

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. 26

Tuesday, April 18, 2023

Twenty-sixth Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence, Tuesday, April 18, 2023, and is called to order at 4:07 o'clock P.M., by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 67 members present and 8 members absent as follows:

PRESENT – 67: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi and Vella-Wilkinson.

ABSENT – 8: Representatives Chippendale, Felix, Fenton-Fung, Fogarty, Perez, Quattrocchi, Shallcross Smith and Voas.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Speaker Shekarchi requests a moment of silence in memory of Senate Majority Whip Maryellen Goodwin.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Father Kapriel Nazarian from the Sts. Vartanantz Armenian Apostolic Church who delivers the Invocation, Speaker Shekarchi 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 Thursday, April 6, 2023, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

April 18, 2023

The following announcements are being made by Speaker K. Joseph Shekarchi:

I have submitted the following nominations to Governor Daniel J. McKee for his consideration to serve on the Rhode Island Emergency Management Advisory Council:

Minority Leader Michael Chippendale
Representative Thomas Noret

I have nominated the following members to the National Conference of State Legislatures to attend a Health Seminar for Newer Legislators:

Representative Matthew Dawson
Representative Jennifer Stewart
Representative Brandon Voas

Representative Barbara Ann Fenton-Fung is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, April 18, 2023.
Representative Kathleen Fogarty is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, April 18, 2023.
Representative Brandon T. Voas is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, April 18, 2023.
Representative Mary Ann Shallcross Smith is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING**

Chairman Casey, for the Committee on Municipal Government and Housing, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 6087

BY Cruz, Shekarchi, Kazarian, Speakman, Potter, Stewart, Casimiro, Slater, Blazejewski, Abney
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Prohibits the requirement that a fee be paid for a rental application for real property.)
{LC2022/1}

04/18/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/20/2023)

CALENDAR

From the Calendar are taken:

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023:

- 1. **2023-H 5010**
BY McNamara
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE -- THE PROMOTING ACCESS TO INCREASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT

Committee on Education recommends passage.

Chairman McNamara moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and many others.

Chairman McNamara discusses the act.

By unanimous consent, Minority Whip Place, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Biah, McNamara, Rea, Roberts, Casey, and Costantino offers a written motion to amend.

FLOOR AMENDMENT
TO
2023 -- H 5010

AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE -- THE PROMOTING ACCESS TO INCREASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT

Mr. Speaker:

I hereby move to amend 2023 -- H 5010, entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE -- THE PROMOTING ACCESS TO INCREASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT", as follows:

- 1. On page 3, between lines 21 and 22 by inserting the following language:

"(i) The general assembly encourages the executive office of health and human services and the department of elementary and secondary education to collaborate and pursue pathways to expand opportunities for local education agencies to bill and obtain federal Medicaid reimbursement for eligible services delivered in schools."

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Place

Minority Whip Place discusses the amendment.

The motion to amend prevails on a roll call vote 64 members voting in the affirmative and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 64: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 1: Representative Morgan.

RECUSED - 0:

Representative Knight discusses the act as amended.

Read and passed, as amended, on a roll call vote, 66 members voting in the affirmative and 2 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 66: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 2: Representatives Morgan, Roberts.

RECUSED - 0:

NOW PRESIDING

At 4:19 o'clock P.M. the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi yields the rostrum to the Honorable Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy.



State of Rhode Island

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST PURSUANT TO RIGL § 36-14-6

I, Alex Finkelstein State Representative, District 74, hereby under oath depose and say:

1. (Matter requiring action: i.e. Bill number) I expect to be called upon, in my capacity as State Representative to participate in the consideration of, and/or to vote upon: H5887

2. (Nature of the potential conflict) I have the following interest in the matter: Married
to a magistrate

3. (Please select one of the following):

A. In compliance with Section 36-14-6(1) of the General Laws I hereby state that, despite the potential conflict stated above, I am able to vote and otherwise participate fairly, objectively and in the public interest regarding the matter described in paragraph 1 above for the following reason(s).

