

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

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Journal of the Senate

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JANUARY SESSION of the General Assembly begun and held at the State House in the City of Providence on Tuesday, the seventh day of January in the year of Our Lord two thousand and fourteen.

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Volume 141, No.11

Thursday, January 30, 2014

Eleventh Legislative Day

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The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable M. Teresa Paiva Weed, President of the Senate, at 4:16 o'clock P.M.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 38 Senators present and 0 Senators absent as follows:

**PRESENT** – 38: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Bates, Ciccone, Conley, Cool Rumsey, Cote, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Hodgson, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Nesselbush, O'Neill, Ottiano, Pearson, Picard, Pichardo, Raptakis, Ruggerio, Satchell, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Walaska.

**ABSENT** – 0:

**INVOCATION**

The Honorable President, by unanimous consent, presents Senator O'Neill to deliver the invocation.

(See Appendix for Invocation)

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

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

**APPROVAL OF RECORD**

The Senate Journal of the Tenth Legislative Day of the 2013 proceedings is read in part.

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

### GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Sheehan and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Nellie Gorbea, former Deputy Secretary of State.

Upon suggestion of Senator Lombardo and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Mickey Bailey, from the Town of Johnston.

Upon suggestion of Senator Metts and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Bryan Welch, Providence Park Ranger.

Upon suggestion of Senator Pichardo and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Honoree Ronald Jennings, Providence Park Ranger, Councilman Wilbur Jennings, and Juan Hernandez, Providence Park Ranger.

Upon suggestion of Senator Jabour and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Police Chief Hugh T. Clements, Jr., Providence Police Department.

Upon suggestion of Senator Ruggerio and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Lieutenant Kevin Lanni, Providence Police Department, Anthony Capalli, Providence Park Ranger, Dane Shillan, Providence Park Ranger and Victoria Virgilio, President of Local Union 1033.

Upon suggestion of Senator Goodwin and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Commander Thomas F. Oates III, Deputy Chief of Police, Providence Police Department.

Upon suggestion of Senator Lynch and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Juan Hernandez, Providence Park Ranger.

Upon suggestion of Senator Fogarty and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Police Chief Hugh T. Clements, Jr., Providence Police Department and Commander Thomas F. Oates III, Deputy Chief of Police, Providence Police Department.

### APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR

The Honorable President presents the following communication from His Excellency, the Governor, transmitting the following appointments and requesting the advice and consent of the Senate thereto:

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
STATE HOUSE**

January 27, 2014

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 37-6-1 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the State Properties Committee:

**Mary Louise Kennedy**

VICE  
Robert Kay  
(resigned)

for a term expiring March 1, 2015.

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

Sincerely,

Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor

Read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
STATE HOUSE**

January 27, 2014

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 37-6-1 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the State Properties Committee:

**Robert L. Brunelle**

VICE  
Lawrence S. Eichler  
(resigned)

for a term expiring March 1, 2016.

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

Sincerely,

Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor

Read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
STATE HOUSE**

January 30, 2014

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 36-8-4 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the State Retirement Board:

**Mark A. Carruolo of Warwick**

VICE  
M. Carl Heintzelman

for a term expiring March 1, 2015.

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

Sincerely,

Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor

Read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
STATE HOUSE**

January 27, 2014

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 42-64-7.1 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation:

**Jonathan N. Savage of Providence**

VICE  
Kathleen Hittner  
(resigned)

for a term expiring June 1, 2016.

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

Sincerely,

Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor

Read and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

<p style="text-align:center"><b>STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS</b> <b>STATE HOUSE</b></p> <p>January 27, 2014</p> <p>TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:</p> <p>I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 42-64-7.1 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation:</p> <p style="text-align:center"><b>Paul A. Carroll of Lincoln</b></p> <p style="text-align:center">VICE Joseph Cianciolo</p> <p>for a term expiring June 1, 2016.</p> <p>To this appointment, I respectfully request your advice and consent.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Lincoln D. Chafee Governor</p>
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Read and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

<p style="text-align:center"><b>STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS</b> <b>STATE HOUSE</b></p> <p>January 27, 2014</p> <p>TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:</p> <p>I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 42-64-7.1 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the Rhode Island Airport Corporation:</p> <p style="text-align:center"><b>Deborah Thomas</b></p> <p>for a term expiring June 1, 2016.</p> <p>To this reappointment, I respectfully request your advice and consent.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Lincoln D. Chafee Governor</p>
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Read and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
STATE HOUSE**

January 27, 2014

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 42-64-8 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation:

**Elizabeth Francis**

for a term expiring February 1, 2018.

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

Sincerely,

Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor

Read and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Also:

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
STATE HOUSE**

January 27, 2014

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 42-64-8 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation:

**Oscar T. Hebert**  
(representing small business)

for a term expiring February 1, 2018.

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

Sincerely,

Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor

Read and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Also:

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
STATE HOUSE**

January 27, 2014

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 42-64-8 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation:

**Karl Wadensten**

for a term expiring February 1, 2018.

