

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. 9

Tuesday, March 09, 2021

Ninth 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 4:17 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, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McCaffrey, Mendes, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

**ABSENT – 1:** Senator Ciccone.

## INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

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

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

COMMUNICATION

The Honorable President presents the following communication:

SENATOR  
**RYAN W. PEARSON**  
District 19

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Room 210  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903  
OFFICE: 401-276-5584  
sen-pearson@rilegislature.gov

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

CHAIR  
Committee on Finance

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Committee on  
Education

February 9, 2021

Rhode Island Senate  
Sapinsley Hall  
Rhode Island College  
600 Mount Pleasant Ave.  
Providence, RI 02908

To the Honorable Senate:

Pursuant to Section 5.1-2 of the Interim Senate Rules, I am making the following appointments as Subcommittee Chairs and members\* for the Senate Committee on Finance for the years 2021 and 2022:

**Subcommittee on Human Services and Transportation**  
Senator Louis P. DiPalma, Chair  
Senator Thomas J. Paolino, Member  
Senator Frank A. Ciccone III, Member

**Subcommittee on Revenue, General Government, and Public Safety**  
Senator James A. Seveney, Chair  
Senator Walter S. Felag, Jr., Member  
Senator V. Susan Sosnowski, Member

**Subcommittee on Education and Natural Resources**  
Senator Melissa A. Murray, Chair  
Senator Jonathon Acosta, Member  
Senator Sandra Cano, Member

\*Please note that all Finance Committee members shall serve as *ex officio* members of all subcommittees.

Sincerely,



Ryan W. Pearson  
Chair, Senate Committee on Finance

IN THE SENATE  
Read and Ordered to be  
PLACED ON FILE

MAR 09 2021



Reading Clerk

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES  
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE**

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

**Senate Bill No. 78 SUB A**

**BY** Euer, Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Sosnowski, Coyne, Cano, Murray, Valverde, Kallman

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- 2021 ACT ON CLIMATE (Establishes a statewide greenhouse gas emission reduction mandate.)  
{LC1231/A/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

**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 Resolution No. 109**

**BY** Calkin, Mendes, Anderson, Mack, Bell, Quezada

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING AN IMPROVED "MEDICARE FOR ALL" SINGLE PAYER PROGRAM THAT WOULD PROVIDE UNIVERSAL, COMPREHENSIVE AND AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE  
{LC485/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

**Senate Bill No. 231**

**BY** Goldin, Valverde, DiMario, Bell, Calkin, Miller

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN (Allows pregnant women with an annual family income above the applicable Medicaid income limit to be eligible to purchase health insurance through one of the Medicaid managed care plans.)  
{LC749/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

**FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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

**House Bill No. 5181**

**BY** Azzinaro, Kennedy, Filippi

**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 (Authorizes the Town of Westerly to issue bonds and notes in an amount not exceeding \$2,000,000 to finance the construction, renovation, improvement, alteration, repair, furnishing and equipping of schools and school facilities in the town.)

{LC757/1}

Referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government.

**NEW BUSINESS****Senate Resolution No. 564**

**BY** Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Algieri

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING DANIEL J. MCKEE ON BECOMING THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

{LC2340/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator McCaffrey requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

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

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

**Senate Resolution No. 565**

**BY** Cano, Kallman, Lawson, Quezada, Coyne, DiMario, Goodwin, Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Euer  
**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 8, 2021, AS  
"INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
{LC1996/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Cano requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Cano moves passage, seconded by Senators Acosta, Algiere, Anderson, Archambault, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, Mendes, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

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

**Senate Resolution No. 566**

**BY** Lawson

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING ST. MARY ACADEMY-BAY  
VIEW FOR BEING AWARDED TWO AP COMPUTER SCIENCE FEMALE DIVERSITY  
AWARDS  
{LC2392/1}

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 Acosta, Algiere, Anderson, Archambault, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Kallman, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, Mendes, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

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

**Senate Resolution No. 567**

**BY** Ruggerio, Goodwin, McCaffrey

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE  
PASSING OF BRIAN FEENEY  
{LC2338/1}

Recommended for Immediate Consideration.

Senator Goodwin requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Goodwin moves passage, seconded by Senators Acosta, Algieri, Anderson, Archambault, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, Mendes, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

The senate resolution is read and passed upon a rising vote.

**Senate Bill No. 568**

**BY** Miller, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Ruggerio, Coyne, Felag, Euer, Sosnowski, Pearson, Acosta  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- CANNABIS  
AUTHORIZATION, REGULATION AND TAXATION  
{LC2305/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

In order for the day is taken up as follows:

**IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021 in Sapinsley Hall at Rhode Island College**

- 1. 2021-S 559**  
**BY** Paolino  
**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MARCH 4, 2021, TO BE  
"NATIONAL HOSPITALIST DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

- 2. 2021-S 560**  
**BY** Goodwin  
**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MARCH AS "COLORECTAL  
CANCER AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

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 – 38:** 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, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

**NAYS – 0:**

### CALENDAR

In order for the day is taken up as follows:

#### **IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021 in Sapinsley Hall at Rhode Island College**

**1. *The Appointment of John C. Revens, Jr. VICE Marion S. Gold, Ph.D to the Public Utilities Commission for a term expiring March 1, 2027.***

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

Senator Sosnowski moves that the advice and consent of the Senate be given this appointment, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Goodwin, Gallo, Lombardi, Lombardo, Burke, Rogers, Felag, Murray, Algieri, Euer, Coyne, DiPalma, Lawson, Seveney.