B. In compliance with Section 36-14-6(1) & (2)A of the General Laws, I hereby request the Speaker of the House of Representatives to excuse me from voting on or participating in the consideration of the matter described in paragraph 1 above.

[Signature]
REPRESENTATIVE

State of Rhode Island
County of: Providence

Subscribed and sworn to under the penalties for perjury before me this

18 day of November 2022
Michael B. Egan
Notary Public
State of Rhode Island
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 03-30-2023
Commission # SPB10-202
NOTARY # 57679

Representative Finkelstein is excused from voting on or participating in the consideration of the matter described in paragraph 1 above.

[Signature]
SPEAKER

2. 2023-H 5887**BY** Kazarian**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES --
POWER OF OFFICERS TO ADMINISTER OATHS

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Chairman Craven moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representative Knight and many others.

Chairman Craven discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 67 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 67: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 1: Representative Finkelman.

3. 2023-H 6029**BY** Corvese**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- FALSE
IMPERSONATION

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Chairman Craven moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Corvese, Phillips, McEntee, Vella-Wilkinson and many others.

Chairman Craven discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 68 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

4. 2023-H 5561

BY Speakman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- STUDENT COMPUTER DEVICE PRIVACY

Committee on Innovation, Internet, & Technology recommends passage.

Chairwoman Baginski moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Bennett, Knight, Ajello, Abney, Donovan, Spears, Carson, Speakman, Biah, Cortvriend and Kislak.

Chairwoman Baginski and Representative Phillips discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 67 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 67: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

5. 2023-H 5381

BY Carson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- FORT ADAMS FOUNDATION

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Cortvriend, Edwards, Casey and Carson.

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 68 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

6. 2023-H 5538

BY Kennedy

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- THIRD PARTY HEALTH INSURANCE ADMINISTRATORS

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Majority Whip Kazarian and Representative Edwards.

Chairman Solomon, Minority Whip Place, Representatives Knight and Corvese discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 62 members voting in the affirmative and 5 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 62: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Potter, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 5: Representatives Knight, Morgan, Place, Rea, Roberts.

RECUSED - 0:

7. 2023-H 5539

BY Casimiro

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Majority Whip Kazarian, Representatives Casimiro, McEntee, Morales, Shanley and Vella-Wilkinson.

Chairman Solomon discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote 68 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

8. 2023-H 6195

BY Blazejewski

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF SISTERS, INC.

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Majority Whip Kazarian, Representative Edwards and Deputy Whip Ackerman.

Chairman Solomon discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 67 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 67: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

9. 2023-H 5233**BY Tanzi****ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PERMANENT JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS

Committee on Special Legislation recommends passage.

Chairwoman Alzate moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives McEntee, Cortvriend, Knight, Phillips, Tanzi, Edwards and Spears.

Chairwoman Alzate, Minority Whip Place and Representative Tanzi discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 68 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

10. 2023-H 6216**BY Edwards****ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Special Legislation recommends passage.

Chairwoman Alzate moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Representative Edwards.

Chairwoman Alzate discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 68 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw,

McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

11. 2023-H 6241

BY Abney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Special Legislation recommends passage.

Chairwoman Alzate moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Representative Abney.

Chairwoman Alzate discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote 68 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

12. 2023-H 6242

BY Craven

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Committee on Special Legislation recommends passage.

Chairwoman Alzate moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, and Representative Craven.

Chairwoman Alzate discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 68 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

13. 2023-S 130

BY Euer

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- ELECTIVE MEETINGS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage in concurrence.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Edwards, Abney and Carson.

Chairman Shanley and Representative Morgan discuss the act.

Read and passed, in concurrence, on a roll call vote, 68 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 68: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

PROXY VOTES

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces pursuant to rule 33(e) authorizing Proxy Votes, he has Proxy Votes from Representative Fogarty to be recorded in the affirmative for items #1 through #13.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

ADDRESS

Majority Whip Kazarian addresses members regarding Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day.