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

Sincerely,

Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor

Read and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Senate Resolution No. 2168**

**BY** O'Neill

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING ITS DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF STEPHEN R. FAMIGLETTI {LC3283/1}

Read and ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar.

Also:

**Senate Resolution No. 2169**

**BY** Pearson, Picard

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING CHRISTIAN GRANT ON ACHIEVING SCOUTING'S MOST DISTINGUISHED HONOR, THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT {LC3951/1}

Read and ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2170**

**BY** Satchell

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (would allow Janice Antonellis to join Kathryn Antonellis and Richard D'Amico in marriage on or about June 7, 2014, within the City of Newport, Rhode Island.) {LC3820/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2171**

**BY** Goodwin

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (would allow The Honorable F. Herbert Gruendel to join Julia Zajac and Evan Seeman in marriage on or about September 27, 2014, within the Village of Watch Hill, Rhode Island.) {LC3158/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Resolution No. 2173**

**BY** Lombardi, Ruggerio, Goodwin, Pichardo, Metts

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION APPLAUDING THE HEROIC ACTIONS OF EDWARD CATONI AND RONALD JENNINGS {LC3769/1}

Senator Lombardi requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Lombardi moves passage, seconded by Senators Ruggerio, Goodwin, Metts, Jabour, Miller, Bates, Algieri, Walaska, Gallo, Lynch, Doyle, Fogarty, Ottiano, Satchell, Archambault and DiPalma.

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

**GUESTS**

Upon suggestion of Senator Lombardi and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Honoree Edward Catoni.

Upon suggestion of Senator Pichardo and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Honoree Ronald Jennings, Providence Park Ranger.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Senate Resolution No. 2174**

**BY** Pichardo, Metts, Ciccone, Lombardo, Walaska

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING ITS DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THOMAS A. FOLEY {LC3455/1}

Senator Pichardo requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Pichardo moves passage, seconded by Senators Ciccone and Ruggerio.

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



Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2172**

**BY** DiPalma

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (would allow Daniel Baker to join Jeffrey Allen Hedden and Shuwen Hu in marriage on or about February 8, 2014, within the Town of Bristol, Rhode Island.) {LC3967/1}

Senator DiPalma requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator DiPalma moves passage, seconded by Senator Felag.

The act is read and passed, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote with 37 Senators voting in the affirmative and 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS- 37: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Bates, Ciccone, Conley, Cool Rumsey, Cote, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Hodgson, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Nesselbush, O'Neill, Ottiano, Pearson, Picard, Pichardo, Raptakis, Ruggerio, Satchell, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Walaska.

NAYS- 0:

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2175**

**BY** Raptakis, Archambault, Satchell, Kettle

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -  
REGULATORY POWERS OF ADMINISTRATION  
{LC3518/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Commerce.

Also:

**Senate Resolution No. 2176**

**BY** DiPalma, Ruggerio, Lombardo, Metts

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING CONGRESS TO RE-  
ENACT PROVISIONS OF THE GLASS-STEAGALL BANKING ACT  
{LC3249/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Commerce.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2177**

**BY** Kettle

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO WEIGHTS AND MEASURES - PRODUCE SCALES  
IN MARKETS

{LC3516/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Commerce.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2178**

**BY** Ciccone, Walaska, Lombardi, Felag, Lombardo

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES

{LC3863/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Commerce.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2179**

**BY** Miller

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY  
PROVISIONS

{LC3612/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Commerce.

Also:

**Senate Resolution No. 2180**

**BY** Fogarty, Algieri, Ciccone, Lombardi, Doyle

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE RHODE  
ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE STATE'S THREE PUBLIC  
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO COLLABORATIVELY DEVELOP  
EXCEPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN CAREER AND  
TECHNICAL EDUCATION

{LC3696/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Education.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2181**

**BY** Felag, Walaska, Metts

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - SCHOOL AND YOUTH PROGRAMS  
CONCUSSION ACT

{LC3893/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Education.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2182**

**BY** Goodwin, Archambault, Goldin, Pichardo, O`Neill

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- ADULT EDUCATION  
{LC3648/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Education.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2183**

**BY** Felag, Pearson, Algieri, Gallo, Lynch

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF  
EDUCATION ACT  
{LC3656/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Education.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2184**

**BY** Satchell, Lombardi, Metts, Algieri, Sheehan

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF  
TEACHERS GENERALLY  
{LC3779/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Education.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2185**

**BY** Metts, Crowley, Pichardo, Jabour, Satchell

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - THE PAUL W. CROWLEY RHODE  
ISLAND STUDENT INVESTMENT INITIATIVE - NOTICE PROVISIONS  
{LC3611/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Education.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2186**

**BY** DiPalma, Felag, Ottiano, Kettle

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY - SOIL  
AMENDMENTS  
{LC3166/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2187**

**BY** Gallo, Lynch, DaPonte, Goodwin, Ruggerio

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- LITTER CONTROL AND RECYCLING

