



# MUNICIPAL

MEMO

OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE  
DIVISION OF MUNICIPAL FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, ONE CAPITOL HILL, PROVIDENCE, RI 02908-5873

## Legislative Reference Service 2012

PLEASE NOTE: DIRECT ACCESS to the full text of these bills can be acquired by clicking on the specific bill number.

**Introductions Reviewed Through June 13, 2012 (H-8276 / S-3075)**

For Further Information: Call John Caruso at 574-9903

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## CODE ENFORCEMENT

**H-7318**      **BUILDING PERMITS** (Serpa & Others) This act would reduce the time frame within which a building official must reject the application or issue a building permit from 45 calendar days to 30 calendar days for construction of a new residential dwelling. It also would require the issuance of a physical alteration permit for a building permit to be issued when the application requires access to state highways, although the lack of a permit shall not be cause for the building official to delay examination of the building permit application.  
Municipal Government

**H-7323Aaa 2013 APPROPRIATIONS ACT** (Melo)

**ART. 4**      **STATEWIDE ELECTRONIC PLAN REVIEW, PERMIT MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION SYSTEM** This article would require the State Building Code Commissioner in coordination with the State Fire Marshal and the Office of Regulatory Reform to develop a standard statewide process for electronic plan review, permit management and inspection system. This would be accomplished through the purchase or lease of a web-accessible system to be utilized by the state and municipalities, funded by the additional fee levy for building permits. Finance

**H-7371**      **WOOD BURNING STOVES** (Handy & Others) This act would require the phase-out of wood stoves without Environmental Protection Agency certification in densely populated residential areas. Local fire authorities would have the responsibility to inspect wood stoves for an EPA certification label, and to issue notices of violations with copies sent to local law enforcement authorities. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7519**      **STATEWIDE ELECTRONIC PLAN REVIEW, PERMIT MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION SYSTEM** (O'Neill & Others) This act would establish a restricted receipt account to be used to purchase and operate a web-accessible software system to be utilized by the state and municipalities for a uniform, statewide electronic plan review, permit management and inspection system. This restricted receipt account would be funded by the additional fee levy for building permits. Corporations

**H-7529**      **PLACES OF ASSEMBLY: FIREFIGHTER PRESENT** (Trillo & Others) This act would exempt places of assembly which meet or exceed current fire codes from the requirement of having a firefighter on duty during events. Corporations

**H-7633A**      **OUTDOOR WOOD-FIRED HYDRONIC HEATERS** (Flaherty & Others) This act would regulate the sale and installation of outdoor wood-fired hydronic heaters. Local building officials would have the authority to enforce provisions regarding types of heaters, manner of installation, and permitted fuel. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7718**      **STATEWIDE ELECTRONIC PLAN REVIEW, PERMIT MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION SYSTEM** (Walsh & Others) This act would establish a restricted receipt account to be used to purchase and operate a web-accessible software system to be utilized by the state and municipalities for a uniform, statewide electronic plan review, permit management and inspection system. This restricted receipt account would be funded by the additional fee levy for building permits. Finance

**H-7720**      **FIRE CODE** (Serpa) This act provides that 15% of plan review fees collected by the Division of State Fire Marshal would be deposited in a restricted receipt account to retain the services of licensed professionals, and to support the training and education requirements of the Division. Finance

**H-7767**      **PHYSICAL ALTERATION PERMITS** (Serpa & Others) This act would require the issuance of a physical alteration permit for a building permit to be issued when the application requires access to state highways. The lack of a physical alteration permit shall not be cause for a building official to delay examination of the building permit application. This act also would provide that the Director of the Department of Transportation must respond to the permit application within 30 business days, although the timeline may be extended due to unusual circumstances or for complex projects. Municipal Government

**H-7780**      **BARN AND GREENHOUSES ON FARMS** (Valencia & Others) This act would exempt barns and greenhouses located on farms from the alarm and sprinkler requirements of the fire safety code. Corporations

