMEDICINE  
COVERAGE ACT

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

3. **2021-S 5 SUB A**  
**BY** Miller  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- INDIVIDUAL HEALTH  
INSURANCE COVERAGE

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

*John E. Fleming, Jr.*  
*Secretary of the Senate*