GUESTS

Majority Whip Kazarian welcomes to the House Chamber Father Kapriel Nazarian, Steve Mesrobian, Dr. Fotini Dionisopoulos, DMD, Hrag Arakelian, Carol Mesrobian, Ani Haroian, Steve Elmasian, the Honorable Scott Avedisian, Pauline and Ara Getzoyan in recognition of Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day.

Representative Speakman welcomes to the House Chamber Executive Director Carol Ventura in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of Rhode Island Housing. Speaker Shekarchi welcomes her to the House and thanks her for her service.

NOW PRESIDING

At 4:50 o'clock P.M. the Honorable Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy yields the rostrum to the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**House Resolution No. 6280**

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Slater, Place, Ackerman, Kennedy, Diaz, Ajello, McNamara, Lombardi J **ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE MARYELLEN GOODWIN {LC2839/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Slater, Speaker Shekarchi, Deputy Whip Ackerman, Representatives Lima, Tanzi Serpa, and Majority Leader Blazejewski discuss the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to the entire Goodwin family.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Slater, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi, Majority Leader Blazejewski, and the entire House of Representatives, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Brien recognizes Father Philip Salois for the Providence Journal front-page story "Promise Kept". Father Salois was twenty years old when he was drafted, while serving in South Vietnam on March 1, 1970, his platoon was ambushed, and their forward element was cut off and pinned down. He said a prayer and told God that if God got him out of this mess in one piece he would do anything God asked. He agreed to try to reach those men and bring them back, he received the Silver Star for his actions that day.

Chairman Casey announces that the Committee on Municipal Government & Housing will meet tomorrow, at 4:30 p.m., in Room 101 of the State House.

Chairman Azzinaro wishes his wife Carol a Happy 59th, Wedding Anniversary. Speaker Shekarchi wishes Chairman Azzinaro and his wife a Happy Anniversary.

Chairwoman McEntee announces that the Committee on Small Business will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 135 of the State House.

Representative Vella-Wilkinson invites all House members to attend the Annual House of Representatives Rhode Island Veterans and Military Families Outreach Day on Wednesday, April 19th, 2023, in the State House from 2 pm to 5 pm.

Chairman Abney announces that the Committee on Finance will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 35 of the State House.

Representative Morales would like to recognize the Carpenters Union Local 330 they celebrated their 4th, Annual Tax Fraud Day of Action.

Chairwoman Donovan announces that the Committee on Health and Human Services will meet Thursday, April 20th, at the rise of the House, in Room 135 of the State House.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces there is no House session tomorrow, but four committees will be meeting. The next House session will be this Thursday, April 20th, at 4 p.m. Speaker Shekarchi has emailed everyone a Legislative Priorities Form. If forms have not been filled out see Stacy Custer for a form. All forms need to be returned as soon as possible to Jennifer Amerantes.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

House Resolution No. 6281

BY Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Speakman, Place, Kennedy, Fellela, Cortvriend, Bennett, Spears, Potter
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RIHOUSING {LC2815/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Speakman discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6282

BY Kazarian, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Corvese, Chippendale, Solomon, Potter, Baginski, Edwards, Fellela

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL 24, 2023, AS "ARMENIAN GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY" TO COMMEMORATE THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE OF 1915 TO 1923, AND IN HONOR OF ARMENIAN-AMERICANS {LC2737/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Majority Whip Kazarian requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Majority Whip Kazarian discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Majority Whip Kazarian, seconded by Speaker Shekarchi and many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

House Resolution No. 6283

BY Ackerman, Finkelman, Knight, Kislak, McNamara, Ajello, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Shallcross Smith, Boylan

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING "HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY" ON APRIL 18, 2023 {LC2751/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Deputy Whip Ackerman requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Deputy Whip Ackerman and Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy discuss the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Deputy Whip Ackerman, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

RULE 7D**The following bills were received pursuant to Rule 7D:**

Representative Baginski-An Act relating to State Affairs and Government -Video Lottery Games

Representative Kislak-An Act relating to Elections

Representative Lima-An Act relating to Motor and Other Vehicles–All Terrain Vehicles

Representative Morales-An Act relating to State Affairs and Government-Environmental Justice Act

Representative Phillips-An Act relating to Insurance–Accident and Sickness Insurance Policies

Representative Sanchez-An Act relating to Education–Paul W. Crowley Rhode Island Student Investment Initiative

Representative Stewart-An Act relating to Public Finance – Identification of State Pension Funds with Military Contractors Act

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

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.)

