

State of Rhode Island

JOURNAL

-OF THE-

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY SESSION of the General Assembly begun and held at the State House in the City of Providence on Tuesday, the Third Day of January in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

Volume 150, No. 28

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Twenty-eighth Day

The House of Representatives meets at the State House in Providence, Tuesday, April 25, 2023, and is called to order at 4:10 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, Alzate, 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, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, 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 Felix, Fogarty, Handy and Henries.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Speaker presents Speaker Pro Tempore Brian Patrick Kennedy who delivers the Invocation and leads the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

(For Invocation, see Appendix, this Journal.)

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy introduces New England Conservatory of Music student Ashley Chen to sing the National Anthem.

RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



House of Representatives

CO-SPONSORSHIP REMOVAL REQUEST
2023

Pursuant to House Rule 15(g)(ii), Representative Jose F. Batista

hereby requests the removal of their co-sponsorship of Bill # 6284

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION – HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS (Provides for the creation of a volunteer school security force.)

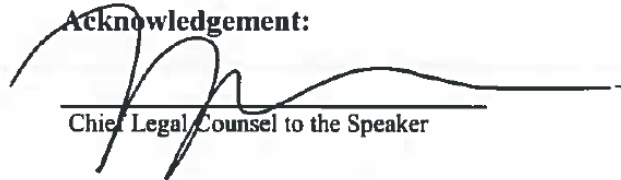
which is currently in the House Committee on EDUCATION

Signature: X 

House District # 12

Date: April 21, 2023

Acknowledgement:



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

ADDRESS

Director-General Jonathan C.Y. addresses the members regarding Taiwan Day.

GUESTS

Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy welcomes to the House Chamber from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Boston, Director-General, Jonathan C.Y. Sun, Deputy Director Lena Hsiao, Rhode Island Association of Chinese Americans, President Sunny Ng, Rhode Island Association of Chinese Americans, Chairman Louis Yip, Rhode Island General Treasurer James Diossa, Blackstone Valley Tourism Council, Director of Development Steve Maciel and New England Conservatory of Music student Ashley Chen in celebration of Taiwan Day.

APPROVAL OF RECORD

By unanimous consent, the House Journal of Thursday, April 20, 2023, is approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

April 25, 2023

Communication from Speaker K. Joseph Shekarchi:

I nominate the following to a National Conference of State Legislatures' State Public Health Symposium:

Representative Mia Ackerman
Representative Susan Donovan
Representative Lauren Carson
Representative Joseph Solomon Jr.

I nominate the following to a National Conference of State Legislators' Prescription Drug Peer Learning Group:

Representative Michelle McGaw
Representative David Morales

I nominate the following to a National Conference of State Legislators' New Legislators' Skill Building Professional Development Program:

Representative Cherie Cruz
Representative Jennifer Boylan

Representative Kathleen A. Fogarty is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, April 25, 2023.
Representative Brianna E. Henries is unable to attend session today, Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

CALENDAR

From the Calendar are taken:

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.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by the Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Diaz, Edwards, Giraldo, Hull, Kislak, Lombardi, McEntee, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Potter, Roberts, Shallcross Smith, Shanley, Speakman, Spears, Stewart, Tanzi, Vella-Wilkinson.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

By unanimous consent, Chairman Casey, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Representative Solomon offers a written motion to amend.

FLOOR AMENDMENT

TO

2023 -- H 6084 SUBSTITUTE A

AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

Mr. Speaker:

I hereby move to amend 2023 -- H 6084 SUBSTITUTE A, entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES", as follows:

- 1. On page 2, line 11, by deleting the language "May 15" and by inserting in place thereof the language "December 31".

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Casey

=====
LC002193/2
=====

Chairman Casey discusses the amendment.

The motion to amend prevails on a roll call vote 71 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 71: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Giraldo, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, 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:

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, as amended, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 70 members voting in the affirmative and 1 member voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 70: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, 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 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.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Corvese, Morales, McEntee, Speakman, Potter, Biah, Tanzi, Edwards and Cortvriend.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 70 members voting in the affirmative and 2 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 70: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, 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 - 2: Representatives Fenton-Fung, Morgan.

