

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Journal of the Senate

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

Volume 143, No.32 Wednesday, March 30, 2016

Thirty-Second Legislative Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable M. Teresa Paiva Weed, President of the Senate at 4:31 o'clock P.M.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 35 Senators present and 3 Senator absent as follows:

PRESENT – 35: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators Algieri, Archambault, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Felag Fogarty, Gallo, Gee, Goldin Goodwin, Jabour, Kettle, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Morgan, Nesselbush, O'Neill, Pagliarini, Pearson, Picard, Pichardo Raptakis, Ruggerio, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Walaska.

ABSENT – 3: Senators Coyne, Doyle, and Satchell.

INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

The Senate Journal of the Thirty-First Legislative Day of the 2016 proceedings is read in part.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Honorable President presents the following communications:

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

March 30, 2016

The Honorable M. Teresa Paiva Weed
President of the Senate
318 State House
Providence, RI 02903

Dear President Paiva Weed:

Please be advised and let the record reflect that due to a professional obligation, I will be absent from the chamber on Wednesday, March 30, 2016.

I would appreciate your recording my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Senator Adam J. Satchell
Senate District 09

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

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

March 31, 2016

The Honorable M. Teresa Paiva Weed
President of the Senate
State House, Room 318
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Madam President,

Please be advised and let the record reflect that I will be absent from the Chamber on Wednesday, March 30th and Thursday March 31st for a professional obligation.

I would appreciate you recording my letter in the appropriate Senate Journal.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Cynthia A. Coyne
Senator, District 32

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
FROM THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Senator DaPonte from the Committee on Finance, reports back, with recommendation of passage of the following measure:

Senate Bill No. 2450 SUB A

BY Conley, Lynch Prata, Nesselbush, Fogarty, Pagliarini

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- UTILITY BASE RATE (Extends the Renewable Energy Development Fund (REF) program for ten years, from 2017 to 2027.)
{LC4452/A/1}

Read and ordered to be placed on the Calendar.

GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Nesselbush and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Juan David Belacazar Perez, Carlos Mario Sanchez Villegas, Elias Maurico Rojas Ardila, Aarim Joseph Zea Castano, and Stella Carrera.

CALENDAR**1. 2016-S 2152****BY** Ciccone**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION

Committee on Finance recommends passage

Senator Ciccone moves passage, seconded by Senators DaPonte, Goodwin, Lombardi, Archambault, DiPalma, Walaska, and Nesselbush.

Senators Pagliarini, Ciccone, DaPonte, Jabour, Felag, Walaska, and Lynch Prata discuss the bill

The act is read and passed, upon a roll call vote with 28 Senators voting in the affirmative and 7 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS- 28: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators, Archambault, Ciccone, Conley, Cote, Crowley, DaPonte, DiPalma, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Goldin Goodwin, Jabour,, Lombardi, Lombardo, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, Nesselbush, Pearson, Picard, Pichardo, Ruggerio, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Walaska.

NAYS- 7: Algiere, Gee, Kettle, Morgan, O'Neill, Pagliarini, Raptakis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Metts announces the committee on Education will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Room 313 of the State House.

Senator Conley announces the committee on Environment & Agriculture will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Room 211 of the State House.

Senator Crowley announces the committee on Housing & Municipal Government will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Senate Lounge of the State House.

Senator Lynch Prata announces the committee on Special Legislation and Veterans' Affairs will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Room 310 of the State House.

Senator Lombardo announces the committee on Labor will meet today at the rise of the Senate in Room 212 of the State House

TRANSMITTAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Senator Goodwin seconded by Senator Kettle, the Senate adjourns at 4:49 o'clock P.M.

Appendix**INVOCATION****SENATOR WILLIAM J. CONLEY, JR.**

As the spring season begins, we pray that we all be unbound from that which weighs heaviest on our hearts and that a new season of restoration and revelation begins. We ask for Your guidance in restoring the face of the earth. May we learn to live in harmony, safety and peace. Amen.

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2016:

1. **2016-S 2857**
 BY Morgan
 ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE TOMAQUAG MUSEUM ON BEING SELECTED AS A FINALIST FOR THE 2016 NATIONAL MEDAL FOR MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICE

 Ordered on the Calendar.
2. **2016-S 2235**
 BY Ruggerio
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- PAYMENT OF WAGES

 Committee on Labor recommends passage.
3. **2016-S 2475**
 BY Nesselbush
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES

 Committee on Labor recommends passage.
4. **2016-H 7086 SUB A**
 BY Malik
 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 and Veterans Affairs recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A in concurrence.

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2016:

1. **2016-S 2450 SUB A**
 BY Conley
 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- UTILITY BASE RATE

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

Joseph Brady
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix**PROCEEDINGS IN JOINT SESSION**

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

The Honorable, President of the Senate, M. Teresa Paiva Weed in the Chair.

CALLED TO ORDER

The Joint Session is called to order at 4:55 o'clock P.M.

Upon suggestion of The Honorable, President of the Senate, and by unanimous consent, the reading of the roll of the Senate and the roll of the House of Representatives is dispensed with, there being a quorum of the Senate and a quorum of the House of Representatives present, therefore a quorum of the Joint Session.

Upon suggestion of the The Honorable, President of the Senate and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, and The Honorable Speaker of the House, Nicholas A. Mattiello, welcome to the House Chamber Her Excellency, the Governor, Gina M. Raimondo.

The Honorable, President of the Senate, presents the Commissioner of Education, Dr. Ken Wagner, to the Joint Session.

The Commissioner of Education, Dr. Ken Wagner delivers his State of Education Address.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Speaker Mattiello, seconded by Senator Majority Leader Ruggerio, and by unanimous consent, Joint Session adjourns and the two Houses separate at 5:21 o'clock P.M.