

# State of Rhode Island

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# JOURNAL

-OF THE-

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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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 Third Day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

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Volume 150, No. 27

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Twenty-seventh Day

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The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence, Thursday, April 20, 2023, and is called to order at 4:16 o'clock P.M., by the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker.

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 71 members present and 4 members absent as follows:

**PRESENT** – 71: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson and Voas.

**ABSENT** – 4: Representatives Alzate, Felix, Fogarty and Lima.

## INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Representative Caldwell 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 Tuesday, April 18, 2023, is approved.

RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

**CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST**  
**2023**

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii), Representative Morgan  
hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of Bill # 5963

Entitled: JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT  
TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF  
THE STATE (INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM) {LC506/1}

which is currently in the House Committee on State Government and Elections

Signature: *Patricia Morgan*

House District # 26

Date: 4/18, 2023

Acknowledgement:  
*[Signature]*  
Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker

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

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Representative Kathleen Fogarty is unable to attend session today, Thursday, April 20, 2023.  
Representative Karen Alzate is unable to attend session today, Thursday, April 20, 2023.

**CALENDAR**

From the Calendar are taken:

**IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2023:****1. 2023-H 5076**

**BY** McGaw

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- RHODE ISLAND PHYSICAL THERAPIST LICENSURE COMPACT ACT

Committee on Corporations recommends passage.

Chairman Solomon moves passage of the act, seconded by the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Carson, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Giraldo, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, McGaw, McNamara, Noret, Phillips, Potter, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Speakman, Spears, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

Chairman Solomon discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 71 members voting in the affirmative and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 71: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 1: Representative Morgan.

RECUSED - 0:

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

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

Chairwoman Donovan moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Representative McGaw

Chairwoman Donovan and Minority Leader Chippendale discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 67 members voting in the affirmative and 5 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS - 5: Representatives Chippendale, Newberry, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts.

RECUSED - 0:

**3. 2023-H 5438****BY Knight****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--  
PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- CAUSES OF ACTION**

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Chairman Craven moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives McEntee, Knight, Carson and Batista.

Chairman Craven discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 72 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 72: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw,

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

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**4. 2023-H 5900**

**BY** Marszalkowski

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- VICTIM'S RIGHTS

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

Chairman Craven moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazewski, Representatives McEntee, Abney, Bennett and Edwards.

Chairman Craven discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 72 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 72: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**5. 2023-H 5720**

**BY** Phillips

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES --  
REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Committee on Special Legislation recommends passage.

Vice-Chairwoman Diaz moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazewski, Representatives Cardillo, Phillips, Corvese and Slater.

Vice-Chairwoman Diaz discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 72 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 72: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**6. 2023-H 5459**

**BY Ajello**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES**

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

Chairman Shanley moves passage of the act, seconded by Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Brien, Carson, Cortvriend, Corvese, Cotter, Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, Donovan, Edwards, Fenton-Fung, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, O'Brien, Potter, Shallcross Smith, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

Chairman Shanley discusses the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 72 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 72: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**7. 2023-H 6087****BY Cruz****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT**

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Representative Knight moves the item to the bottom of today's Calendar. There is no objection.

Read, and by unanimous consent, placed at the bottom of the Calendar.

**8. 2023-H 6185****BY Shanley****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

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

Chairman Shanley, Minority Leader Chippendale, Representatives Newberry and Corvese discuss the act.

Read and passed, on a roll call vote, 72 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 72: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

7. **2023-H 6087****BY Cruz****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT**

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Vice-Chairwoman Speakman moves passage of the act, seconded by the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ajello, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Caldwell, Carson, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Finkelman, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Perez, Potter, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Voas.

Vice-Chairwoman Speakman discusses the act.

By unanimous consent, Representative Morales, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Newberry, Deputy Whip Ackerman, Representatives, Kislak, McNamara, Biah, Speakman, Tanzi, Cortvriend and Stewart offers a written motion to amend.

