

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. 36

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Thirty-sixth Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence, Tuesday, May 23, 2023, and is called to order at 5:00 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, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, 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, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson and Voas.

ABSENT – 6: Representatives Cotter, Donovan, Fogarty, Perez, Quattrocchi and Roberts.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Representative Grace Diaz 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 Thursday, May 18, 2023, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

May 23, 2023

Communication from Speaker K. Joseph Shekarchi:

I make the following appointments:

The Council of State Governments' Robert J. Thompson Eastern Leadership Academy:
Representative Leonela Felix

New England Board of Higher Education:
Representative Carol McEntee

Representative Megan Cotter is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, May 23, 2023.
Representative Susan R. Donovan is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, May 23, 2023.
Representative Kathleen A. Fogarty is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, May 23, 2023.

CALENDAR

From the Calendar are taken:

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2023:

- 1. 2023-H 5176 SUB A**
BY McGaw
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS
INSURANCE POLICIES

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

Vice-Chairman Giraldo moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Felix, Fellela, Finkelman, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Lombardi, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Noret, O'Brien, Potter, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Speakman, Spears, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

Vice-Chairman Giraldo, Minority Whip Place, Representatives Morales and Fenton-Fung discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 69 members voting in the affirmative and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 69: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, 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, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 1: Representative Morgan.

RECUSED - 0:

2. 2023-H 5933

BY Azzinaro

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- POSTING OF VETERANS' BENEFITS AND SERVICES

Committee on Labor recommends passage.

Chairman Corvese moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Carson, Cardillo, Morales, McEntee, O'Brien, Vella-Wilkinson, Costantino, Cortvriend, Phillips, Lima, Azzinaro, Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy, Representatives McNamara, Felix, Deputy Whip Ackerman, Representatives Bennett, Ajello, Fellela, Morgan and Messier.

Chairman Corvese discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 69 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 69: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Costantino, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Edwards, Felix, 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, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

3. 2023-H 5779 SUB A**BY Knight****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

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

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Costantino, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Potter, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 69 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

4. 2023-H 6373**BY Noret****ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND REVIEW THE COST AND STATUS OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND OWNED, VACANT, AND ABANDONED PROPERTIES AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR METHODS TO MITIGATE THE ASSOCIATED EXPENSES**

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives McGaw, Cardillo, McEntee, Morales, Finkelman, Vella-Wilkinson, Costantino, Lima, Phillips and Casimiro.

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 69 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

GUESTS

Representative Casimiro welcomes to the House Chamber Ashley Deckert, the new Director of the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families. Speaker Shekarchi and Representative Lombardi welcome her to the House Chamber.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

CALENDAR

5. 2023-H 5333 SUB A

BY Edwards

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --
PROMPT PAYMENT BY DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

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

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Edwards and Vella-Wilkinson.

Chairman Solomon discusses the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, 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, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Newberry, Noret, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 2: Representatives Morgan, Nardone.

RECUSED - 0:

6. 2023-H 5276 SUB A

BY Phillips

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW -- GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- UNFAIR SALES PRACTICES

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

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ajello, Azzinaro, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Giraldo, Handy, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Lima, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Phillips, Potter, Shallcross Smith, Speakman, Spears, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

Chairman Solomon, Representatives Carson and Phillips discuss the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, 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, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

7. 2023-H 6102 SUB A

BY Casey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTORCYCLE DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAM

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

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representative Bennett, Minority Leader Chippendale, Representatives Potter and Spears.

Chairman Solomon discusses the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, 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, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

8. 2023-H 5513 SUB A

BY Baginski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--
PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS -- DEATH BY WRONGFUL ACT

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

Chairman Craven moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives McEntee, Potter, Caldwell, Lima and Vella-Wilkinson.

Chairman Craven discusses the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, 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, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Edwards, Felix, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, Phillips, Place, Potter, Rea, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

GUESTS

Representative Giraldo in recognition of Rhode Island Community Health Centers Day, welcomes to the House Chamber Ray Lavoie, Executive Director of Blackstone Valley Community Health Care, Joanne McGunagle, Executive Director of Comprehensive Community Action, Merrill Thomas, President and CEO of Providence Community Health Centers, and Wood River Health President and CEO Allison Croke.

NOW PRESIDING

At 5:21 o'clock P.M. the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi yields the rostrum to the Honorable Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

GUESTS

Representative Carson congratulates and welcomes to the House Chamber in recognition of the 30th, Anniversary of The Rose Island Lighthouse, Lisa Morrison, President of the Board, Sean O'Connor, Executive Director and Ryan Patrick Kelley, Board Member.

