

State of Rhode Island

JOURNAL

-OF THE-

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY SESSION of the General Assembly begun and held at the State House in the City of Providence on Tuesday, the Third Day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

Volume 150, No. 5

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

Fifth-Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence, Tuesday, January 17, 2023, and is called to order at 5:09 o'clock P.M., by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 69 members present and 6 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 69: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, and Voas.

ABSENT – 6: Representatives Baginski, Lima, Marszalkowski, Morgan, Quattrocchi, Roberts.

INVOCATION

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

(For Invocation, see Appendix, this Journal.)

APPROVAL OF RECORD

By unanimous consent, the House Journal of Wednesday, January 11, 2023, is approved.

RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST
2023

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii), Representative **Shallcross Smith** hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of Bill # H-5015 entitled: **AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS-- MINIMUM WAGES** which is currently in the House Committee on **Labor**

Signature: *May Ann Shallcross Smith*

House District # *46*

Date: *1/17* , 2023

Acknowledgement:

 [Signature]
Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker

NOTE: This request must be submitted to the Clerk of the House, who will retain the original and a copy to be placed in the committee's original bill file

COMMUNICATIONS

Representative Jacquelyn M. Baginski is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Majority Leader Blazewski announces that the House will stand at recess while awaiting the arrival of the Senate, the Governor and guests for tonight's State of the State address at 7 p.m. The House will take a short dinner break, and members should return to their seats by 6:30 p.m.

The House will meet for session this Thursday, at 4:00 pm.

GUEST

Representative Tanzi welcomes Vanessa Baker, who is working to end smoking in our casinos, to the House Chamber. Speaker Shekarchi acknowledges Vanessa's strong advocacy for her union and cause.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Sanchez recognizes and thanks Governor McKee's administration and other state officials, for their effort of opening the temporary shelter located at 662 Hartford Avenue, Providence.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**House Resolution No. 5138**

BY Giraldo, Shekarchi, Blazewski, Voas, Morales, Potter, Kislak, Casimiro, Vella-Wilkinson, Kazarian

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND THANKING DEBORAH L. PERRY FOR TWENTY-FOUR YEARS OF LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATED SERVICE TO YWCA RHODE ISLAND AND THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC440/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Giraldo discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Giraldo, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 5139

BY Newberry, Solomon, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Brien, Edwards, McGaw, McNamara, Cortvriend

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE JAMES GORMAN HAGAN {LC679/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representatives Newberry and Solomon discuss the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Newberry, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

House Resolution No. 5140

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Corvese, Azzinaro, McNamara, Brien, Hull, Ajello, Kennedy, Lombardi J

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE JOSEPH A. DELORENZO, JR. {LC674/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, on behalf of Speaker Shekarchi and the entire House of Representatives, Representative Corvese requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Representative Corvese discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to the entire DeLorenzo family.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Corvese, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

TRANSMITTAL

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

(For Transmittals to Governor, see Appendix of this Journal.)

RECESS

At 5:24 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi declares the House to be in recess.

ORDER

At 6:39 o'clock P.M., the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi calls the House to order.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

APPOINTMENTS

The Chair appoints the following committee to escort the Honorable President of the Senate and the members of the Honorable Senate to the House Chamber to meet with the House of Representatives in Joint Session to hear the State of the State Address of the Governor: Representative Jennifer Boylan, Representative Jon Brien, Representative Cherie Cruz, Representative Matthew Dawson, Representative Anthony DeSimone, Representative Alex Finkelman, Representative Brian Rea, Representative Tina Spears, Representative Brandon Voas and Representative Megan Cotter.

NEW BUSINESS**House Bill No. 5141**

BY Caldwell, Potter, Carson, Spears, Speakman, Donovan, Fogarty, Ajello, Kazarian, Biah
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FEDERAL AID (Requires free lunches to be provided for all elementary and secondary students attending public schools, to the extent state and federal funds are available.) {LC652/1}
01/18/2023 Introduced, referred to House Education

House Bill No. 5142

BY McGaw, Caldwell, Bennett, Carson, Donovan, Kazarian, Serpa, Cortvriend, Fogarty, Batista
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HIGH HEAT WASTE FACILITY ACT OF 2023 (Provides for a prohibition on any new high-heat waste facility.) {LC250/1}
01/18/2023 Introduced, referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

House Bill No. 5143

BY Azzinaro, Fellela, Corvese, Noret, Phillips, Vella-Wilkinson, Kennedy
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- STATE LOTTERY (Designates a special account for veterans' causes to be funded by Keno sales, less prizes and commissions, generated on Memorial Day and Veterans Day with disbursement pursuant to appropriation by the general assembly.) {LC610/1}
01/18/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5144

BY Cotter, Casimiro
ENTITLED, AN ACT TOWNS AND CITIES -- STATE AID (Provides PILOT to Exeter for state owned properties. Imposes no duty on Exeter to protect these properties. Requires payments to be used to create a police department or defray town expenses used to provide police protection.) {LC627/1}
01/18/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5145

BY McEntee, Vella-Wilkinson, Morales, Caldwell, Dawson, Craven, Finkelman, Serpa, Phillips, Potter

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX (Allows a modification to federal adjusted gross income for all social security income for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2024.) {LC136/1}

01/18/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Resolution No. 5146

BY Shallcross Smith, Cortvriend, Cardillo, Ackerman, Fogarty, Hull, Casimiro, Kazarian, Felix, Ajello

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$1,000,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES FOR DIRECT GRANT FUNDING TO COMMUNITY CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT RHODE ISLAND (Authorizes the appropriation of the sum of \$1,000,000 to the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities to continue efforts to support local cultural organizations throughout the State.) {LC683/1}

01/18/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 5147

BY McNamara, Ackerman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE LICENSING ACT (Requires department of health to establish an informal dispute resolution to address any changes to department of health violations.) {LC38/1}

01/18/2023 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Bill No. 5148

BY Carson, Cortvriend, Solomon, Caldwell, Speakman, Morales, Fogarty

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- ELECTRONIC BOOK LICENSES TO LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS (Requires publishers to provide electronic book licenses to libraries and schools on reasonable terms, when a publisher offers to license electronic books and digital audiobooks to the public in Rhode Island.) {LC142/1}

01/18/2023 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, & Technology

House Bill No. 5149

BY Edwards, Knight, Craven, Kazarian, Casimiro, Kislak, Ajello, Newberry

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- HOMICIDE (Abolishes penalty of life without parole and amends/repeals all sections of general laws regulating prisoners serving a sentence of life without parole. It would have prospective and retroactive effect for any offense committed after January 1, 1991.) {LC383/1}

01/18/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

(For co-sponsorship removal request, see Journal of 1-31-2023, page 2.)

House Resolution No. 5150**BY** Azzinaro, Fellela, Corvese, Noret, Phillips, Vella-Wilkinson, Kennedy**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A PLAN AND THE DESIGN OF A VIETNAM MEMORIAL TO BE LOCATED IN THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND (This resolution would extend the reporting and expiration dates of the commission to study a plan and the design of a Vietnam Memorial in Providence, from January 31, 2023 to January 31, 2025, and said commission would expire on April 30, 2025.) {LC608/1}

01/18/2023 Introduced, referred to House Veterans Affairs

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:42 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representatives Newberry and Solomon, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of James Gorman Hagan; on motion of Representative Corvese, and on behalf of Speaker Shekarchi, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Joseph A. DeLorenzo, Jr., seconded by Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS E. NORET

Dear God: We give thanks to you for giving us another day to serve your people. Send your spirit this day, and every day, to guide us as we work to make life better for all Rhode Islanders. Amen