**FLOOR AMENDMENT****TO**

2023 -- H 6087

**AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT**

Mr. Speaker:

I hereby move to amend 2023 -- H 6087, entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT", as follows:

1. On page 1, line 4, by adding the language "(a)" before the language "A landlord".
2. On page 1, between lines 6 and 7, by inserting the following language:

"(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a landlord, lessor, sub-lessor, real estate broker, property management company or designee from requiring an official state criminal background check from the bureau of criminal identification (BCI), department of attorney general, state police or local police department where the prospective tenant resides or from requiring a credit check subject to the following limitations:

(1) If a prospective tenant provides a required official state criminal background check or credit report issued within ninety (90) days of the application for a rental unit, no fee for such official state criminal background check and/or credit report may be charged by the respective landlord, lessor, sub-lessor, real estate broker, property management company or designee;

(2) If a prospective tenant does not provide a required official state background check and/or credit report issued within ninety (90) days of the application for a rental unit, then the landlord, lessor, sub-lessor, real estate broker, property management company or designee may charge the prospective tenant a fee representing not more than the actual cost of obtaining the official state background check and/or credit report. Provided further, any prospective tenant who is charged a fee under this subsection for a background check or credit report shall be provided with a copy of the background check or credit report; and

- (3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the landlord, lessor, sub-lessor, real



estate broker, property management company or designee from obtaining an independent background check or credit report at the landlord's own expense."

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Morales

=====  
LC002022/6  
=====

Representative Morales discusses the amendment.

The motion to amend prevails on a roll call vote 67 members voting in the affirmative and 3 members voting in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS - 3: Representatives Fenton-Fung, Morgan, Noret.

RECUSED - 0:

Read and passed, as amended, on a roll call vote, 72 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 72: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Handy, Henries, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, Newberry, Noret, O'Brien, Perez, Phillips, Place, Potter, Quattrocchi, Rea, Roberts, Sanchez, Serpa, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Slater, Solomon, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson, Voas.

NAYS - 0:

RECUSED - 0:

**PROXY VOTES**

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces pursuant to rule 33(e) authorizing Proxy Votes, he has Proxy Votes from Representative Fogarty to be recorded in the affirmative for items #1 through #8.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

**GUESTS**

Representative Cotter congratulates and welcomes to the House Chamber the 2023 Rhode Island Hospitality Education Foundation state ProStart winners in the Culinary Arts competition, Chef Instructor Mark Bennison, and his students Xaalyn Barr, Jaheim Shannon, Steve Sarabia, Michael Rotondi, and Luis Cosme from the Exeter Job Corps Academy.

Representative Dawson congratulates and welcomes to the House Chamber the 2023 Rhode Island Hospitality Education Foundation state ProStart winners in the Foodservice Management competition, Chef Instructor Marie-Claire McKillip, and her students Annabella Camelo, Haley Duarte, Sade Williams from the East Providence Area Career & Technical Center.

Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy congratulates and welcomes to the House Chamber the 2023 Rhode Island Hospitality Education Foundation state ProStart winners in the Hotel Management competition, Instructor Donald Fair, and his students Elisabeth Kendall, Isabella Basile, Liliana D'Alfonso, Morgan Desarro, Lucas Segura and Dale Venturini from Chariho Career and Technical Center.

Majority Whip Kazarian welcomes to the House Chamber Beth Cronin, Ben Brown, Kate Kurchena, Gillian Chase, Gabriela Weigel, Juliana Cervino, Kalin Gregory-Davis, Megan Smith, Alicia Hersey, Flo DiBiase, Swati Rajprohat and Julie Hemphill from the American College of OB/GYN.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

Vice Chairwoman Messier announces that the Committee on Labor will meet today, at the rise of the House, in the House Lounge of the State House.

Chairwoman Diaz announces that next Tuesday, April 25, 2023, is Administrative Professionals Day.

Representative Carson wishes her son Andrew a Happy Birthday! Speaker Shekarchi wishes Andrew a Happy Birthday!

Chairwoman Donovan announces that the Committee on Health & Human Services will meet today, at the rise of the House, in the House Lounge of the State House.

Representative Fellela wishes her son Kyle a Happy Birthday! Speaker Shekarchi commends Kyle on his hard work and wishes him a Happy Birthday!

Chairman Craven announces that the Committee on Judiciary will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 101 of the State House.

Majority Leader Blazejewski announces that the next House session will be next Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, and Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, at 4 p.m., committees scheduled. He congratulates Speaker Shekarchi and Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy on receiving the Ambassador Awards from the Providence Warwick Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Speaker Shekarchi congratulates Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy on receiving the Ambassador Award from the Providence Warwick Convention & Visitors Bureau and thanks all members of the House while receiving his award on their behalf.

### IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

#### **House Resolution No. 6298**

**BY** Finkelman, Cortvriend, Abney, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Dawson, Noret, Kennedy, Edwards

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2023, TO BE THE "MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2766/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Finkelman discusses the resolution.

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

#### **House Resolution No. 6299**

**BY** Ackerman, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Finkelman, Marszalkowski, Potter, McGaw, Corvese, Chippendale, Roberts

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2023, TO BE "FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2802/1}

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

There is no objection.