{LC3247/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2188**

**BY** Kettle

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE - FRESHWATER FISHING

{LC3647/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2189**

**BY** Archambault, Ruggerio, DiPalma, Goldin, Lombardi

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

{LC3884/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2190**

**BY** Lombardo, Nesselbush, Conley, Lombardi, Archambault

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RHODE ISLAND RESOURCE RECOVERY CORPORATION

{LC3832/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Environment and Agriculture.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2191**

**BY** O'Neill, Bates, McCaffrey, Algieri, Jabour

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX

{LC3730/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2192**

**BY** Kettle, Ottiano, Hodgson, Cote

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE -- STATE BUDGET  
{LC3396/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2193**

**BY** Miller

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY  
{LC4047/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2194**

**BY** DiPalma, Doyle, Miller, Sosnowski, Ottiano

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -  
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMUNITY SENIOR SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM  
{LC3777/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2195**

**BY** DiPalma, Doyle, Goldin, Pichardo, Ottiano

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, DEVELOPMENT  
DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS -- DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
{LC3828/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2196**

**BY** Miller, Pichardo, DiPalma, Sosnowski, Metts

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE  
RHODE ISLAND SOCIAL IMPACT BOND ACT  
{LC3771/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2197**

**BY** Miller, DiPalma, Felag, Sosnowski, Nesselbush

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- ELIMINATING EXCISE TAX FOR QUALIFIED ELECTRIC PLUG-IN DRIVE VEHICLES

{LC3620/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2198**

**BY** Crowley, Picard, Cote, Satchell, Conley

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - BUDGET COMMISSIONS

{LC3862/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2199**

**BY** Sheehan, Hodgson, Cote, DiPalma, Conley

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF NARRAGANSETT TO FINANCE THE IMPROVEMENT, RENOVATION, REPAIR, RECONSTRUCTION AND/OR RESTORATION OF AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE TOWN OF NARRAGANSETT PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING AND TO ISSUE NOT MORE THAN \$2,000,000 BONDS AND NOTES THEREFOR

{LC3826/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2200**

**BY** Goodwin

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - LEAD POISONING PREVENTION ACT

{LC3816/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2201**

**BY** Raptakis, Archambault, Cool Rumsey, Cote, Satchell

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SALES AND USE TAXES - LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION

{LC3520/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2202**

**BY** Miller, Sosnowski, DiPalma, Felag, Bates

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - ALTERNATIVE FUEL INFRASTRUCTURE INCENTIVE

{LC3618/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2203**

**BY** Walaska

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - EXCISE ON MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAILERS

{LC3240/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2204**

**BY** Pearson, Satchell, Sheehan

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX

{LC3424/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2205**

**BY** Pearson, Satchell, Conley, Cool Rumsey, Picard

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - SALES AND USE TAXES - LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION

{LC3272/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2206**

**BY** Metts, Crowley, Jabour, Miller, Nesselbush

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - PERSONAL INCOME TAX  
{LC3606/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2207**

**BY** Raptakis, Archambault, Cote, Cool Rumsey, Sheehan

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES--LIABILITY  
AND COMPUTATION  
{LC3588/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2208**

**BY** Doyle, Nesselbush, DiPalma

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - FUNDING OF CHARTER PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS  
{LC3883/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2209**

**BY** Walaska, Bates, Felag, Lombardo, McCaffrey

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX  
{LC3935/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2210**

**BY** Metts, Pichardo, Crowley

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PERSONAL INCOME TAX  
{LC3890/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:



**Senate Bill No. 2211**

**BY** Lombardo, Conley, Archambault

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - RHODE ISLAND  
RESOURCE RECOVERY CORPORATION

{LC3831/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2212**

**BY** DiPalma

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - STATE AID

{LC3323/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2213**

**BY** Miller, Bates, DiPalma, Felag, Sosnowski

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - RENEWABLE ENERGY TAX CREDIT

{LC3616/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2214**

**BY** DiPalma, Archambault, Felag, Ciccone

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - PERSONAL INCOME TAX

{LC3164/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2215**

**BY** Goodwin

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - THE  
AGING IN COMMUNITY OF 2014

{LC3257/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2216**

**BY** Sosnowski, Miller, Pichardo, Picard, Bates

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE -- STATE FUNDS  
{LC3644/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2217**

**BY** Lombardo, Picard, Nesselbush, Miller, McCaffrey

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION  
{LC3830/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2218**

**BY** Kettle, Ottiano, DaPonte, Pearson, Algieri

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - INCOME TAX REFUNDS - STATE  
TAX OFFICIALS  
{LC3399/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2219**

**BY** Crowley, Sosnowski, Miller, Pearson, Jabour

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --  
MEDICAID FRAUD AND WASTE PREVENTION  
{LC3422/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2220**

**BY** DaPonte, Gallo, Ciccone, DiPalma, Ottiano

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS --  
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY--GENERAL PROVISIONS  
{LC3657/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2221**