Senators Bell, Anderson, Mendes, Goodwin and McCaffrey discuss the appointment.

The advice and consent of the Senate is given, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote, with 29 members voting in the affirmative, and 9 members voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS-29:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Burke, Cano, Ciccone, Coyne, de la Cruz, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goodwin, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, McCaffrey, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski.

**NAYS – 9:** Senators Acosta, Anderson, Bell, Calkin, Goldin, Kallman, Mack, Mendes, Valverde.

**2. 2021-S 76**

**BY Gallo**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CURRICULUM**

Committee on Education recommends passage.

Senator Gallo moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Miller, Sosnowski, Lombardi, Lawson, Quezada, DiMario, Lombardo, Felag, Rogers, Valverde, Euer, Kallman, DiPalma.

Senator Gallo, seconded by Senators Cano, Goodwin, Sosnowski, Burke, Lombardi, Quezada, Mack, Pearson, Anderson, DiMario, offers the following written motion to amend:

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## FLOOR AMENDMENT

TO

2021 -- S 0076

## AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CURRICULUM

Mr. President:

I hereby move to amend 2021 -- S 0076, entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CURRICULUM", as follows:

1. On page 1, line 16, by deleting the language "2022", and by inserting in place thereof the language "2023".

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Gallo

=====  
LC001054/2  
=====

The motion to amend prevails upon a roll call vote with 37 Senators voting in the affirmative and 0 voting in the negative as follows:

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

**NAYS – 0:**

Senator Gallo moves passage of the act, as amended, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Goodwin.

Senator Cano, Lawson, Acosta, Gallo, Miller discuss the bill.

The act is read and passed, by unanimous consent, as amended, upon a roll call vote, with 38 members voting in the affirmative, 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS – 38:** 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, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

**NAYS – 0:**

**3. 2021-S 285**

**BY** Gallo

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL-TO-CAREER TRANSITION ACT OF 1996

Committee on Education recommends passage.

Senator Gallo moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Goodwin, Pearson, Cano, DiPalma, Valverde, Archambault, Lawson, DiMario.

Senators Bell and Acosta discuss the act.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 30 members voting in the affirmative, 8 members voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS – 30:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Algieri, Anderson, Archambault, Burke, Cano, Ciccone, Coyne, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, McCaffrey, , Miller, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

**NAYS – 8:** Senators Acosta, Bell, Calkin, de la Cruz, Mack, Mendes, Morgan, Rogers.

**4. 2021-S 224**

**BY** Goodwin

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$140,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, LANDSCAPING, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE CITY, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF STATE HOUSING AID AT A REIMBURSEMENT RATE OR STATE SHARE RATIO OF NOT LESS THAN 75% AT THE TIME OF ISSUANCE AND PROVIDED THAT THE AUTHORIZATION SHALL BE REDUCED BY THE AMOUNT OF CERTAIN GRANTS RECEIVED FROM STATE BOND PROCEEDS, FROM THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OR FROM THE RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY

Committee on Finance recommends passage.

Senator Goodwin moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Miller, Sosnowski, Quezada, Gallo, Felag, Bell, DiPalma, Lombardo, Kallman, Pearson, Cano,

DiPalma, Archambault, Lawson, DiMario.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 38 members voting in the affirmative, 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS – 38:** 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, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

**NAYS – 0:**

**5. 2021-S 325**

**BY** Pearson

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF CUMBERLAND TO ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND/OR NOTES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,500,000 TO FINANCE THE DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR AND EQUIPPING OF RECREATIONAL AREAS AND FACILITIES IN THE TOWN

Committee on Finance recommends passage.

Senator Pearson moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Burke, Sosnowski, Quezada, Picard, Bell, Seveney, Anderson, Euer, Mack.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 38 members voting in the affirmative, 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS – 38:** 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, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

**NAYS – 0:**

**6. 2021-S 374**

**BY** Sosnowski

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$85,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, LANDSCAPING, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE TOWN, AND ALL ATTENDANT EXPENSES

INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURAL COSTS, PROVIDED THAT THE AUTHORIZATION SHALL BE REDUCED BY THE AMOUNT OF CERTAIN GRANTS RECEIVED FROM STATE BOND PROCEEDS, FROM THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OR FROM THE RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY

Committee on Finance recommends passage.

Senator Sosnowski moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Goodwin, Felag, Acosta, Burke, Quezada, Picard, Bell, Seveney, Anderson, Euer, Mack, Valverde, Morgan.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 38 members voting in the affirmative, 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS – 38:** 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, Miller, Morgan, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Rogers, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

**NAYS – 0:**

7. **2021-S 196**

**BY** Ciccone

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS --  
DIGNITY AT WORK ACT**

Committee on Labor recommends passage.

Senator Lombardi moves passage of the act, seconded by Senators McCaffrey, Goodwin, Felag, Lombardo, Lawson, Mack, Archambault, Coyne, Euer, Raptakis, Cano, Anderson, Kallman.