Deputy Whip Ackerman discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 6300**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Craven, McEntee, Edwards, Tanzi, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Bennett, Spears

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE MICHAEL A. HIGGINS {LC2812/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Chairman Craven requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Chairman Craven discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 6301**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Giraldo, Diaz, Voas, Shallcross Smith, Newberry, Kennedy, Edwards

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE JOSEPH LEWIS FARIA {LC2824/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Giraldo discusses the resolution. Speaker Shekarchi offers his condolences to the Faria Family.

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

**House Resolution No. 6302**

**BY** Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Chippendale, Casimiro, Solomon, McEntee, Kennedy, Edwards, Tanzi

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF ANTONIO J. LOPES {LC2816/1}

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

There is no objection.

Majority Whip Kazarian discusses the resolution.

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

**House Resolution No. 6303**

**BY** Cotter, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Spears, Dawson, Kennedy, Edwards, Tanzi, Ajello  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE WINNERS OF THE 11TH ANNUAL PROSTART® HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION {LC2773/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Cotter discusses the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Representative Cotter, seconded by Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy and Representative Dawson, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

**House Resolution No. 6304**

**BY** Blazejewski, Chippendale  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING CONGRATULATIONS {LC2845/1}

Majority Leader Blazejewski requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Read and passed, on a motion of Majority Leader Blazejewski, seconded by Minority Leader Chippendale, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

**House Resolution No. 6305**

**BY** Blazejewski, Chippendale  
**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES {LC2844/1}

Majority Leader Blazejewski requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Read and passed, on a motion of Majority Leader Blazejewski, seconded by Minority Leader Chippendale, by unanimous consent, on a rising vote.

**RULE 7D**

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

Representative Azzinaro-An Act relating to Criminal Offenses-Obscene and Objectionable Publications and Shows

Representative Casimiro-An Act relating to State Affairs and Government-Department of Human Services

Representative Chippendale-An Act relating to Taxation-Statewide Tangible Tax Exemption

Representative Fellela-An Act relating to Labor and Labor Relations

Representative Noret-An Act relating to State Affairs and Government-Removal of Municipal Police Chief

Representative Spears-An Act relating to Human Services-Medical Assistance-Long Term Care Services and Finance Reform

Representative Tanzi-An Act relating to Property-Residential Landlord and Tenant Act

Representative Voas-An Act relating to Taxation-Statewide Tangible Tax Exemption

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

### TRANSMITTAL

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

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

### DESK HELD OPEN

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

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

#### COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Chairman McNamara, for the Committee on Education, reports back the following measures, with recommendation of passage:

#### **House Bill No. 5668**

**BY** Cortvriend, Carson, Dawson, Kislak, Cotter, Handy, Donovan, O'Brien, Casimiro  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES  
(Would require public school districts to take certain actions to promote notice and disseminate information regarding the district's special education local advisory committee.) {LC1102/1}  
04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/27/2023)

#### **House Bill No. 6128**

**BY** Edwards, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Messier, Bennett  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT (Requires every school district/local education agency/city/town to report each fiscal year relating to funding/ administrative/program information from the American Rescue plan, elementary/secondary school emergency relief, and state/local recovery funds.) {LC2209/1}  
04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/25/2023)

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

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

**House Bill No. 5101**

**BY** Corvese, O'Brien, Hull

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF NORTH PROVIDENCE TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$125,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, REHABILITATION, REPAIR, IMPROVEMENTS, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF AND/OR ADDITIONS TO SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES IN THE TOWN, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE CONSTRUCTION OF THREE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, THE RENOVATION OF TWO MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF STATE HOUSING AID AT A REIMBURSEMENT RATE OR STATE SHARE RATIO OF NOT LESS THAN 79.8% FOR EXPENDITURES ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT (Authorizes the Town of North Providence to issue bonds and notes in an amount not exceeding \$125,000,000.) {LC564/1}

04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/27/2023)

**COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

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

**House Bill No. 5006**

**BY** Kazarian, Felix, Ajello, Alzate, Blazejewski, Fogarty, McEntee, Knight, Giraldo, Carson  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN -- EQUALITY IN ABORTION COVERAGE (Provides for abortion coverage in the Medicaid program and repeal the abortion coverage exclusion for state employee insurance plans.) {LC149/1}

04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/27/2023)

**COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING**

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

**House Bill No. 5290**

**BY** Place, Newberry

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AN AMENDMENT TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE (Amends the Burrillville Town Charter.) {LC400/1}

04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/25/2023)