**H-7803**      **ALTERNATIVE PAVING MATERIALS** (Handy & Others) This act would establish guidelines for the use of alternative paving materials for non-residential driveways and parking lots under the soil erosion and sediment control model ordinance. The local building official is charged with accepting and approving plans for existing uses and facilities. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7867**      **PERMIT FEES** (San Bento & Others) This act would establish temporary reductions of certain fees and taxes relating to building and construction: the permit fees assessed by each municipality must be reduced by 50% for a period of 24 months; a 3.5% reduction in the sales tax imposed on lumber and building materials for a period of 24 months; and a moratorium on the assessment and collection of impact fees for new construction and development for a period of 36 months. Municipal Government

**H-7964**      **STATEWIDE ELECTRONIC PLAN REVIEW, PERMIT MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION SYSTEM** (Walsh & Serpa) This act would provide that an additional fee levy for building permits would be utilized to support the purchase and operation of a web-accessible software system for use by the state and municipalities for a uniform, statewide electronic plan review, permit management and inspection system. Municipal Government

**S-2082**      **OUTDOOR WOOD-FIRED HYDRONIC HEATERS** (Walaska) This act would regulate the sale and installation of outdoor wood-fired hydronic heaters. Local building officials would have the authority to enforce provisions regarding types of heaters, manner of installation, and permitted fuel. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2085**      **WOOD BURNING STOVES** (Jabour & Others) This act would require the phase-out of wood stoves without Environmental Protection Agency certification in densely populated residential areas. Local fire authorities would have the responsibility to inspect wood stoves for an EPA certification label, and to issue notices of violations with copies sent to local law enforcement authorities. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2289**      **PHYSICAL ALTERATION PERMITS** (Lynch & Others) This act would require the issuance of a physical alteration permit for a building permit to be issued when the application requires access to state highways. The lack of a physical alteration permit shall not be cause for a building official to delay examination of the building permit application. This act also would provide that the Director of the Department of Transportation must respond to the permit application within 30 business days, although the timeline may be extended due to unusual circumstances or for complex projects. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-2562**      **BARNs AND GREENHOUSES ON FARMS** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would exempt barns and greenhouses located on farms from the alarm and sprinkler requirements of the fire safety code. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-2564Aaa**      **FIRE CODE** (Walaska & Others) This act grants the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review the authority to adopt and implement all of the National Fire Association Codes (NFPA) prior to January 1, 2013, with enforcement powers vested in the State Fire Marshal. Effective January 1, 2013, the authority necessary to implement the NFPA codes will now be vested in the State Fire Marshal. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-2968**      **PERMIT FEES** (McCaffrey) This act would establish temporary reductions of certain fees and taxes relating to building and construction: the permit fees assessed by each municipality must be reduced by 50% for a period of 24 months; a 3.5% reduction in the sales tax imposed on lumber and building materials for a period of 24 months; and a moratorium on the assessment and collection of impact fees for new construction and development for a period of 36 months. Finance

## EDUCATION & SCHOOLS

**H-7018**      **PURCHASE AND USE OF TEXTBOOKS (Hearn)** This joint resolution would extend the reporting and expiration dates of the “Special Legislative Commission to Study the Purchase and Use of Textbooks in Public Schools” to March 1, 2012, and May 3, 2012, respectively. (Enacted as [Resolution 230](#) effective 2/2/12)

**H-7073**      **STATE MANDATES (Edwards & Others)** This act would provide that, if during any fiscal year the state reimbursement to cities/towns and school districts is insufficient to cover the costs of state mandates as reported by the Department of Revenue, those affected cities/towns and school districts may cease implementation of state mandates at their discretion up to 50% of the value of the reimbursement shortfall. Finance

**H-7077**      **CRIMINAL RECORDS REVIEW (McNamara & Others)** This act would require that individuals seeking to participate in any mentoring program, whereby the individual would be working with students as a mentor or in a mentoring situation, are required to undergo a criminal background check. H.E.W.