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote, with 35 members voting in the affirmative, 3 members voting in the negative as follows:

**YEAS – 35:** The Honorable President Dominick Ruggerio, and Senators Acosta, Algieri, Anderson, Archambault, Bell, Burke, Calkin, Cano, Ciccone, Coyne, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer, Felag, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Kallman, Lawson, Lombardi, Lombardo, Mack, McCaffrey, Mendes, Miller, Murray, Paolino, Pearson, Picard, Quezada, Raptakis, Seveney, Sosnowski, Valverde.

**NAYS – 3:** Senators de la Cruz, Morgan, Rogers.

**TRANSMITTAL**

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

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Felag announces that the Committee on Finance will meet on Thursday, March 11th at 5:00 o'clock P.M. via WebEx.

Senators Kallman and Lombardo announce that the Committee on Housing and Municipal Government will meet tomorrow at 3:30 o'clock P.M. via WebEx.

Senator DiMario announces that the Committee on Environment and Agriculture will meet tomorrow at 5:00 o'clock P.M. via WebEx.

Senator DiPalma announces that the Committee on Rules, Government Ethics and Oversight will meet on Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup> via WebEx.

Senator Cano announces that the Committee on Education will meet tomorrow at 3:30 o'clock P.M. via WebEx.

Senator Archambault announces that the Committee on Judiciary will meet Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 o'clock P.M. via WebEx.

Senator Sosnowski announces that the Committee on Commerce will meet Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 o'clock P.M. via WebEx.

Senator Murray announces that the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans' Affairs will meet tomorrow at 5:00 o'clock P.M. via WebEx.

### RECESS

Upon the motion of Senator Goodwin, seconded by Senator McCaffrey, the Senate moves to recess at 5:43 o'clock P.M., in memory of Brian Feeney.

### COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Chairman Lombardo, from the Committee on Housing and Municipal Government, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

**Senate Bill No. 240**

**BY** Coyne

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF BARRINGTON (Ratifies and validates Barrington Home Rule Charter amendments approved by electors at 11/3/20 election.)  
{LC1075/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

**Senate Bill No. 242**

**BY** DiMario, Valverde

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Exempts from taxation the real property of Ocean State Community Wellness, Inc., a qualified tax-exempt corporation under § 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, for the property located at 7450 Post Road, North Kingstown, Rhode Island.)  
{LC1421/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

**Senate Bill No. 390**

**BY** de la Cruz, Morgan, Paolino

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO THE OAKLAND - MAPLEVILLE NUMBER 4 FIRE DISTRICT (Incorporates Oakland--Mapleville Number 4 Fire District.)  
{LC267/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

**House Bill No. 5181**

**BY** Azzinaro, Kennedy, Filippi

**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 (Authorizes the Town of Westerly to issue bonds and notes in an amount not exceeding \$2,000,000 to finance the construction, renovation, improvement, alteration, repair, furnishing and equipping of schools and school facilities in the town.)  
{LC757/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

**COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL LEGISLATION AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

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

**Senate Bill No. 277**

(by request)

**BY** Algieri

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES  
(Allows the Westerly Town Council to issue a Class B liquor license for premises located at 169 and 177 Main Street, despite its location within proximity to a school church.)  
{LC1310/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

**Senate Bill No. 440**

**BY** Ciccone

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES  
(Allows the Providence board of licenses to grant an exemption from restrictions with regard to the proximity to schools and churches relating to issuance of a Class BV alcoholic beverage retail license for property located at 601 Hartford Avenue.)  
{LC881/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

**Senate Bill No. 556**

**BY** Goodwin

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES - RETAIL LICENSES  
(Exempts 203-209 Douglas Avenue, Plat 68, Lots 83 and 646 of the applicable city of Providence tax assessment map from the permitting of alcohol beverages retail licenses within a certain proximity to schools and churches.)  
{LC2364/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

Chairman Pearson, from the Committee on Finance, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measures:

**Senate Bill No. 103**

**BY** Coyne, Valverde, Seveney, DiMario, DiPalma, Euer

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Authorizes cities/towns to establish a property tax credit program in exchange for volunteer service by persons over age 60 up to \$1,500 calculated by multiplying service hours by the state minimum wage per hour.)

{LC731/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

**Senate Bill No. 296**

**BY** DiPalma

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES--MIDDLETOWN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT (Allows the town of Middletown to enroll its full-time police officers hired on or after July 1, 2021, in a defined contribution plan established by the town and prevents newly hired police officers from becoming members of the retirement system.)

{LC1801/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

**Senate Bill No. 363**

**BY** Murray, de la Cruz, Paolino

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- NORTH SMITHFIELD - HISTORIC RESIDENCE TAX CREDIT (Allows North Smithfield historic residence owners to become eligible for state historic residence tax credits.)

{LC2182/1}

Placed on the Senate Calendar.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Senate Resolution No. 569****BY** DiMario, Euer, Murray, Cano**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE - OF SUFFRAGE (Amends the state constitution to remove the requirement that you must reside in the state for thirty (30) days prior to registering to vote in the state.)

{LC2361/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 570**

(Governor)

**BY** DiPalma, Euer, Sosnowski, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Pearson, Picard, Seveney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS (Requires every electric distribution company and natural gas distribution company to submit to the division of public utilities and carriers an emergency response plan for review and approval.)