**House Bill No. 5448****BY** Spears**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Allows the town council of New Shoreham to adopt a tax classification plan in accordance with the provisions of this section, to be applicable to taxes on or after the assessment date of December 31, 2023.) {LC1332/1}

04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/25/2023)

**House Bill No. 5596**

(Dept. of Business Regulation)

**BY** Voas, Potter, Diaz, Alzate, Solomon, Giraldo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- ABANDONMENT BY TOWNS (Provides that road abandonments by municipalities be properly recorded in land evidence records.) {LC1623/1}

04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/25/2023)

**House Bill No. 5605 SUB A****BY** Kazarian, Dawson, Henries, Boylan**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Adopts a new tax rate for Class 2 property. Requires tax rate change to be applied at the same percentage rate change for all classes.) {LC1491/A/1}

04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/25/2023)

**House Bill No. 6084 SUB A****BY** Felix, Shekarchi, Azzinaro, Hull, Kazarian, Tanzi**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES (Creates the transit oriented development pilot program to encourage residential housing near convenient public transportation.) {LC2193/A/1}

04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/25/2023)

**House Bill No. 6090 SUB A****BY** Alzate, Shekarchi, Tanzi, Donovan, Shallcross Smith, McNamara**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

(Provides that adaptive reuse for the conversion of commercial property into residential or mixed-use developments shall be a permitted use and allowable by specific and objective provisions of a zoning ordinance, subject to certain restrictions.) {LC2438/A/2}

04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/25/2023)

**House Bill No. 6184****BY** Knight, Speakman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF WARREN (Validates and ratifies amendments to the Home Rule Charter of the town of Warren, adopted and approved on November 8, 2022.) {LC2672/1}

04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/25/2023)



**Senate Bill No. 110****BY** de la Cruz, Rogers**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AN AMENDMENT TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE (Amends the Burrillville Town Charter.) {LC443/1}

04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/25/2023)

**Senate Bill No. 240 SUB A****BY** Lawson, Britto, Lauria**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Allows the town of East Providence to adopt a new tax rate applicable to Class 2 property that shall not exceed by two hundred percent (200%) the rate applicable to Class 1 property.) {LC1495/A/1}

04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/25/2023)

**COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS**

Chairwoman McEntee, for the Committee on Small Business, reports back the following measure, with recommendation of passage:

**House Bill No. 5328 SUB A****BY** Carson, McEntee, Fogarty, Cortvriend, Craven, Caldwell**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS IN FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS (Requires food service establishments to add an additional warning to their menus relative to food allergens and impose a civil penalty on those establishments that fail to include the required warnings on its menus.) {LC1190/A/1}

04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/27/2023)

**COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS**

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

**House Bill No. 5767****BY** Baginski, Finkelman, Solomon**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES (Requires the administrator of the division of motor vehicles to prescribe or approve power-of-attorney forms to be used in connection with vehicle registrations.) {LC1982/1}

04/21/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/27/2023)

**NEW BUSINESS****House Bill No. 6306****BY** Craven**ENTITLED**, AN ACT TO VACATE THE FORFEITURE OR REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER OF FEATHERBED ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. {LC2862/1}

04/21/2023 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

**House Bill No. 6307**

**BY** Sanchez, Morales, Lombardi J, Stewart, Perez, Cardillo, Potter, Carson, Cortvriend, Fellela  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE PAUL W. CROWLEY RHODE ISLAND STUDENT INVESTMENT INITIATIVE (Directs the reversal of the decision to close the Alan Shawn Feinsten Elementary School, the Carl G. Lauro Elementary School and the Gilbert Stuart Middle School.) {LC2822/1}

04/21/2023 Introduced, referred to House Education

**House Bill No. 6308**

**BY** Donovan

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES (Exempts any proposed retailers' Class BV license to be located at 499 Hope Street, Map 9, Lot 75 in the town of Bristol from the two hundred feet (200') requirement from the premises of schools or places of worship.) {LC2857/1}

04/21/2023 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

**House Bill No. 6309**

**BY** Kislak, Shekarchi, McNamara, Ackerman, Boylan, Knight, Finkelman, Corvese, Hull, Diaz  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARIES FOR ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND FOR PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE (Changes the primary date for the election of delegates to national conventions and for presidential preference from the fourth Tuesday in April to April 2, 2024.) {LC2807/1}

04/21/2023 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

**House Bill No. 6310**

**BY** Diaz, Giraldo, Alzate, Edwards, Perez, Vella-Wilkinson, Batista, Biah, Morales, Hull  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT (Increases the wage amount for working prisoners, committed to the adult correctional institution, from three dollars (\$3.00) a day to six dollars (\$6.00) a day.) {LC2761/1}