DESK HELD OPEN

The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi announces that the desk will be held open.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS

Chairman Shanley, for the Committee on State Government and Elections, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 6185

(Board of Elections)

BY Shanley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL PROVISIONS (Amends the election laws to change certain deadlines for declarations of candidacy, party disaffiliation and submission of nomination papers for special federal elections.) {LC2565/1}

04/18/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/20/2023)

NEW BUSINESS

House Bill No. 6284

BY Shanley, Craven, Solomon, Casimiro, O'Brien, Dawson, Noret, Kennedy, Vella-Wilkinson, Batista

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Provides for the creation of a volunteer school security force.) {LC2796/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Education

(For Co-sponsorship removal request, see Journal of 4-25-2023, page 2.)

House Bill No. 6285

BY Carson, Cortvriend, Baginski, Donovan, McNamara

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS (Defines artificial intelligence and regulate its use in providing mental health services.) {LC2794/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, & Technology

House Bill No. 6286**BY** Carson, Baginski, McNamara**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW - GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE MODELS (Authorizes the office of attorney general to promulgate adopt and enforce rules and regulations concerning generative artificial intelligence models, such as ChatGPT, in order to protect the public's safety, privacy, and intellectual property rights.) {LC2795/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, & Technology

House Bill No. 6287**BY** Slater, Diaz**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- ELECTRICIANS (Amends the state's apprenticeship laws to make them more consistent with applicable federal regulations and makes said laws more comprehensible and consistent with each other.) {LC2708/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 6288

(by request)

BY McEntee**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONNET SHORES FIRE DISTRICT TO HOLD A SPECIAL ELECTION (Amends the Act to Incorporate the Bonnet Shores Fire District to determine the electorate for the corporation.) {LC713/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 6289**BY** Edwards, Bennett, Diaz, Baginski, Casimiro, Casey, Hull, Noret, O'Brien, Solomon**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES-OPTIONAL RETIREMENT FOR MEMBERS OF POLICE FORCE AND FIREFIGHTERS (Increases the retirement service allowance for members of the police force/firefighters by using the highest annual compensation of a member, allowing retirement at age 50 and raising the multiplier to 2.5% for members age 57 with 30 years of service.) {LC2808/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 6290**BY** Carson, Cortvriend**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT (Requires a short-term rental to have a state registration number and the hosting platform is required to include the number in the ad for the property or face fines for noncompliance.) {LC2639/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 6291**BY** Place, Newberry**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Increases the total amount of all flat tax credits from three percent (3%) to four percent (4%) of the prior year's tax levy.) {LC2814/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 6292

(by request)

BY McNamara, Shekarchi, Bennett, Vella-Wilkinson, Shanley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Amends Warwick's ration of Class 1 and Class 2 property tax rates by reducing the minimum ratio of the Class 1 property tax rates from 75% to 57% of Class 2 property tax rates.) {LC2827/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 6293

(RI Infrastructure Bank)

BY Cortvriend, Carson, Speakman, Donovan, Ajello, Handy, Tanzi, Knight, Bennett, McEntee

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS (Amends the utility base rate statute to make clean transportation, clean heating, and energy storage.) {LC2706/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 6294

(Governor)

BY Tanzi, Felix

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- MERIT SYSTEM (Enables the governor to determine the salary of the director of the department of children, youth and families for the year 2023.) {LC2782/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 6295

BY Serpa, Lima, Biah, O'Brien, Dawson, Phillips, Fellela, McNamara, Messier, Casimiro

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION – TEACHERS' RETIREMENT (Provides all retired teachers and all retired state employees a one-time stipend in the amount of 3% of the lesser of either the member's retirement allowance or the \$30,000 of the member's retirement allowance.) {LC2736/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 6296