{LC303/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Commerce.

**Senate Bill No. 571****BY** Murray, Pearson, Cano, Paolino, Gallo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (Removes funding requirement from department of elementary and secondary education.)

{LC2370/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Education.

**Senate Bill No. 572****BY** Kallman, Acosta, DiMario**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE GEOENGINEERING - HAZARDOUS EMISSIONS ACT

{LC2319/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Environment and Agriculture.

**Senate Bill No. 573****BY** DiMario



**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- PROHIBITION ON LIVE MARKETS

{LC2109/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Environment and Agriculture.

**Senate Bill No. 574**

**BY** Pearson, Cano, Lawson, Gallo, DiPalma, Quezada, Murray, Seveney, Valverde  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT FUND (Provides for a one-time appropriation of \$1,000,000 and an annual appropriation thereafter to Rhode Island College providing to teachers at no costs to them certification and educational programs who teach students who don't speak English.)

{LC2328/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 575**

**BY** Lawson, Coyne, Mendes  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Grants an exemption from the personal income tax to writers, composers and artists residing within the East Providence arts zone.)

{LC2312/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 576**

**BY** Cano, DiMario, Quezada, Calkin, Anderson, Goldin, Murray, Miller, Euer, DiPalma  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN (Expands the Rite Track Program to provide health care coverage to children up to age nineteen (19) funded by federal funds, if available, or if not available, by state funds.)

{LC2353/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 577**

**BY** Cano, DiMario, Quezada, Calkin, Anderson, Murray, Pearson, Miller, Euer, DiPalma  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION (Provides two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to support comprehensive and effective afterschool, summer learning and workforce development programs for students in grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12).)

{LC2355/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 578**

**BY** Mack, Bell, Calkin, Anderson, Acosta, Mendes

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE - DIVESTMENT OF STATE PENSION FUNDS FROM MILITARY CONTRACTORS (Requires the state investment commission to identify and divest pension fund investments in military weapon manufacturers whether held directly and indirectly.)

{LC2350/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 579**

**BY** Acosta, Anderson, Calkin, Cano

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- NARRAGANSETT BAY COMMISSION--THE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF SEWAGE INFRASTRUCTURE FROM THE CITY OF CENTRAL FALLS TO THE NARRAGANSETT BAY COMMISSION

{LC2032/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 580**

**BY** Picard

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Amends the classification of manufacturing machinery that is eligible for a property tax exemption by eliminating the requirement that the machinery be new.)

{LC2308/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 581**

**BY** Mack, Calkin, Mendes, Burke, Acosta, Bell, Euer

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE - STATE BUDGET (Requires the proposed state budget to include a specific proposed expenditure for affordable housing.)

{LC1169/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 582**

**BY** Euer, Murray, DiPalma

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION – FOUNDATION LEVEL SCHOOL SUPPORT [SEE TITLE 16 CHAPTER 97- THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT] (Provides districts with free and reduced lunch populations above 20% have their minimum housing aid share increased to 40% for projects completed after July 1, 2020 and school housing aid ratio increased to 5% if completed by December 30, 2027.)

{LC2357/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 583**

**BY** DiPalma, Seveney

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATUTES AND STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION -- PAYMENT OF STATUTORY FEES (Allows state departments and agencies to implement electronic filing of applications for licenses, permits, registrations, certificates and functions by allowing a vendor to withhold a commission for implementing the system for electronic filing.)

{LC295/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 584**

**BY** Sosnowski, Miller, Euer, Kallman

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE PERCENTAGE OF INCOME HOME ENERGY AFFORDABILITY ACT (Creates the Percentage of Income Home Energy Affordability Program, an income-sensitive tiered subsidy program to ensure that home energy utility costs are affordable for eligible low-income households.)

{LC2424/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 585**

**BY** Raptakis, Rogers, Archambault, Paolino, Morgan

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FOUNDATION LEVEL SCHOOL SUPPORT (Provides that in determining local school aid, the state would annually provide each community no less than an amount equal to the aid given in the preceding fiscal year.)

{LC2046/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 586**

**BY** Sosnowski, Miller, Euer, Picard

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TEACHERS' RETIREMENT (SEE TITLE 16 CHAPTER 97-THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT) (Replaces the suspension year COLA for all retired teachers, state employees and municipal with a fractional COLA award of twenty-five percent (25%).)

{LC2423/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 587**

**BY** Pearson, Seveney

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT--LOCAL EDUCATION AID READJUSTING NEEDS AMENDMENT ("LEARN" AMENDMENT) (Readjusts local aid to charter public schools that received relief from the PPP fund.)

{LC2270/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Finance.

**Senate Bill No. 588**

**BY** Valverde, Miller, DiMario, Goldin, Lawson

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS (Expands the rights of physician assistants with regard to their practice and prohibits non-compete clauses that exceed five years with regard to the purchase and sale of a practice.)

{LC2218/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

**Senate Bill No. 589**

**BY** Valverde, Miller, DiMario, Mack, Lawson, Goldin

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - PHARMACIES (Authorizes a licensed pharmacist, who successfully completes a course on tobacco cessation therapy, to prescribe and dispense tobacco cessation drug products to a qualified patient pursuant to rules adopted by the board of pharmacy.)