RECUSED - 0:

3. 2023-H 5596

BY Voas

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- ABANDONMENT BY TOWNS

Committee on Municipal Government & Housing recommends passage.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representative Philips, Deputy Speaker Ackerman and Representative Voas.

Chairman Casey 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, Alzate, 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, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, 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:



State of Rhode Island

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

I, Brian C. Newberry, State Representative, District 48, hereby under oath depose and say:

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

H 5605 and S 240

2. (Nature of the potential conflict) I have the following interest in the matter: _____

I wish to avoid any appearance of impropriety

3. (Please select one of the following):

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

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

[Signature]
REPRESENTATIVE

State of Rhode Island
County of: Providence

Subscribed and sworn to under the penalties for perjury before me this 25 day of April, 2023

[Signature]
NOTARY PUBLIC
3/30/23

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

Michael R. Egan
Notary Public
State of Rhode Island
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 03-30-2026
Commission # 57679

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.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Representative Dawson.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 71 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 71: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, 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 - 1: Representative Newberry.:



State of Rhode Island

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

I, Brian C. Newberry, State Representative, District 48, hereby under oath depose and say:

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

H 5605 and S 240

2. (Nature of the potential conflict) I have the following interest in the matter: _____

I wish to avoid any appearance of impropriety

3. (Please select one of the following):

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

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

[Signature]
REPRESENTATIVE

State of Rhode Island
County of: Providence

Subscribed and sworn to under the penalties for perjury before me this 25 day of April, 2023

[Signature]
NOTARY PUBLIC

3/30/23

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

Michael R. Egan
Notary Public
State of Rhode Island
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 03-30-2026
Commission # 57679

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.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

The bill marked Substitute "A" is read and passed, and the original bill indefinitely postponed, on a roll call vote, 71 members voting in the affirmative and 0 members voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS - 71: The Honorable Speaker Shekarchi and Representatives Abney, Ackerman, Ajello, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Edwards, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, Nardone, 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 - 1: Representative Newberry.

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.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski and Representative Spears.

Chairman Casey 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, Alzate, 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, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, 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 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.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representative Newberry, and Minority Whip Place.

Chairman Casey 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, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, 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 - 1: Representative Edwards.

RECUSED - 0:

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.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Minority Whip Place and Representative Newberry.

Chairman Casey discusses the act.

Read and passed, in concurrence, 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, Alzate, Azzinaro, Baginski, Batista, Bennett, Biah, Blazejewski, Boylan, Brien, Caldwell, Cardillo, Carson, Casey, Casimiro, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Corvese, Costantino, Cotter, Craven, Cruz, Dawson, DeSimone, Diaz, Donovan, Fellela, Fenton-Fung, Finkelman, Fogarty, Giraldo, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, 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 - 1: Representative Edwards.

RECUSED - 0:

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.

Chairman Casey moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Biah, Speakman, Knight and Cortvriend.

Chairman Casey 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, Alzate, 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, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, 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:

10. 2023-H 6128**BY** Edwards**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT

Committee on Education recommends passage.

Chairman McNamara moves passage of the act, seconded by Majority Leader Blazejewski, Representatives Ajello, Morales, Lima, McEntee, Cortvriend, Bennett, Casey, Voas, Deputy Whip Ackerman, Representatives Kislak, Edwards and Carson.

Chairman McNamara, Representatives Newberry, Knight, Sanchez and Edwards discuss 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, Alzate, 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, Hull, Kazarian, Kennedy, Kislak, Knight, Lima, Lombardi, Marszalkowski, McEntee, McGaw, McNamara, Messier, Morales, Morgan, 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 Nardone.

RECUSED - 0:

GUESTS

Representative Potter honors the memory of Jack Brantolino and welcomes to the House Chamber his father, Dino Brantolino, his mother Sharon and her husband Danny Moitoso, and his twin brother, Sam. Representative Potter presents them with a House Resolution expressing condolences on the passing of Jack Brantolino.

Representative Morales welcomes to the House Chamber, Cheryl Space, Edward Garcia, and Beatrice Pulliam from Providence Public Libraries, in celebration of Library Week.

By unanimous consent, the House returns to:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Roberts wishes Minority Leader Chippendale a Happy Birthday!