Representative Casimiro welcomes to the House Chamber Ethan Evans who studies Democracy at North Kingstown High School. Tonight Ethan will be attending the Education and Judiciary Committees with Representative Casimiro. Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy welcomes him to the House Chamber.

Representative Boylan welcomes to the House Chamber her son, Terrence James Boylan III. Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy welcomes him to the House Chamber.

Representative Sanchez welcomes to the House Chamber, Host of Ray-reality TV, Raymond Baccari.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice-Chairwoman Kislak announces that the Committee on Education will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 135 of the State House.

Chairwoman Serpa announces that the Committee on Oversight will meet tomorrow, at 4:00 p.m., in Room 101 of the State House.

Representative Tanzi invites all members to attend the Rhode Island Health Equity Zone event being held Thursday, May 25th, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

Representative Handy announces that the Committee on Health & Human Resources will meet on Thursday, May 25th, 2023, at 3:30 p.m., in Room 135 of the State House.

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

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the House will not be in session tomorrow, the Finance and Oversight Committees will both be meeting at 4 p.m. tomorrow. The next House session will be this Thursday, May 25th, at 4 p.m.

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 #8.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

House Resolution No. 6430

BY Giraldo, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Morales, Voas, Stewart, Alzate, Kennedy, Tanzi
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 23, 2023, AS "RHODE ISLAND COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER DAY" {LC2996/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Giraldo and Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy discuss 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. 6431

BY Caldwell, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Shanley, Kennedy, Tanzi, Cortvriend, Fellela, Kislak

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING THE MEMBERS AND COACH OF THE EAST GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL TEAM ON THEIR 1ST PLACE VICTORY AT THE 40TH RHODE ISLAND ACADEMIC DECATHLON {LC3033/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Caldwell discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6432

BY Carson, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Finkelman, Kennedy, Tanzi, Fellela, Kislak

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING THE 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE RESTORATION OF THE ROSE ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE, AND THE ROSE ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE AND FORT HAMILTON TRUST, FOR THEIR ONGOING CONTRIBUTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND EDUCATION AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE FOUNDATION'S CHARITY LICENSE PLATE DRIVE {LC3020/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Carson discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6433

BY Morales, Ackerman, Dawson, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Giraldo, Kennedy, Tanzi, Cortvriend

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 23, 2023, TO BE "LEAD POISONING PREVENTION DAY" IN RHODE ISLAND {LC3070/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Morales discusses the resolution.

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

RULE 7D

The following bill was received pursuant to Rule 7D:

Representative McNamara-An Act relating to Property–By Possession and Prescription

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 Pro Tempore Kennedy announces that the desk will be held open.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Chairman Abney, for the Committee on Finance, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

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}

05/23/2023 Placed on House Calendar (05/25/2023)

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Chairman Craven, for the Committee on Judiciary, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

House Bill No. 6061 SUB A

BY Craven, Shekarchi, McGaw, Shanley, Dawson, O'Brien

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- SUBDIVISION OF LAND (Amends the provisions relative to the subdivision of land and the application process requesting relief from zoning ordinances and the review process thereof.) {LC2437/A/1}

05/23/2023 Placed on House Calendar (05/25/2023)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Honorable Senate transmits with announcement of passage, of the following measure:

Senate Bill No. 904

BY DiPalma, DiMario, Miller, Sosnowski, Murray, Zurier, Acosta, Ciccone, Gallo

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.) {LC2762/1}

05/23/2023 Placed on House Calendar (05/25/2023)

Senate Bill No. 62

BY Lauria, Euer, DiMario, Lawson, Britto, LaMountain, Murray, Valverde, Ujifusa, Miller
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- LONG-TERM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Adds climate change, sea-level rise and coastal resiliency to the analysis of data of the strategic plan for economic development policy.) {LC1021/1}
05/24/2023 Referred to House Environment and Natural Resources

Senate Bill No. 63

BY Murray, DiPalma, Valverde, Lauria, Quezada, Bell, Felag, McKenney, DiMario, Gu
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION OMBUD (Establishes the RI ombud for special education who ensures school districts throughout the state meet the minimum standards required to comply with the individualized education programs for students with disabilities.) {LC894/1}
05/24/2023 Referred to House Education

Senate Bill No. 1055

BY Felag, Ujifusa, Lauria
ENTITLED, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF SEA GLASS TECHNOLOGIES, INC. {LC3014/1}
05/24/2023 Referred to House Corporations