**BY** Sosnowski, Miller, Nesselbush, Cool Rumsey, Gallo

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- GENDER RATING  
{LC3873/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2222**

**BY** Miller, Ruggerio, Sosnowski, DaPonte, Picard

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HOSPITAL CHARGES  
{LC3156/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2223**

**BY** Raptakis, O'Neill, Archambault, Kettle

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT  
{LC3380/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2224**

**BY** Kettle, Sosnowski, Fogarty, Archambault, Hodgson

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS - RAW MILK  
{LC3395/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Also:

**Senate Resolution No. 2225**

**BY** Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Cool Rumsey, Goldin, Miller

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING  
(COOL) FOR PHARMACEUTICALS  
{LC3716/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2226**

**BY** Walaska

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS TO BE LABELED

{LC3202/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Also:

**Senate Resolution No. 2227**

**BY** Satchell, Pearson, Fogarty, Felag, Walaska

**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES AND AMENDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY RHODE ISLAND'S ZONING AND SUBDIVISION ENABLING ACTS

{LC3915/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Housing and Municipal Government.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2228**

**BY** Walaska, Paiva Weed, DiPalma, Lynch, Ciccone

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- TENTS-- GRANDSTANDS--AIR-SUPPORTED STRUCTURES

{LC3506/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Housing and Municipal Government.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2229**

(by request)

**BY** Cool Rumsey

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS-- REGISTRATION OF BUSINESSES IN RICHMOND

{LC3901/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Housing and Municipal Government.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2230**

**BY** Metts, Pichardo

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- IMMIGRATION STATUS  
{LC3613/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2231**

**BY** Sosnowski, Archambault, Goodwin

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - MOTOR  
VEHICLE OFFENSES  
{LC3874/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2232**

**BY** Miller

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--PROCEDURE  
GENERALLY -- JUDGMENTS, ORDERS AND DECREES -- INTEREST ON JUDGMENTS  
{LC3534/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2233**

**BY** Miller

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--COURTS  
{LC3622/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2234**

**BY** Nesselbush, Miller, DaPonte, Bates, Fogarty

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY - RECORDING OF INSTRUMENTS  
{LC3913/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2235**

**BY** Fogarty, Nesselbush, Gallo, Lynch, Miller  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS  
{LC3905/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2236**

**BY** Raptakis, Cote, Kettle, O`Neill  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- REGISTRATION OF VOTERS  
{LC3386/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2237**

**BY** Lynch, Gallo, Doyle  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - ELECTIVE MEETINGS  
{LC3530/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2238**

(by request)  
**BY** Algieri  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROBATE PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE -  
PRACTICE IN PROBATE COURTS  
{LC3446/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2239**

**BY** Ciccone, Felag, Walaska, Lombardi, Lombardo  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- HUNTING AND HUNTING  
SAFETY  
{LC3865/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2240**

**BY** Picard, Cote

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - FOREIGN REGISTERED VEHICLES

{LC3955/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2241**

(Governor)

**BY** Ciccone, Pichardo

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - OPERATORS' AND CHAUFFEURS' LICENSES

{LC3864/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2242**

**BY** Lynch, Gallo, Goodwin, Nesselbush, Sosnowski

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS

{LC3705/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2243**

**BY** Lynch

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

{LC3949/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2244**

**BY** Doyle, Nesselbush, Miller, Satchell, Cool Rumsey

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION ACT

{LC3910/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2245**

**BY** Raptakis, Cote, Kettle, O'Neill

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- REGISTRATION OF VOTERS  
{LC3389/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2246**

**BY** Satchell, Ruggerio, Pearson, McCaffrey, Archambault

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- CERTIFIED  
SCHOOL TEACHERS' ARBITRATION  
{LC3726/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Labor.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2247**

**BY** Doyle

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- WORKERS'  
COMPENSATION BENEFITS  
{LC3575/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Labor.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2248**

**BY** Sheehan, Picard, Miller, Bates, Cote

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - RHODE ISLAND NEW QUALIFIED  
JOBS INCENTIVE ACT OF 2014  
{LC3284/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Labor.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2249**

**BY** Lynch, Miller, Metts, Pearson, Satchell

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR - MINIMUM WAGES  
{LC3818/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Labor.



Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2250**

**BY** Raptakis, Ciccone, Sheehan, Walaska, McCaffrey

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - MINIMUM WAGES

{LC3373/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Labor.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2251**

**BY** Miller

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE -- WORK ON HOLIDAYS AND SUNDAYS

{LC3609/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Labor.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2252**

**BY** McCaffrey, Felag, Conley, Algieri, Fogarty

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - STATE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

{LC3649/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Labor.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2253**

**BY** Picard, Pearson

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - UNIFORM COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE ACT

{LC3808/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2254**

**BY** Archambault, Ruggerio, O'Neill, Ciccone, Nesselbush

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES

{LC3561/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2255**

**BY** Miller, Jabour, Cool Rumsey, Algieri

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY - THE PERMANENT JOINT COMMITTEE ON NAMING ALL NEW BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, EDIFICES, AND OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTIONS

{LC3623/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2256**

**BY** Felag

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS

{LC3846/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Also:

**Senate Bill No. 2257**

**BY** Cote, Felag, Pearson, Doyle, Nesselbush

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS

{LC3889/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs.