Deputy Whip Ackerman and Representative Voas offer their condolences to the Engels family. Speaker Shekarchi offers condolence to the Engels family.

Deputy Whip Ackerman wishes her dad a Happy Birthday! Speaker Shekarchi wishes her dad a Happy Birthday!

Vice-Chairwoman Speakman announces that the Committee on Municipal Government & Housing will meet today, at the rise of the House, in the House Lounge of the State House.

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

PROXY VOTES

Majority Leader Blazewski 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 #10.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Majority Leader Blazewski announces that the next House session will be Thursday, April 27th, at 4 p.m. There will be no House session tomorrow, the Finance Committee will be meeting at 4 p.m. This Friday, April 28th, is the deadline to submit the 2022 Financial Disclosure Statement to the Ethics Commission. Next Monday, May 1st, is the Campaign Finance Report deadline with the Rhode Island Board of Elections. The Secretary of State's Office has asked all members to review the final draft of their biographies which will appear in the Rhode Island Government Owner's Manual 2023-2024.

Majority Leader Blazewski and Speaker Shekarchi wish Minority Leader Chippendale and Representative Ajello a Happy Birthday.

Chairman Solomon announces that the Committee on Corporations will meet today, at the rise of the House, in Room 135 of the State House.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

House Resolution No. 6315

BY Bennett, Shekarchi, Blazewski, Chippendale, Phillips, Place, McEntee, Solomon, Casimiro, McNamara

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING APRIL 23RD-29TH AS "QUAHOG WEEK 2023" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2804/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman Bennett discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6316

BY Morales, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Speakman, Kennedy, Ajello, Tanzi, Fenton-Fung, Cortvriend

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL 23-29, 2023, TO BE “NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK” IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2823/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Morales discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6317

BY McNamara, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Ackerman, Kislak, Tanzi, Ajello, Cortvriend, Solomon

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING “NATIONAL INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK” ON APRIL 23-29, 2023, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2711/1}

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

There is no objection.

Chairman McNamara discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6318

BY Diaz, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Slater, Morgan P, Baginski, Alzate, Kazarian, Casimiro

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING "ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS' DAY" ON APRIL 26, 2023, AND THANKING ALL THE DEDICATED STAFF WHO WORK TIRELESSLY IN SUPPORT OF THE RHODE ISLAND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES {LC2820/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Chairwoman Diaz requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Chairwoman Diaz and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6319

BY McEntee, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Spears, Cotter, Craven, Caldwell, Casimiro, Cortvriend

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING "NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' WEEK" ON APRIL 23RD THROUGH APRIL 29TH, 2023, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND {LC2871/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Chairwoman McEntee requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Chairwoman McEntee discusses the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6320

BY Potter, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Cruz, Boylan, Baginski, Ajello, Tanzi, Fenton-Fung
ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF JACK BRANTOLINO {LC2882/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Potter and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6321

BY Carson, Abney, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Cortvriend, Finkelman, McGaw, Kennedy, Ajello

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF JAMES J. GILLIS {LC2856/1}

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

There is no objection.

Representative Carson and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

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

House Resolution No. 6322

BY Kennedy, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Edwards, McNamara, Diaz, Kazarian, Chippendale, Fenton-Fung, Azzinaro

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND TAIWAN, WHILE SUPPORTING ENHANCED BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN AND TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY {LC2811/1}

With the agreement of the majority and the minority, Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

There is no objection.

Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy and Speaker Shekarchi discuss the resolution.

Read and passed, on a motion of Speaker Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by many others, by unanimous consent, on a voice vote.