04/21/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 6311**

**BY** Phillips, Cardillo, Brien, Corvese, Costantino, Lima, Casey, Noret, Dawson  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES (Protects and continue health insurance coverage for the dependent of an employee who wishes to change their health insurance coverage to Medicare or are currently on Medicare.) {LC2793/1}

04/21/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 6312**

**BY** Stewart, Sanchez, Henries, Tanzi, Ajello

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE -- IDENTIFICATION OF STATE PENSION FUNDS WITH MILITARY CONTRACTORS ACT (Requires the state investment commission to identify pension fund investments in military weapon manufacturers whether held directly or indirectly.) {LC126/1}

04/21/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Bill No. 6313****BY** Baginski, Finkelman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- VIDEO LOTTERY GAMES, TABLE GAMES AND SPORTS WAGERING (Amends the definitions of "collegiate sports or athletic event" and "sporting event" within the chapter on "video lottery games, table games and sports wagering".) {LC2809/1}

04/21/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**House Resolution No. 6314****BY** Fenton-Fung, Baginski**ENTITLED**, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$125,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$125,000 to the DEM to fund engineering and architectural analyses for infrastructure improvements required at Meshanticut Lake State Park.) {LC2836/1}

04/21/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:06 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Vella-Wilkinson, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of David N. Boucher; on motion of Representative Giraldo, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Hon. Joseph Faria; on behalf of Speaker Shekarchi, Leaders Blazejewski and Chippendale, on motion of Representative Craven, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Hon. Michael Higgins; on motion of Representative Kazarian, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Antonio Lopes; on motion of Representative Finkelman, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Leah Rosin-Pritchard; on motion of Representative Diaz, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Naveya Aracy Delance seconded by Majority Deputy Whip Ackerman and Minority Whip Place the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

**Diane M. DePina**  
**Recording Clerk**

**APPENDIX**

**INVOCATION**

**REPRESENTATIVE JUSTINE A. CALDWELL**

O Lord: Accept our prayers this day as we seek to answer the concerns of those we serve. Help us bear our responsibility to always intercede on behalf of the poor and downtrodden, and to always pursue peace in times of turmoil. Amen

**APPENDIX****CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023:****1. 2023-H 6084 SUB A****BY Felix****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES**

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

**2. 2023-H 6090 SUB A****BY Alzate****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES**

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

**3. 2023-H 5596****BY Voas****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- ABANDONMENT BY TOWNS**

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

**4. 2023-H 5605 SUB A****BY Kazarian****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.

**5. 2023-S 240 SUB A****BY Lawson****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 in concurrence.

6. **2023-H 5448**  
**BY** Spears  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES
- Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.
7. **2023-H 5290**  
**BY** Place  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AN AMENDMENT TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE
- Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.
8. **2023-S 110**  
**BY** de la Cruz  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AN AMENDMENT TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE
- Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage in concurrence.
9. **2023-H 6184**  
**BY** Knight  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT VALIDATING AND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF WARREN
- Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.
10. **2023-H 6128**  
**BY** Edwards  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT
- Committee on Education recommends passage.

**IN ORDER FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023:**

1. **2023-H 5328 SUB A**  
**BY** Carson  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS IN FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS
- Committee on Small Business recommends indefinite postponement of the original bill and passage of Substitute A.

2. **2023-H 5767**  
**BY** Baginski  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES --  
REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Committee on State Government & Elections recommends passage.

3. **2023-H 5668**  
**BY** Cortvriend  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CHILDREN WITH  
DISABILITIES

Committee on Education recommends passage.

4. **2023-H 5101**  
**BY** Corvese  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF NORTH PROVIDENCE TO  
ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$125,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND  
OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION,  
RENOVATION, REHABILITATION, REPAIR, IMPROVEMENTS, FURNISHING AND  
EQUIPPING OF AND/OR ADDITIONS TO SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES IN  
THE TOWN, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE CONSTRUCTION OF THREE  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, THE RENOVATION OF TWO MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND  
THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES, SUBJECT TO  
APPROVAL OF STATE HOUSING AID AT A REIMBURSEMENT RATE OR STATE  
SHARE RATIO OF NOT LESS THAN 79.8% FOR EXPENDITURES ELIGIBLE FOR  
REIMBURSEMENT

Committee on Finance recommends passage.

5. **2023-H 5006**  
**BY** Kazarian  
**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --  
HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN -- EQUALITY IN  
ABORTION COVERAGE

Committee on Judiciary recommends passage.

**Francis McCabe**  
Clerk of the House

**Friday, April 21, 2023**