{LC2151/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

**Senate Bill No. 590**

**BY** Seveney, DiPalma

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE (Requires insurance coverage for at minimum ninety (90) days of residential or inpatient services for mental health and/or substance-use disorders for American Society of Addiction Medicine levels of care 3.1 and 3.3.)  
{LC1960/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

**Senate Bill No. 591**

**BY** Miller, Lawson, DiPalma, DiMario, Valverde, Archambault, Bell  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- COVERAGE FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE (Increases reimbursement rates for behavioral health providers over a five (5) year period. The minimum increase per year would be four percent (4%) resulting in a total increase of twenty-three and four tenths percent (23.4%).)  
{LC2260/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

**Senate Bill No. 592**

**BY** Miller, Lawson, DiMario, Valverde, Archambault, Bell  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES--INSURANCE (Updates and revises the current law on pharmacy benefit managers and prescription drug pricing including establishing maximum allowable cost limits and providing for amended administrative appeal procedures.)  
{LC1592/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

**Senate Bill No. 593**

**BY** Mack, Mendes, Valverde, Goldin, Anderson, Bell, Acosta, DiMario  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PROTECTION OF CHILDREN -- PHYSICAL SEX CHARACTERISTICS SURGERY ACT (Prohibits physical sex characteristics surgery for children under 12 years of age, except to address an immediate risk of physical harm. Provides for a private course of action for violations with a 10 year statute of limitations.)  
{LC2025/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Health and Human Services.

**Senate Bill No. 594**

**BY** Algieri

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF WESTERLY TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$11,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD AND SIDEWALK INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WATER LINE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE TOWN (Authorizes the Town of Westerly to issue bonds and notes in an amount not exceeding \$11,000,000 to finance the construction of road and sidewalk infrastructure improvements and related water line improvements in the town and all costs related thereto.)

{LC2374/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government.

**Senate Resolution No. 595**

**BY** Bell

**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE (Proposal for constitutional amendment for voter approval for appropriations for less the ARC to pension fund or for bond payments.)

{LC2425/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 596**

**BY** Raptakis, Rogers, Paolino, Ciccone, Morgan

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES (Increases penalties for a variety of motor vehicle offenses.)

{LC2164/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 597**

**BY** Acosta, Mack, Anderson, Calkin, Kallman, Mendes

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- LAW ENFORCEMENT INTEGRITY ACT (Police body cameras required. Restricts use of force. Mandates various police reporting.)

{LC1541/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 598**

**BY** Paolino, de la Cruz, Morgan, Rogers

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- VITAL RECORDS  
(Requires notification of the name and address of the deceased on a death certificate with the office of secretary of state and the chairperson of the board of canvassers for the purpose of removal from the rolls of registered voters.)

{LC1925/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 599**

**BY** Raptakis

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE,  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS -- DEPARTMENT OF  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS  
(Expands the deinstitutionalization subsidy aid program in the department of behavioral  
healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals to include adoptive parent(s) or siblings(s)  
and allows them to receive a subsidy through the aid program.)

{LC1621/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 600**

**BY** Paolino, de la Cruz, Quezada, Rogers, Pearson

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--PROCEDURE  
GENERALLY -- FEES (Raises the juror's fees for each day's attendance on the superior court  
from \$15.00 per day to \$25.00 per day commencing July 1, 2022, and increases to \$35.00 per  
day commencing July 1, 2023, and thereafter.)

{LC1926/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 601**

(by request)

**BY** Algieri

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY  
(Authorizes the potential appointment of pro bono attorneys, supervised law students and from a  
list maintained by the DEM to act as animal advocates in animal cruelty and abuse cases, at the  
court's discretion, to serve the interests of justice.)

{LC2405/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 602**

(by request)

**BY** Algieri

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATED TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLES (Authorizes licensed auto body shops to sell or dispose of motor vehicles that have been abandoned and located on their premises.)

{LC1738/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 603**

**BY** McCaffrey, Goodwin

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS (Provides that public bodies not be required to hold open-forum sessions on any topic not on the meeting notice and limits comment on any topic not previously posted.)

{LC2381/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 604**

**BY** Mack, Acosta, Mendes, Calkin, Anderson, Bell

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS - UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT (Makes possession of controlled substances civil violations punishable by a one hundred dollar (\$100) fine for each offense. Offenders may have to complete drug counseling and community service.)

{LC2327/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 605**

**BY** Euer, Miller, Lawson, Acosta, Quezada, DiMario, Valverde, Bell

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - THE FAIR CHANCE EMPLOYMENT ACT (Prohibits employers from conducting a background check until after a conditional employment offer is made, and prohibit considering convictions.)

{LC2267/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 606**

**BY** Mack



**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- HOUSING MAINTENANCE AND OCCUPANCY CODE (Landlords responsible to tenants if tenants evicted due to landlord neglect and allows municipality to place lien on property.)

{LC1323/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 607**

**BY** McCaffrey, Anderson

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AERONAUTICS -- THE PERMANENT AIR QUALITY MONITORING ACT (Extends the long-term air-quality monitoring program at T.F. Green Airport to July 31, 2024.)