RULE 7D

The following bills were received pursuant to Rule 7D:

Representative Alzate-An Act relating to Labor and Labor Relations - Healthy and Safe Families and Workplace Act

An Act relating to Labor and Labor Relations - Menstruation Leave Act

An Act relating to The Education Equity and Property Tax Relief Act

Representative Boylan-An Act relating to Special Legislative Commission to Review and Provide Recommendation on Mandated Safety Protocols for Rhode Island

Representative Costantino-An Act relating to Gambling and Lotteries

Representative McGaw-An Act relating to Businesses and Professions-Funeral Director/ Embalmer and Funeral Service Establishments

Representative Tanzi-Joint Resolution to Amend the Medicaid Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver Requests and Renewals

An Act relating to Motor and Other Vehicles

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 FINANCE

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

Senate Bill No. 18

BY Ruggerio, Tikoian, Pearson

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.) {LC543/1}

04/25/2023 Placed on House Calendar (04/27/2023)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SENATE

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

Senate Bill No. 1 SUB A

BY Ruggerio, Goodwin, Gallo, DiPalma, LaMountain, Tikoian, McKenney

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PEER-TO-PEER CAR SHARING PROGRAM (Provides that peer-to-peer car sharing, peer-to-peer car sharing programs, and peer-to-peer car sharing program agreements are not considered rental vehicles.) {LC177/A/1}

04/26/2023 Referred to House Corporations

Senate Bill No. 345**BY** LaMountain, Burke, McKenney, Euer, Lauria, Tikoian**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS (Provides that public bodies not be required to hold open-forum sessions on any topic not on the meeting notice and limits comment on any topic not previously posted.) {LC1457/1}

04/26/2023 Referred to House State Government & Elections

Senate Bill No. 464**BY** Gallo, Lombardo, DiPalma, Ciccone, Ruggerio**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- MUSICAL AND THEATRICAL PRODUCTION TAX CREDITS (Add a "national touring production" to the productions that are considered an "accredited theater production" for purposes of musical and theatrical production tax credits and extends the sunset of the credits to July 1 2027.) {LC2303/1}

04/26/2023 Referred to House Finance

Senate Bill No. 923**BY** Miller**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION (Authorizes the city of Providence to enter into a thirty (30) year tax exemption agreement relating to the Port of Providence.) {LC1803/1}

04/26/2023 Referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

NEW BUSINESS**House Bill No. 6323****BY** Tanzi, Ajello, Stewart, Morales, Cruz, Kislak, Diaz, Slater, Henries, Speakman**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT (Provides for the sealing of court files in residential eviction proceedings upon the filing of a motion.) {LC2848/1}

04/26/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 6324**BY** Azzinaro, Fellela, Corvese, Serpa, Costantino, Morgan P, Lima, Cardillo**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- OBSCENE AND OBJECTIONABLE PUBLICATIONS AND SHOWS (Adds cartoons, drawings, comic books, prints, depictions or animations to the list of media that would be prohibited from being sold or available to those persons under the age of 18 years.) {LC2852/1}

04/26/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 6325**BY** Lima, Cardillo, Costantino, Azzinaro, Kennedy, Vella-Wilkinson, Noret, Shanley, Phillips, Serpa**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- ATV HARASSMENT (Defines ATV harassment and imposes mandatory prison sentences for a conviction under this chapter.) {LC2825/1}

04/26/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 6326**BY** Noret, Corvese, Place**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- REMOVAL OF MUNICIPAL POLICE CHIEFS (Establishes a disciplinary review process for police chiefs, and provides for an appeal to the superior court in the county in which the municipal police department is located.) {LC2861/1}

04/26/2023 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

House Bill No. 6327**BY** Fellela, Messier, Potter, Cruz, Serpa**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- HEALTHY AND SAFE FAMILIES AND WORKPLACES ACT (Mandates that the work week be reduced to thirty-two hours and rate of pay for a thirty-two (32) hour workweek would remain the same as the rate of pay for forty hours.) {LC2829/1}

04/26/2023 Introduced, referred to House Labor

House Bill No. 6328**BY** Carson, Abney**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES (Permits the city of Newport, by separate ordinance, to assess nonowner occupied residential properties used as short-term rentals for tourists under its Class Three category; commercial, industrial and residential real estate with 4 units or more.) {LC2850/1}

04/26/2023 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

House Bill No. 6329**BY** Blazejewski**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Allows Puya Joseph Nili to join Jacqueline Azniv Kazarian and Chad Erik Austino in marriage on or about October 8, 2023, within the City of Providence, Rhode Island.) {LC2874/1}