Senate Resolution No. 72

BY Picard, Quezada, Zurier, Gallo, Lawson
ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE, PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION -- RIGHT TO AN ADEQUATE EDUCATION (Amends the constitution to guarantee Rhode Island residents with equal opportunity to receive an education that is adequate, equitable and meaningful and provides judicial enforcement of this provision.) {LC911/1}
05/24/2023 Referred to House State Government & Elections

Senate Bill No. 442

BY Goodwin, Ruggerio, Gallo, Euer, Pearson, DiPalma, Miller, Felag, Sosnowski, Lombardi F
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF RHODE ISLAND (Names the Newport campus of the community college of Rhode Island the M. Teresa Paiva Weed campus.) {LC1537/1}
05/24/2023 Referred to House Special Legislation

NEW BUSINESS**House Bill No. 6434**

BY Craven, Caldwell
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- EVIDENCE (Provides that statements of apology or sympathy by a healthcare provider to a patient, patients relatives or representatives regarding a patients unanticipated medical care outcome are inadmissible as evidence of liability.) {LC2951/1}
05/24/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 6435

BY Casimiro, Noret, Casey, Chippendale

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES (Requires the department of children,
youth and families (DCYF) to conduct periodic comprehensive needs assessments to determine
whether the department's programs and services meet the needs of children and families)
{LC3025/1}

05/24/2023 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

House Resolution No. 6436

BY Serpa

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION
TO STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGES TO THE MERIT
SYSTEM FOR PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH
AND FAMILIES {LC3054/1}

05/24/2023 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:39 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Kislak, and as a further mark of respect to the
memory of Lynette M. Lopes and Katherine (Katie) Anne Batchelder seconded by Leaders
Blazjewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

INVOCATION

REPRESENTATIVE GRACE DIAZ

Lord God: We ask you to bless the members of this House of Representatives and all those who work to support them. Grant them the wisdom to make choices that strengthen the state and to make their decisions with integrity and selflessness. Amen

APPENDIX**CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023:****1. 2023-H 6058 SUB A****BY** Abney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

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

2. 2023-H 6059 SUB A**BY** Craven**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

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

3. 2023-H 5761 SUB A**BY** Felix**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE AND SALE -- MEDIATION CONFERENCE

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

4. 2023-H 5782 SUB A**BY** Biah**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION

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

5. 2023-H 5457 SUB A**BY** Cortvriend**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL CODE PROVISIONS

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

6. 2023-H 5722 SUB A**BY** Caldwell**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT-- OPEN MEETINGS

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

7. 2023-H 5190 SUB A**BY** Cardillo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- CODE OF ETHICS

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

8. 2023-H 5366**BY** Baginski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- REAL ESTATE SALES DISCLOSURES

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

9. 2023-H 6370**BY** Phillips**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES FOR THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PLACEMENT OF SOLAR PANELS ON INTER-STATE HIGHWAYS

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

10. 2023-H 5617**BY** Azzinaro**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- RHODE ISLAND VETERANS' HOME

Committee on Veterans` Affairs recommends passage.

11. 2023-H 5467**BY** Corvese**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE VETERANS BENEFITS TO THE HMONG/LAOTIAN VETERANS WHO SERVED THE UNITED STATES IN THE "SECRET WAR" IN LAOS

Committee on Veterans` Affairs recommends passage.

12. **2023-H 5466**
BY Azzinaro
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- RHODE ISLAND VETERANS' HOME

Committee on Veterans` Affairs recommends passage.

13. **2023-H 5526 SUB A**
BY Cortvriend
ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$190,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF A MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL AND THE RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF SCHOOL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE TOWN AND ALL ATTENDANT EXPENSES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, DEMOLITION, ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL AND LANDSCAPING COSTS

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

14. **2023-S 206 SUB A**
BY DiPalma
ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$190,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF A MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL AND THE RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF SCHOOL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE TOWN AND ALL ATTENDANT EXPENSES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, DEMOLITION, ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL AND LANDSCAPING COSTS

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

15. **2023-H 6292 SUB A**
BY McNamara
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES

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

16. **2023-H 5282 SUB A**
BY Vella-Wilkinson
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS --
PHARMACIES

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

17. **2023-H 6061 SUB A**
BY Craven
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- SUBDIVISION OF
LAND

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

18. **2023-H 6294**
BY Tanzi
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- MERIT
SYSTEM

Committee on Finance recommends passage.

19. **2023-S 904**
BY DiPalma
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- MERIT
SYSTEM

Ordered to be placed on the Calendar for passage in concurrence.

20. **2023-S 885**
BY Lawson
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF
LOCAL TAXES

Ordered to be placed on the Calendar for passage in concurrence.

Francis McCabe
Clerk of the House

Friday, May 19, 2023
Updated: Tuesday, May 23, 2023