{LC2399/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 608**

**BY** Paolino, de la Cruz, Morgan, Rogers, Pearson, Algieri, Seveney, DiPalma, Goldin

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- VOTING DISTRICTS AND OFFICIALS--POLL WORKER COMPENSATION (Increases the minimum daily pay for election supervisors from sixty dollars (\$60.00) to one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).)

{LC1956/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 609**

**BY** Paolino, Quezada, Goodwin, Rogers, Pearson

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE-- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- FEES (Allows jurors to donate their juror fees to the state. Any such donation would be deposited into the general fund.)

{LC1927/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 610**

**BY** Calkin, Anderson, Acosta, Bell, Goldin, Mack, Mendes

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES (Requires employers with 50 or more employees to pay "hazard pay" to employees involved in providing essential services during a declared public health emergency.)

{LC2351/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

**Senate Bill No. 611**

**BY** Cano, DiMario, Quezada, Lombardi, Lawson, Goldin, Murray, Seveney, Miller, Euer

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- RHODE ISLAND PARENTAL AND FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT  
{LC1994/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

**Senate Bill No. 612**

**BY** Goldin, Goodwin, Cano, Mendes, Mack, Murray

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- HEALTHY AND SAFE FAMILIES AND WORKPLACES ACT (Requires an employer to provide employees with additional paid sick leave time, in addition to paid sick and safe leave time, for COVID-19 purposes.)

{LC2111/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

**Senate Bill No. 613**

**BY** Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Ciccone, Lombardo, Lombardi, Pearson, Lawson, DiPalma  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- REAL JOBS RHODE ISLAND ACT

{LC2137/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Labor.

**Senate Bill No. 614**

**BY** Paolino, de la Cruz, Morgan, Rogers

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

{LC1940/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

**Senate Bill No. 615**

**BY** Sosnowski

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE (Creates a special license plate for the not for profit Atlantic Shark Institute.)

{LC2422/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

**Senate Resolution No. 616**

**BY** DiPalma, Euer, Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Sosnowski, Felag, Picard, Seveney, Gallo

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE HONORABLE KATHLEEN CONNELL ON HER RETIREMENT AS THE RHODE ISLAND STATE DIRECTOR FOR THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PEOPLE (AARP) AND THANKING AND HONORING HER FOR HER MANY YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE

{LC2380/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

**Senate Resolution No. 617**

**BY** Seveney

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE PORTSMOUTH BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE 2021 RHODE ISLAND DIVISION II STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

{LC2404/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

**Senate Resolution No. 618**

**BY** Sosnowski

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING PAUL TARASEVICH ON RECEIVING THE CURRICULUM ASSOCIATES 2021 EXTRAORDINARY EDUCATORS AWARD

{LC2382/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

**Senate Resolution No. 619**

**BY** Archambault

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF FRANCIS MCNELIS, M.D.

{LC2402/1}

Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar.

**Senate Bill No. 620**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Archambault**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES REPORTING (Eliminates competing reporting requirements relating to referenda and consolidate all reporting requirements concerning the independent expenditures and electioneering communications for elections.)

{LC1859/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 621**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Coyne**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - MAIL BALLOTS (Removes the two (2) witness and notary requirement for mail ballot applications and mail ballot certificate envelope. It would also delete the requirement that person may vote by mail, only if they are unable to vote in person.)

{LC1861/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 622**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Coyne**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS (Repeal is to follow the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and to account for permitting voters to cast provisional ballots at the polling place.)

{LC1858/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 623**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Coyne**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS (Allows the board of elections to begin the certification of mail ballots (20) days prior to election day and require notice of such certification sessions. It also establishes a new and more comprehensive mail ballot voter signature verification process.)

{LC1860/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 624**

(Board of Elections)

**BY** Archambault

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- WRITE-IN VOTES (Requires all write in candidates to file prior to election a declaration of intent to run for office with the secretary of state. Finally it would require the board of elections to report all votes received by declared write in candidates.)

{LC1862/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**Senate Bill No. 625**

(Board of Elections)

**BY** Archambault

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- NOMINATION OF PARTY AND INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES (Allows voters to endorse nomination of candidacy documents by mail, email, or facsimile and deliver to the candidate or board of canvassers in-person, via mail, email or facsimile.)

{LC1863/1}

Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Honorable President presents the following communications:

<p>SENATOR <b>TIARA MACK</b> District 6</p> <hr/> <p>Room 145 Rhode Island State House Providence, Rhode Island 02903</p> <p>CELL: 401-288-1288 OFFICE: 401-276-5561 FAX: 401-222-4263</p> <p>sen-mack@rilegislature.gov</p>	<p>State of Rhode Island</p>  <p>Senate Chamber</p>	<p>SECRETARY Committee on Commerce</p> <hr/> <p>Committee on Housing &amp; Municipal Government</p>
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March 11, 2021

Mr. John E. Fleming, Jr.  
Secretary of the Senate  
State House, Room 220  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I would like to take this opportunity to respectfully request that the following bill be withdrawn at the sponsor's request. The legislation I would like to have withdrawn is 2021 Senate Bill 606. I appreciate your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Tiara Mack  
Senator – District 06 

TM/nc

Ordered to be placed on file.