04/26/2023 Introduced, referred to House Special Legislation

House Bill No. 6330**BY** McNamara, Shekarchi, Bennett, Solomon, Vella-Wilkinson, Shanley**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION – FOUNDATION LEVEL SCHOOL SUPPORT (Extends the deadline dates for commencement and completion of certain school building projects by one year to December 30, 2024 and December 30, 2029, respectively, in order to receive increased housing aid.) {LC2860/1}

04/26/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 6331**BY** Casimiro, Noret, Diaz, Serpa**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (Increases the number of child care licensing inspectors to meet the national recommended average of one inspector for every fifty (50) to sixty (60) child care providers.) {LC2817/1}

04/26/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 6332

BY Spears, Donovan, Abney, Speakman, Craven, O'Brien, Shanley, McEntee, Morales, Tanzi
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE --
LONG-TERM CARE SERVICE AND FINANCE REFORM (Provides the executive office of health
and human services would submit a plan amendment to provide set rates for chiropractic services.)
{LC2859/1}

04/26/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 6333

BY Voas, Solomon, O'Brien, Potter, Kazarian, Alzate, Casimiro, Casey, Baginski, Slater
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- STATEWIDE TANGIBLE PROPERTY
TAX EXEMPTION (Creates a tax exemption of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) relating to
assessment of municipal tangible property commencing with the December 31, 2024 tax assessment
for taxes payable in calendar year 2025.) {LC2832/1}

04/26/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 6334

BY Chippendale, Rea, Nardone, Place, Brien, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Newberry, Phillips, Noret
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- STATEWIDE TANGIBLE PROPERTY
TAX EXEMPTION (Creates a tax exemption of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) relating to
assessment of municipal tangible property commencing with the December 31, 2024 tax assessment
for taxes payable in calendar year 2025.) {LC2828/1}

04/26/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

House Bill No. 6335

BY Quattrocchi

ENTITLED, AN ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS SECTION
16-7-44 APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,000,000 BONDS BY THE TOWN OF SCITUATE
TO FINANCE A WATER PROJECT AT THE SCITUATE HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL
INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, BONDS AND NOTES ISSUED PURSUANT TO
FINANCING AGREEMENTS WITH THE RHODE ISLAND INFRASTRUCTURE BANK (In
accordance with § 16-7-44 approving the issuance of \$1,000,000 bonds by the town of Scituate to
finance a water project at the Scituate high school/middle school.) {LC2877/1}

04/26/2023 Introduced, referred to House Finance

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:13 o'clock P.M. on motion of Representative Azzinaro, and as a further mark of respect to the
memory of Korie Bressette and Robert Kenyon Jr.; on motion of Representative Carson, and as a
further mark of respect to the memory of James Gillis; on motion of Representative Potter, and as a
further mark of respect to the memory of Jack Brantolino; on motion of Representative Ackerman,
and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Deborah Engels; on motion of Representative
Lima, and as a further mark of respect to the memory of Lewis Perrotti Sr. seconded by Leaders
Blazjewski and Chippendale the House adjourns, on a unanimous rising vote.

Diane M. DePina
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX**INVOCATION****REPRESENTATIVE BRIAN PATRICK KENNEDY****INVOCATION**

Dear Lord, we thank you that God gave wisdom to our government representatives to work on behalf of our constituents. Grant us the courage to do what is right, even in the face of adversity.

As we watch the developments around the world, we pray for peace in southeast Asia and for the people of Taiwan. We pray that the people of the State of Rhode Island and the Republic of China (Taiwan) will continue to expand our friendship which is based on the common values of freedom, democracy and the rule of law. And we pray that our bilateral commerce activities will flourish with new trade opportunities that will assist both of our economies in the years ahead.

AMEN

APPENDIX

TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR

Senate Bill No. 130

BY Euer, Pearson, Gallo, Sosnowski, Lombardi F, Felag, Raptakis, Miller, LaMountain, Lauria
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- ELECTIVE MEETINGS (Mandates that on each primary for election of national convention delegates and elections for presidential preference primaries, that all public elementary and secondary schools be closed.) {LC1221/1}
04/25/2023 Transmitted to Governor

APPENDIX**CALENDAR****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-S 18**

BY Ruggerio

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 in concurrence.

6. **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

Updated: Tuesday, April 25, 2023