BY Serpa, Noret

ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF COVENTRY TO ISSUE NOT MORE THAN \$80,000,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, REHABILITATION, REPAIR, IMPROVEMENT, FURNISHING AND/OR EQUIPPING OF AND/OR ADDITIONS TO SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE TOWN, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF STATE SCHOOL HOUSING AID AT A REIMBURSEMENT RATE OR STATE SHARE RATIO OF NOT LESS THAN 49.2 % FOR EXPENDITURES ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT (Authorizes Coventry to vote to approve a bond referendum for up to \$80,000,000.) {LC1175/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Resolution No. 6297**BY** Kazarian, Dawson, Casimiro, Henries, Speakman**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$28,000,000 TO OLNEYVILLE HOUSING CORPORATION (DBA ONE NEIGHBORHOOD BUILDERS), IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CROSSROADS RI, FOSTER FORWARD, AND FAMILY SERVICE OF RHODE ISLAND (Authorizes the appropriation of the sum of \$28,000,000 to Olneyville Housing Corporation (dba ONE Neighborhood Builders), in partnership with Crossroads RI, Foster Forward, and Family Service of Rhode Island.) {LC2798/1}

04/19/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:35 o'clock P.M. on behalf of Speaker Shekarchi and the entire House of Representatives on motion of Leader Blazejewski, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Hon. Maryellen Goodwin; on motion of Representative Lima, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Carol Frances Lawton; on motion of Representative Corvese, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Joseph Capone; on motion of Representative Serpa, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Samuel Malo Sr.; on motion of Representative McEntee, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Victims of the Boston Marathon Bombing; on motion of Representative Craven, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of John Owen Habib seconded by Majority Whip Kazarian and Minority Whip Place the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX**INVOCATION****REPRESENTATIVE FATHER KAPRIEL NAZARIAN**

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen. Heavenly Father, as we gather together today at the gracious invitation of the members of the Rhode Island House of Representatives to commemorate the 108th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, we ask for your blessings on this assembly and all of its members and their staffs. Beginning in 1915, the Turkish government sought to eliminate the Armenian people along with their Christian faith, brutally killing more than one and one half million innocent men, women and children, sparing not even the elderly or unborn children in their mother's wombs. While they intercede for us in heaven as our martyred saints, their souls cry out to us to stand for the sanctity of all life.

Bless, O Lord, this assembly for being the first government body in the world to recognize the independence of Artsakh in 2012, leading to government bodies throughout the country and the around the world following their righteous lead. As the Genocide that was begun 108 years ago continues to be perpetuated today in our ancestral land of Artsakh, led by Azerbaijan with the support of Turkey, taking the lives of so many and threatening the lives of our 120,000 Christian brothers and sisters remaining there, we ask for your mercy and to touch the hearts of this and all government bodies around the world for their continued support. We thank you, Lord, for the courage of the members of the Rhode Island House of Representatives to always be at the forefront of standing for the truth in recognizing the Armenian Genocide and the independence of Artsakh.

Make each of us beacons of Your light in brotherly and sisterly love as one nation united under You. We pray, Lord, guide and grant your divine wisdom to all the members of this assembly today and in all the days ahead that they might lead us in Your righteousness and truth. We ask this in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

APPENDIX

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2023:

1. **2023-H 5076**
BY McGaw
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- RHODE ISLAND PHYSICAL THERAPIST LICENSURE COMPACT ACT

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.
2. **2023-H 5284**
BY Bennett
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.
3. **2023-H 5438**
BY Knight
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE-- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- CAUSES OF ACTION

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.
4. **2023-H 5900**
BY Marszalkowski
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- VICTIM'S RIGHTS

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.
5. **2023-H 5720**
BY Phillips
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Committee on Special Legislation recommends passage.
6. **2023-H 5459**
BY Ajello
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

7. 2023-H 6087

BY Cruz

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

8. 2023-H 6185

BY Shanley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL PROVISIONS

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Friday, April 14, 2023

Updated: Tuesday, April 18, 2023