Also:

**Senate Resolution No. 2258**

**BY** Lynch, Doyle

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION AMENDING THE RULES OF THE SENATE FOR THE YEARS 2013 AND 2014

{LC3888/1}

Read and ordered to the Committee on Rules.

Also:

**Senate Resolution No. 2259**

**BY** Cool Rumsey, Pearson, Algieri, Miller, Sosnowski

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING WOOD RIVER HEALTH SERVICES ON EARNING NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR PATIENT-CENTERED CARE

{LC3465/1}

Read and ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

In order for the day is taken up as follows:

**1. 2014-S 2167**

**BY** Lombardi

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING MARISSA CASTELLI AND HER SKATING PARTNER, SIMON SHNAPIR, FOR QUALIFYING FOR THE UNITED STATES WINTER OLYMPICS PAIRS FIGURE SKATING TEAM AND REPRESENTING THE UNITED STATES AT THE 2014 WINTER OLYMPICS IN SOCHI, RUSSIA

Upon motion of Senator Ruggerio, seconded by Senator Algieri, the measures on today's Consent Calendar, by unanimous consent, are read and passed, upon a roll call vote with 38 Senators voting in the affirmative and 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS- 38: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Bates, Ciccone, Conley, Cool Rumsey, Cote, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Hodgson, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Nesselbush, O'Neill, Ottiano, Pearson, Picard, Pichardo, Raptakis, Ruggerio, Satchell, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Walaska.

NAYS- 0:

**CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2014:****1. 2014-S 2008**

**BY** McCaffrey

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RHODE ISLAND COMMERCE CORPORATION

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Senator McCaffrey moves passage, seconded by Senators Lombardi, Goodwin, Gallo, Walaska, Sheehan, Archambault, DiPalma and Crowley.

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

YEAS- 38: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Bates, Ciccone, Conley, Cool Rumsey, Cote, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Goldin, Goodwin, Hodgson, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Nesselbush, O'Neill, Ottiano, Pearson, Picard, Pichardo, Raptakis, Ruggerio, Satchell, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Walaska.

NAYS- 0:

**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 or to the Honorable House of Representatives forthwith.

(See Appendix for List)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Senator Ruggerio wishes the Senate Voting Clerk, Brenden T. Oates a Happy Birthday.

Senator Goodwin announces that Deborah A Gist, Commissioner of Education, will deliver the State of Education Address, at the rise of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Senator Goodwin announces that the deadline for bill introduction is Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion of Senator Goodwin seconded by Senator Ruggerio and upon suggestion of Senator Pichardo the Senate adjourns at 4:37 o'clock P.M. in memory of Thomas A. Foley.

**JOSEPH R. BRADY**  
Secretary of the Senate

**Appendix**

**INVOCATION**

**SENATOR EDWARD J. O'NEILL**

Dear Lord, As we gather today to do your work, we ask for your guidance, so that we may clearly see how our decisions effect those who we represent. Please give us the wisdom and strength to do what is right in your eyes. This we pray this in your name. Amen.

**Appendix**

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 04, 2014:**

**1. 2014-S 2168**

**BY** O`Neill

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING ITS DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF STEPHEN R. FAMIGLETTI

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

**2. 2014-S 2169**

**BY** Pearson

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING CHRISTIAN GRANT ON ACHIEVING SCOUTING'S MOST DISTINGUISHED HONOR, THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

**3. 2014-S 2259**

**BY** Cool Rumsey, Pearson, Algieri, Miller, Sosnowski

**ENTITLED**, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING WOOD RIVER HEALTH SERVICES ON EARNING NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR PATIENT-CENTERED CARE

Ordered on the Consent Calendar.

**Appendix****Working for All  
Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner  
January 31, 2014**

Speaker Fox, President Paiva Weed, members of the General Assembly, Governor Chafee, Board Chair Mancuso and members of the Board of Education, school leaders, teachers, students, and all friends of education:

I am honored to stand before you once again to report to you on the state of public education in Rhode Island. Good afternoon! *Buenas tardes! Boa Tarde!*

Thanks for the special greetings from some of our world-language scholars – students from the International Charter School and from the Leviton Dual Language School, in Providence.

I am especially grateful this evening for the opportunity to speak to you near the outset of your legislative session. In the coming months, as you grapple with issues such as economic development and workforce readiness, I have faith that you will uphold our Rhode Island tradition of support for our schools and our students.

