

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 third day of January in the year of Our Lord two thousand and six.

Volume 133, No. 21

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Twenty-first Legislative Day

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

The roll is called and a quorum is declared present with 36 Senators present and 2 Senators absent as follows:

PRESENT – 36: The Honorable President Montalbano and Senators Algieri, Alves, Badeau, Blais, Breene, Caprio, Ciccone, Connors, Cote, Damiani, DaPonte, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gibbs, Goodwin, Issa, Lanzi, Lenihan, Levesque, McBurney, McCaffrey, Metts, Paiva Weed, Perry, Pichardo, Polisenia, Revens, Roberts, Ruggerio, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Tassoni, Walaska.

ABSENT – 2: Senators Bates, Raptakis

INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

The Senate Journal of the Twentieth Legislative Day of the 2006 proceedings is read in part.

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

GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Lenihan and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber Allen Sokolow, Director of the Eastern Region, Council on State Government.

COMMUNICATION

The Honorable President presents the following communication:

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

March 14, 2006

Honorable Joseph A. Montalbano
President of the Senate
318 State House
Providence, RI 02903

Dear President Montalbano:

I am writing to inform you that I will unfortunately be absent from today's Senate Session, Tuesday, March 14, 2006. Please know I will be out of state.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Leonidas P. Raptakis
Senator – District 33

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Resolution No. 2930**

BY Senators Ruggerio, Montalbano J, Paiva-Weed, Algieri

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING DAVID THIBODEAU ON PLACING FIRST IN RHODE ISLAND AND RECEIVING AN HONORABLE MENTION NATIONALLY IN THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF ITALIAN NATIONWIDE TEST.

Senator Ruggerio requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Ruggerio moves passage, seconded by the entire Senate.

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

GUESTS

Upon suggestion of Senator Ruggerio and by unanimous consent, the Honorable President, welcomes to the Chamber David Thibodeau.

NEW BUSINESS**Senate Resolution No. 2931**

BY Senators Sheehan, Lenihan, Walaska, McCaffrey, Paiva-Weed

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF FORMER STATE REPRESENTATIVE AND SENATOR THE HONORABLE ELEANOR F. SLATER.

Senator Sheehan requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Sheehan moves passage, seconded by the entire Senate.

Senators Sheehan, Walaska and Revens pay tribute to the Honorable Eleanor F. Slater

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

CALENDAR**IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2006:****1 2006-S 2018**

BY Bates

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - STATE LOTTERY

Committee on Constitutional & Gaming Issues recommends passage.

Upon suggestion of Senator Algieri, seconded by Senator Blais and without objection, ordered to be placed on the Calendar for Tuesday, March 21, 2006.

2 2006-S 2020

BY Paiva-Weed

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO RECREATIONAL AREAS - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Committee on Constitutional & Gaming Issues recommends passage.

Senator Paiva Weed moves passage, seconded by Senators Levesque, Goodwin, Blais, Gibbs and Pichardo.

The act is read and passed, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote with 36 Senators voting in the affirmative and 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS- 36: The Honorable President Montalbano and Senators Algieri, Alves, Badeau, Blais, Breene, Caprio, Ciccone, Connors, Cote, Damiani, DaPonte, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gibbs, Goodwin, Issa, Lanzi, Lenihan, Levesque, McBurney, McCaffrey, Metts, Paiva Weed, Perry, Pichardo, Polisena, Revens, Roberts, Ruggerio, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Tassoni, Walaska.

NAYS- 0:

3 2006-S 2693

BY Montalbano J

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

Committee on Constitutional & Gaming Issues recommends passage.

Senator Goodwin moves passage, seconded by Senators Ruggerio, Polisena, Damiani, Algieri, Perry, Gallo, Tassoni, Ciccone and many others.

The act is read and passed, by unanimous consent, upon a roll call vote with 36 Senators voting in the affirmative and 0 Senators voting in the negative as follows:

YEAS- 36: The Honorable President Montalbano and Senators Algieri, Alves, Badeau, Blais, Breene, Caprio, Ciccone, Connors, Cote, Damiani, DaPonte, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Gibbs, Goodwin, Issa, Lanzi, Lenihan, Levesque, McBurney, McCaffrey, Metts, Paiva Weed, Perry, Pichardo, Polisena, Revens, Roberts, Ruggerio, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Tassoni, Walaska.

NAYS- 0:

TRANSMITTAL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Walaska announces that the Committee on Financial Services, Technology and Regulatory Issues will meet today, at the rise of the Senate, in the Senate Lounge of the State House.

Senator Polisena announces that the Committee on Judiciary will meet today, at the rise of the Senate, in Room 313 of the State House.

Senator Gallo announces that the Committee on Education will meet tomorrow, at the rise of the Senate, in the Senate Lounge of the State House.

Senator Sosnowski announces that the Committee on Environment and Agriculture will meet tomorrow, at 3:00 o'clock P.M. in Room 313 of the State House.

Senator Felag announces that the Committee on Finance will meet today, at the rise of the Senate, in Room 211 of the State House.

Senator Ciccone announces that the Committee on Labor will meet tomorrow, at 3:00 o'clock P.M. in Room 212 of the State House.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Senator DaPonte, seconded by Senator Algieri, and upon suggestion of Senator Lenihan, the Senate adjourns at 4:34 o'clock P.M. in memory of the Honorable Eleanor F. Slater, former State Senator and State Representative and the Grand Dame of the Rhode Island Democratic Party. Her dedication and commitment to public service and public policy will long be remembered.

RAYMOND T. HOYAS, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix

INVOCATION

SENATOR DANIEL P. CONNORS

Dear Lord, help us to communicate with each other using kind and respectful speech and deep listening in order to share our insight so we can make the best decisions for the benefit of all Rhode Islanders.
Amen

Appendix

CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2006:

1 2006-S 2018

BY Bates

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE AFFAIRS AND
GOVERNMENT - STATE LOTTERY**

Committee on Constitutional & Gaming Issues recommends passage.

RAYMOND T. HOYAS, JR.
Secretary of the Senate