## State of Rhode Island



## Senate Chamber

SENATOR  
DAWN EUER  
District 13

Room 310  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

OFFICE: 401-276-5589  
FAX: 401-222-2967

sen-euer@rilegislature.gov

CHAIRPERSON  
Committee on  
Environment & Agriculture

Committee on  
Judiciary

Committee on Rules,  
Government Ethics & Oversight

March 15, 2021

Mr. John E. Fleming, Jr.  
Secretary of the Senate  
State House, Room 220  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mr. Fleming:

I respectfully request the withdrawal of my name as prime sponsor of Senate Bill 2021-S441 entitled, an act relating to State Affairs and Government – Recognition of Native American Tribes.

This bill is assigned to the Senate Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs and no hearing is scheduled.

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dawn Euer".

Dawn Euer  
Senator, District 13

DE/moj

cc: Senator Walter S. Felag Jr., Chair, Senate Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs  
Kristen Silvia

Ordered to be placed on file.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Senate meets pursuant to recess and is called to order by the Honorable Dominick J. Ruggiero, President of the Senate, on Tuesday, March 16th at 4:15 o'clock P.M.

**POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Senator Melissa A. Murray makes a point of personal privilege.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the Motion of Senator McCaffrey, seconded by Senator Algieri, Senate adjourns at 4:17 o'clock P.M.

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



**Appendix**

**INVOCATION**

**SENATOR SANDRA CANO**

Almighty and Most Merciful Father, We ask you that you send down your strength in order for these men and woman to better serve this state and the constituents which whom they represent. We also ask for your continued guidance all the days of this Legislative Session. Amen.

**Appendix****CONSENT CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021 in Sapinsley Hall at Rhode Island College****1. 2021-H 5181****BY** Azzinaro**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

Committee on Housing &amp; Municipal Government recommends passage in concurrence.

**2. 2021-S 616****BY** DiPalma**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE HONORABLE KATHLEEN CONNELL ON HER RETIREMENT AS THE RHODE ISLAND STATE DIRECTOR FOR THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PEOPLE (AARP) AND THANKING AND HONORING HER FOR HER MANY YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

**3. 2021-S 617****BY** Seveney**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE PORTSMOUTH BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE 2021 RHODE ISLAND DIVISION II STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

**4. 2021-S 618****BY** Sosnowski**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING PAUL TARASEVICH ON RECEIVING THE CURRICULUM ASSOCIATES 2021 EXTRAORDINARY EDUCATORS AWARD

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

5. **2021-S 619**  
**BY** Archambault  
**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF FRANCIS MCNELIS, M.D.

Ordered on the Consent Calendar

**Appendix**

**CALENDAR**

**IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021 in Sapinsley Hall at Rhode Island College**

1. **2021-S 78 SUB A**  
**BY** Euer  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- 2021 ACT ON CLIMATE

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

2. **2021-S 103**  
**BY** Coyne  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES

Committee on Finance recommends passage.

3. **2021-S 296**  
**BY** DiPalma  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES--MIDDLETOWN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT

Committee on Finance recommends passage.

4. **2021-S 363**  
**BY** Murray  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- NORTH SMITHFIELD - HISTORIC RESIDENCE TAX CREDIT

Committee on Finance recommends passage.

5.     **2021-S 109**  
      **BY** Calkin  
      **ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING AN IMPROVED "MEDICARE FOR ALL" SINGLE PAYER PROGRAM THAT WOULD PROVIDE UNIVERSAL, COMPREHENSIVE AND AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE
- Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.
6.     **2021-S 231**  
      **BY** Goldin  
      **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN
- Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.
7.     **2021-S 240**  
      **BY** Coyne  
      **ENTITLED**, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF BARRINGTON
- Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.
8.     **2021-S 242**  
      **BY** DiMario  
      **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION
- Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.
9.     **2021-S 390**  
      **BY** de la Cruz  
      **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO THE OAKLAND - MAPLEVILLE NUMBER 4 FIRE DISTRICT
- Committee on Housing & Municipal Government recommends passage.
10.    **2021-S 277**  
      **BY** Algieri  
      **ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES
- Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

11. **2021-S 440**  
**BY** Ciccone  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL  
LICENSES

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

12. **2021-S 556**  
**BY** Goodwin  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES - RETAIL  
LICENSES

Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs recommends passage.

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

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 10.7.1 of the Interim Rules of the Senate, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

2021-H

2021-S

(Bill Number)

Senate Consent Calendar (3/8/2021)

(Advice & Consent or Order of Business)

\* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

Senator Frank A. Ciccone, III  
Senate District 7

Date

3/8/21

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island  
County of Providence

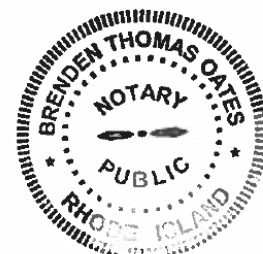
On this 9th day of March, 2021, before me the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Senator Frank A. Ciccone, III, personally known to me to be the person whose name is signed on this document in my presence.

*Brenden Thomas Oates*  
Notary Public Signature

Brenden Thomas Oates  
Notary Public Printed

753676  
Notary ID

01/30/2024  
Commission Expiration



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3/9/21  
Date Initials

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Initials

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 10.7.1 of the Interim Rules of the Senate, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

2021-H

2021-S

(Bill Number)

John C. Revens, Jr.