As Governor Chafee reported to you in his State of the State address two weeks ago: “Education has always been the great equalizer. No matter where you start, if you get access to a good education and work hard, you can succeed.” Governor Chafee, you recognize that great schools today will bring Rhode Island a brighter future and that transforming education in Rhode Island is the most important economic development plan we have in our state. Through your three years as Governor, in the face of really tough economic challenges, you have been steadfast in support for public education. I am sure that everyone assembled here this evening joins me in saying: Thank you, Governor Chafee!

Speaker Fox and Senate President Paiva Weed, you have also served as champions of public education. You and your colleagues have put forward legislation that:

- ensures equitable education funding across our state;
- provides greater safety measures for all of our schools, our students, and our educators;
- expands opportunities for early learning and for children to attend charter public schools; and
- embraces the great potential of technology and digital learning – to cite just a few examples.

Thank you for these important decisions and for your unwavering support!

Successful implementation requires steady support from the Board of Education. Under the leadership of Board Chair Mancuso, the Board of Education has maintained its commitment to:

- high expectations,
- strong support systems, and

- multiple opportunities for all students.

Thank you, Chair Mancuso and the members of the Board of Education.

The gap between high-school graduation and college- and career-readiness is narrowing as we engage in on-going policy discussions with our partners at the Community College of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, and the University of Rhode Island. Thank you, Presidents Di Pasquale, Carriuolo, and Dooley for your vision, your leadership, and your partnership.

Throughout the past year in our new structure, we have worked even more closely to support all Rhode Island students – from early childhood, through elementary and secondary schools, adult-education programs, college, and beyond. Looking back on the past year, I see many accomplishments that we have achieved by working together:

Thanks to funding you approved last year, we expanded the state prekindergarten program and awarded grants to four districts to expand full-day kindergarten.

The Board of Education made Rhode Island the first state in the country to adopt the Next Generation Science Standards, which will help prepare our graduates for careers in science, technology, and engineering.

The Community College of Rhode Island and Rhode Island College worked with some of our school districts on summer programs to help students improve in math and prepare for graduation.

In partnership with the Emergency Management Agency, we developed regulations and policies on school safety as well as a model School Safety Plan.

In partnership with the Rhode Island Food Bank, we expanded the Summer Food Services Program – and earned national recognition.

Due to outstanding and unprecedented performance by our adult-education programs, we became one of only 15 states to earn a \$670,000 Workforce Incentive Grant.

In 2013, two of our schools won Green Ribbon awards for environmental excellence from the U.S. Department of Education. Congratulations to The Compass School and the Providence Career and Technical Academy.

Two of our schools won Blue Ribbon awards, the highest honor the U.S. Department of Education awards to schools. Congratulations: Stony Lane Elementary School, in North Kingstown, and the William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical High School.

We received word just this month that Exeter-West Greenwich, Lincoln, and Portsmouth have made the AP Honor Roll, for improvement in both access to and performance in Advanced Placement courses, an accomplishment in line with our goal to ensure more challenging coursework for all students including those at the highest academic levels.



South Kingstown received special recognition as a multiple-year member of the AP Honor Roll –Congratulations!

This work is possible because Rhode Island invests wisely in our children and our schools. In fact, education is the biggest investment we make in the economic prosperity and success of our state. Each year we make a total investment of \$2.1 billion! For that, Rhode Islanders expect and deserve results.

We are getting results, and we are improving each year. Three months ago, the U.S. Department of Education released the 2013 National Assessment of Educational Progress, known as The Nation's Report Card. On all four assessments in mathematics and reading, the percent of Rhode Island students attaining proficiency now stands above the national average - for the first time ever. This progress has been particularly dramatic in grade 8, where our improvements far exceed the national average in both mathematics and reading.

And what about our high-school seniors? Tomorrow morning, we will release the statewide results of the 2013 NECAP assessments. Already, after the first retake opportunity, 73 percent of students in the Class of 2014 have earned the math assessment component of their graduation requirements. This is up from just 60 percent a year ago. As you know, the remaining students have many other opportunities to continue to improve and a variety of ways in which they can demonstrate their math accomplishments.

After ten years of working toward this moment, this is the year our Diploma System is fully in place, and it has already resulted in better prepared students. We have much more to do over the next few months to successfully graduate our seniors, and we will get it done.

Our schools are already making sure that our younger students are increasingly better prepared before they get to high school. So let's not lose sight of the magnitude of what Rhode Island has accomplished. More students today are ready to graduate – and they are much more ready to succeed beyond high school. We are on the right course.

We cannot give up on our students or limit them by lowering expectations. We cannot consign our graduates to lives of economic dependence. We must demonstrate to our students that their hard work will pay off and that they can rise to meet a challenge. We must show them time and again that we will do whatever it takes to help them.

Our students need us to believe in them, to expect that they can and will achieve, and to help them do so. When we give students and teachers the support they need and when we hold one another accountable – students, families, teachers, education leaders, myself included – we get results.

