

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 sixth day of January in the year of Our Lord two thousand and nine.

Volume 136, No.20

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

Twentieth Legislative Day

The Senate meets pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by the Honorable M. Teresa Paiva Weed, Madam President of the Senate, at 4:15 o'clock P.M.

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

PRESENT – 38: The Honorable President Paiva Weed and Senators Algieri, Bates, Blais, Ciccone, Connors, Cote, Crowley, DaPonte, Devall, DiPalma, Doyle, Felag, Fogarty, Gallo, Goodwin, Jabour, Lanzi, Lenihan, Levesque, Lynch, Maher, Maselli, McBurney, McCaffrey, Metts, Miller, O'Neill, Perry, Picard, Pichardo, Pinga, Raptakis, Ruggerio, Sheehan, Sosnowski, Tassoni, Walaska.

ABSENT – 0:

INVOCATION

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

(See Appendix for Invocation)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF RECORD

The Senate Journal of the Eighteenth Legislative Day of the 2009 proceedings is read in part.

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

APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR

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

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

February 25, 2009

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 35-10-1 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following reappointment to the State Investment Council.

Robert D. Guidici of Johnston

For a term expiring February 4, 2012.

To this appointment, I request your advice and consent.

Sincerely,

Frank T. Caprio
General Treasurer

Read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Also:

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

February 25, 2009

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the provisions of Section 35-10-1 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I have made the following appointment to the State Investment Council.

Andrew K. Reilly of Newport

For a term expiring February 4, 2012.

To this appointment, I request your advice and consent.

Sincerely,

Frank T. Caprio
General Treasurer

Read and referred to the Committee on Finance

FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A message from the House of Representatives transmits with announcement of passage, of the following measure:

House Bill No. 5943

BY Costantino, Serpa, Pollard, Martin, Mattiello

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES - RETIREMENT SYSTEM - CONTRIBUTION AND BENEFITS {LC2127/1}

Read and ordered to be placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

TRANSFER OF BILLS

Senator Tassoni, in accordance with Senate Rule 6.14, moves to transfer the following bill from the Committee on Housing and Municipal Government, to the Committee on Health and Human Services:

Senate Bill No. 560

BY Senator Walaska

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - MANDATED BENEFITS {LC1829/1}

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

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Resolution No. 766

BY Senator Pinga

ENTITLED, SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF TERESA EVANGELISTA {LC2075/1}

Senator Pinga requests unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Unanimous consent for immediate consideration is granted.

Senator Pinga moves passage, seconded by Senators Connors and Algieri.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Picard announces that the Committee on Corporations will meet today, at the rise of the Senate, in Room 212 of the State House.

Senator Felag announces that the Committee on Environment and Agriculture will meet tomorrow, at the rise of the Senate, in Room 211 of the State House.

Senator Perry announces that the Committee on Health and Human Services will meet tomorrow, at the rise of the Senate, in Room 213 of the State House.

Senator DeVall announces that the Committee on Housing and Municipal Government will meet today, at the rise of the Senate, in Room 310 of the State House.

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

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

Senator Maselli announces that the Committee on Rules will meet tomorrow, at the rise of the Senate, in Room 313 of the State House.

TRANSMITTAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Senator Pinga, seconded by Senator Connors, and upon suggestion of Senator Pinga the Senate adjourns at 4:25 o'clock P.M. in memory of Teresa Evangelista.

JOSEPH R. BRADY
Secretary of the Senate

Appendix

INVOCATION

SENATOR LEO R. BLAIS

Help us to acknowledge our dependence on You, Lord. Instill in us Your Truth so that we may be true public servants to the people of our State. Amen.

Appendix

CONSENT CALENDAR

IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2009:

1. 2009-H 5943

BY Costantino

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -
RETIREMENT SYSTEM - CONTRIBUTION AND BENEFITS**

Ordered to be placed on the Consent Calendar

Appendix**CALENDAR****IN ORDER FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2009:****1 Nomination of Gary S. Sasse (appointment) of East Greenwich VICE Jerome Williams as the Director of Administration.**

Committee on Finance recommends that the Senate give its Advice and Consent to this nomination.

2. 2009-S 48**BY Pichardo****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ACT**

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

3. 2009-S 49**BY Pichardo****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- CENTER FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT**

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.

4. 2009-S 306**BY Goodwin****ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - INTERPRETER SERVICES**

Committee on Health & Human Services recommends passage.