(Advice & Consent or Order of Business)

\* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

*[Signature]*  
Senator Frank A. Ciccone, III  
Senate District 7

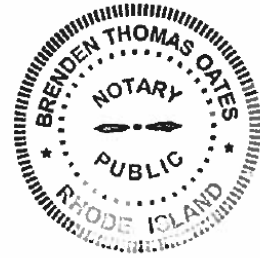
*3/8/21*  
Date

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island  
County of Providence

On this 9th day of March, 2021, before me the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Senator Frank A. Ciccone, III, personally known to me to be the person whose name is signed on this document in my presence.

NOTARY SEAL



*[Signature]*  
Notary Public Signature

Brenden Thomas Oates  
Notary Public Printed

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01/30/2024  
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*3/9/21* *[Initials]*  
Date Initials

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Initials

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 10.7.1 of the Interim Rules of the Senate, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

2021-H

2021-S 374 / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Bill Number) (Advice & Consent or Order of Business)

\* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

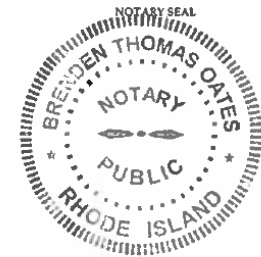
Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature] 3/8/21  
Senator Frank A. Ciccone, III Date  
Senate District 7

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island  
County of Providence

On this 8th day of March, 2021, before me the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Senator Frank A. Ciccone, III, personally known to me to be the person whose name is signed on this document in my presence.



[Signature] Brenden Thomas Oates 753676 01/30/2024  
Notary Public Signature Notary Public Printed Notary ID Commission Expiration

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3/9/21 [Initials]  
Date Initials

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Initials



State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 10.7.1 of the Interim Rules of the Senate, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

2021-H

2021-S 76 / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Bill Number) (Advice & Consent or Order of Business)

\* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

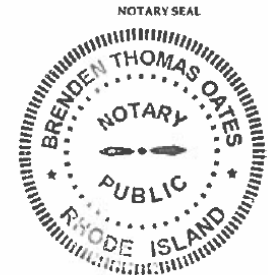
[Signature]  
Senator Frank A. Ciccone, III  
Senate District 7

3/8/21  
Date

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island  
County of Providence

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[Signature]  
Notary Public Signature

Brenden Thomas Oates  
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753676  
Notary ID

01/30/2024  
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3/9/21 [Initials]  
Date Initials

RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Initials

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 10.7.1 of the Interim Rules of the Senate, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

2021-H

2021-S 285 / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Bill Number) (Advice & Consent or Order of Business)

\* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

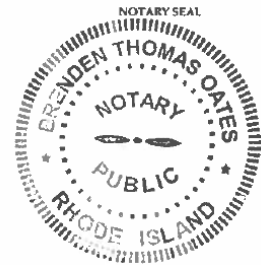
[Signature]  
Senator Frank A. Ciccone, III  
Senate District 7

3/8/21  
Date

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island  
County of Providence

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[Signature]  
Notary Public Signature

Brenden Thomas Oates  
Notary Public Printed

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01/30/2024  
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Date Initials

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Initials

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 10.7.1 of the Interim Rules of the Senate, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

2021-H

2021-S 224 / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Bill Number) (Advice & Consent or Order of Business)

\* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

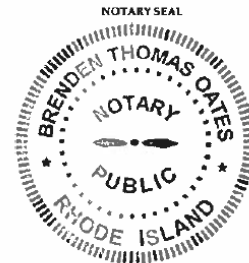
[Signature]  
Senator Frank A. Ciccone, III  
Senate District 7

3/8/21  
Date

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island  
County of Providence

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3/9/21 [Initials]  
Date Initials

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Initials

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 10.7.1 of the Interim Rules of the Senate, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

2021-H

2021-S 325 / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Bill Number) (Advice & Consent or Order of Business)

\* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]  
Senator Frank A. Ciccone, III  
Senate District 7

3/8/21  
Date

NOTARY

State of Rhode Island  
County of Providence

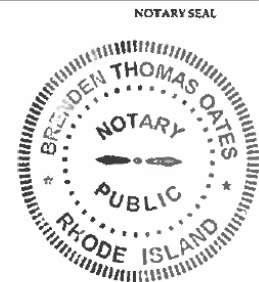
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\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Initials

State of Rhode Island



Senate Chamber

VOTE BY PROXY

To the Honorable President of the Senate:

Pursuant to Rule 10.7.1 of the Interim Rules of the Senate, and with your consent, I hereby cast my vote by proxy on the following matter before the Senate:

2021-H

2021-S 196 / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Bill Number) (Advice & Consent or Order of Business)

\* If voting on a Consent Calendar or Bill Bundle, please attach a copy

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

Respectfully Submitted,

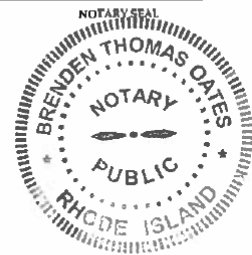
[Signature]  
Senator Frank A. Ciccone, III  
Senate District 7

3/8/21  
Date

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State of Rhode Island  
County of Providence

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