Look what has happened in Central Falls High School, where the four-year graduation rate has moved from 48 percent in 2009 to 74 percent in 2013. Look at Charles E. Shea Senior High School, in Pawtucket, where the four-year graduation rate has climbed from 57 percent in 2009 to 83 percent today!

But despite the progress we have made, we have much more to do to ensure that all students in Rhode Island are achieving. We must be sure that every school and classroom in our state is a place where learning is meaningful, joyful, and dynamic.

A great education prepares students for challenging careers and a rewarding quality of life. Our graduates must have a civic responsibility, a respect for others, a love of learning, a sense of our cultural history, and an understanding of our role within a global society. We need schools that engage students across the curriculum – through the study of:

English and mathematics,  
science and technology,  
social studies and civics,  
economics and history,  
world languages and the arts,  
health and physical education,  
career, technical, and business education.

In Rhode Island, what goes on in the school and in the classroom remains a local responsibility – as it should be. When I was a teacher, I had a tremendous amount of autonomy in the classroom, and I hear from teachers all the time who share with me their frustrations about not having the ability to make decisions concerning their students.

Decisions about instruction, curriculum, classroom assessments, and learning materials should be made by and with those closest to our students. Recognizing the importance of this concept, two months ago Governor Chafee convened the Educator Autonomy Working Group. This group meets monthly, and the members will make specific recommendations on ways we can provide more flexibility for teachers, principals, and superintendents.

As just one member of the group, I am proud to be working under the leadership of two terrific co-chairs: Yanaiza Gallant, last year's Milken Educator Award Winner and Patricia Page, a business-education teacher for East Greenwich High School and our 2014 Rhode Island Teacher of the Year. Thank you, Yanaiza and Pat, for your commitment to this work and for all that you do.

The first priority in our strategic plan for transforming education is to ensure that we have highly effective teachers in every classroom and highly effective leaders in every school and district. I'm honored that some of the leading educators in Rhode Island have taken the time to join us this evening.

Our 2013 Milken Educator Award winner teaches mathematics and serves as Academic Dean at the Blackstone Valley Prep Mayoral Academy and she works with the teachers in Central Falls as well – truly showing her commitment to teaching and learning for *all* Rhode Island students. Please welcome Marielle Emet.

The 2014 Superintendent of the Year joins us tonight, all the way from Foster-Glocester. Please welcome Superintendent Michael Barnes.

Joining our Rhode Island Teacher of the Year Pat Page tonight are our 2014 District Teachers of the Year.

One of the highlights of my schedule is the weekly presentation of Golden Apple awards to educators, based on nominations from parents and from students themselves. Please join me in

thanking NBC 10 and Hasbro, our Golden Apple partners, along with the winners of this year's Golden Apple Awards.

I am also grateful to meet regularly with an advisory group of teachers, the Educators in Action to discuss a wide range of professional issues. In the fall, this team of distinguished teachers hosted a statewide forum on the Common Core State Standards—by teachers and for teachers. I look forward to continued input from this team of excellent educators.

It may seem like only a short while ago, but nearly four years have passed since we received our first Race to the Top grant. From the outset, our work has been guided by the Race to the Top Steering Committee – under the leadership of co-chairs Colleen Jermain, now superintendent of the Newport Schools, and Neil Steinberg, CEO of the Rhode Island Foundation. Thank you, Colleen, Neil, and the members of your Steering Committee!

We are in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge. The Rhode Island Early Learning Council guides our work on this initiative. Thank you, Elizabeth Burke-Bryant, of Rhode Island KIDS COUNT, and all the members of the Early Learning Council and the early-childhood community, for your continued support of all that's best for our littlest Rhode Islanders!

I've shared some of the highlights of the past year. As we approach the fifth and final year of our Strategic Plan for Transforming Education, I would like to take a moment now to consider some images of the future. I would like to share a sense of the aspirations we can embrace together, and a vision of what our schools can achieve as we continue our journey to become the home of America's best public schools.

Can you imagine a school that is truly designed from the ground up to meet the best interest of students? What would such a school look like? Well, we figured the best place to start is by asking the students themselves. So we have formed a partnership with the Business Innovation Factory and Youth in Action to bring a group of students together in the Students Design for Education – the SD4E – project. Through SD4E, students will brainstorm, share ideas, design, and create a school of their own – and then our plan is to make that school a reality that will educate young people in Rhode Island for years to come.

As we envision the schools of tomorrow, we need to be sure to welcome technology into the classroom – not just as a tool or resource but as an essential element in the process of teaching and learning. Thanks to your leadership and support through the Wireless Classroom Initiative and the Statewide Virtual Education Act, Rhode Island school leaders and teachers are embracing technology and digital learning.

In our Innovation Powered by Technology model schools – Pleasant View Elementary School, in Providence, and Wakefield Hills Elementary School, in West Warwick – students and teachers are creating learning environments that others are emulating.

Virtual learning and online instruction are transforming the way all of us think about schools, classrooms, teaching, and learning. In our model schools, in schools like the Village Green Virtual Public Charter School, and in many classrooms across the state, we see teachers and students who are even more engaged, as they work in small teams and one on one, using technology to create and collaborate and to meet the individual learning needs of every student.

Last month, about 50 of our schools took time to participate in a unique national event called the “Hour of Code.” Participating schools took an hour during the week to introduce students to computer science and to show that “anyone can learn the basics to be a maker, a creator, an innovator.” I had the pleasure of joining the Hour of Code in Warwick, where I saw some students explain computer code before a school assembly. Carter Clifton, one of the computer-science students, is here with his teacher, Tracy Mollock, of the Warwick Neck Elementary School. Let’s say hello to Ms. Mollock and to Carter!

I bet you weren’t expecting a first-grader.

Over the past several years, we have focused intensely on the so-called STEM subjects - science, technology, engineering, and mathematics – and quite rightly so. There is no doubt that the sciences and technology are driving forces in today’s economy, in Rhode Island and across the world.

In fact, an international movement called STEM to STEAM began right here in Rhode Island at the Rhode Island School of Design. It’s pretty simple: take STEM and add an A - as in science, technology, engineering, ARTS, and mathematics. With our world-renowned creative-arts culture, our history of innovation in manufacturing and design, and our growing “maker movement,” Rhode Island is the perfect home base for what has become a worldwide phenomenon.

Just visit some schools to see how our students are exploring the connections between the sciences and the arts and design! Students at Slater Junior High School, in Pawtucket, are making the connections between technology and design. The 7<sup>th</sup>-grade robotics team at Slater just won the Inspire Award at the First Tech Challenge – competing against teams up to grade 12!

And if you want to see for yourself some examples of STEM to STEAM and marine technology, visit the Providence Boat Show, which begins tomorrow at the Convention Center. There you’ll see boats that students in our career-technical programs and engineering classes have built.

Congratulations to the students and teachers in Slater Junior High, Chariho Career and Technical Center, Tiverton High School, and the Warwick Area Career and Technical Center.

After more than 20 years, we have adopted new regulations on career-and-technical education. Under this new design, career-tech in Rhode Island has:

- opened opportunities for students across the state; and
- focused our resources on fields that will drive the Rhode Island economy– a central tenet in the important plan that the Senate released last week, Rhode to Work.

So, let’s make our own STEM to STEAM moment right now as we welcome educators who have won key awards this year in science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics:

The winners of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching,

Regina Kilday, of Exeter-West Greenwich;

Clare Ornburn, of Charibo;  
Gary Monuteaux of Barrington, and  
Mike Starring, of Smithfield, the Technology Teachers of the Year; and  
Patricia A. Lucciola, of North Providence, the Art Educator of the Year.

The work we do is designed to prepare our students to succeed in and contribute to our rapidly changing global community. No matter what field our graduates enter – health care, social services, hospitality, business, engineering, military intelligence, to name a few – they will prosper if they understand other cultures *and* other languages.

We know learning languages also exercises the brain in important ways. Let's welcome Margarita Dempsey, of Smithfield High School, the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Teacher of the Year for the entire Northeast Region and a finalist for the national honor. Congratulations, Margarita!

If we are truly committed to preparing students for success in challenging careers, we need to expand opportunities and encourage immersion in world languages, beginning in the early grades.

What if we set an ambitious goal for ourselves? By 2020, every district in Rhode Island will offer dual language immersion opportunities beginning at kindergarten with a plan for progression through middle and high school. Imagine our students leaving elementary school fluent in two languages! States such as Utah have shown that schools can offer dual language immersion at scale with no additional ongoing cost.

Rhode Island, with our rich history of cultural diversity, can surely become the national leader in world languages. Let's go! *Avanti!*

As I know from the many letters, e-mails, and phone calls I receive every day, parents in Rhode Island are serious about success in school.

Parents are very clear that they want us to:

- know their children well;
- keep them safe;
- challenge them to reach excellence;
- support them in their endeavors; and
- inspire them to reach for the stars.

Who can disagree? We know what we can accomplish when we all work together – parents, students, teachers, school leaders, community members, labor leaders, and elected officials. We won't always agree, obviously, on every policy, every decision, every detail. But I truly hope and believe that we will put our differences aside and focus on the goals we share:

- pride in our schools;
- belief in our students;
- support for our teachers ;
- opportunity for our graduates; and

- a bright economic future for our state.

It's not every day that Rhode Islanders come together, as we have tonight, to reflect on our place in the world and the future of our children.

Can what we do in Rhode Island really affect the world? Yes. Our power is greater than we often realize. After all, our state is not really an "island." We have long, deep, historic connections to many cultures across the globe. When we see our ethnic and cultural diversity as an asset, we can attract businesses to our state, as the Rhode Island Foundation initiative, Make It Happen, has emphasized.

Rhode Island may be a micro-state, but we are also a microcosm. We can innovate, take risks, and lead the way – as a state. Let's show the world what we can do when we come together – with our hopes, our faith, and our talents – to work in the best interest of our students!