**H-7079**      **SCHOOL BUSES: ADVERTISING SPACE (McNamara & Others)** This act would authorize the school committee of any city/town or regional school district to sell advertising space on the exterior of school buses, and to negotiate with private school bus carriers regarding the content of the advertising and the sharing of revenues derived therefrom. H.E.W.

**H-7108**      **COLLEGE AND CAREER SUCCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT (McNamara & Others)** This act would require the establishment of clear training guidelines for teachers who teach advanced placement classes in Rhode Island public schools. H.E.W.

**H-7116**      **TEACHERS’ TENURE (Guthrie & Others)** This act would amend the situations in which a school board could suspend or layoff teachers by including program reduction or elimination or budget reduction as reasons. Also, this act would move the notification date from March 1<sup>st</sup> to May 15<sup>th</sup>. Labor

**H-7126A**      **STATEWIDE VIRTUAL EDUCATION (McNamara & Others)** This act would establish “The Rhode Island Statewide Virtual Education Act” which purpose is to create comprehensive guidelines that will result in high quality virtual instruction that will engage and challenge students through structured sustained study. H.E.W.

**H-7127**      **KINDERGARTEN (DaSilva & Others)** This act would require that a kindergarten school day must contain at least 5 ½ hours of actual school work exclusive of various specified activities. H.E.W.

**H-7128**      **KINDERGARTEN (Hearn & Others)** This act would require that a kindergarten school day must contain at least 5 ½ hours of actual school work exclusive of various specified activities. H.E.W.

**H-7132**      **REGIONALIZATION BONUS** (Malik & Others) This act would amend the provisions of "The Education Equity and Property Tax Relief Act" by freezing the amount of the regionalization bonus at 2% of the state's share of the foundation education aid for the regionalized districts. Finance

**H-7133**      **COOPERATIVE SERVICE AMONG SCHOOL DISTRICTS** (McNamara) This act would provide that the Urban Collaborative would be funded pursuant to the provisions of "The Education Equity and Property Tax Relief Act", with the state's share and local share paid directly to the Urban Collaborative. Finance

**H-7167**      **CELL PHONES IN SCHOOL** (Petarca & Others) This act would require the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to adopt a statewide policy prohibiting texting during school hours, except in certain circumstances. H.E.W.

**H-7185**      **SCHOOL BUSES: ADVERTISING SPACE** (Petarca & Others) This act would authorize school committees to sell advertising space on school buses. Municipal Government

**H-7217**      **CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES** (Naughton & Others) This act would require that there be a prompt referral to an individualized education program team for all children who have been suspended repeatedly or whose behavior, attendance or progress in school is considered unsatisfactory or at a marginal level of acceptance. H.E.W.

**H-7218**      **CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES** (Naughton & Others) In the area of education of children with disabilities this new section would require that the public agency has the burden of proof regarding the appropriateness of the child's program or placement. H.E.W.

**H-7272**      **TEACHERS' TENURE** (Jackson & Others) This act would amend the notification requirements regarding the dismissal, suspension, or lay-off of teachers by moving the date from March 1<sup>st</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup>. Labor

**H-7286**      **TEACHERS' RIGHT TO WORK** (Costa & Others) This act would enact the "Teachers' Right to Work Act" which makes union membership and the payment of union dues voluntary. Each teacher would have the right to bargain independently with the employing educational institution or school system. H.E.W.

**H-7287A**      **COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE** (Diaz & Others) This act would prohibit schools from using a student's truancy or absenteeism as the sole basis for using an out-of-school suspension as a disciplinary action. H.E.W.

**H-7323Aaa 2013 APPROPRIATIONS ACT (Melo)**

**ART. 12 EDUCATION AID** This article would implement a standardized budget process and a Regents' approved budget model including periodic reviews and analysis of school revenues and expenses; set the school housing aid ratio minimum share at 35% for all projects approved after June 30, 2012; amend language regarding the Central Falls Stabilization Fund; repeal the Chapter entitled "Education of Children Who Are Deaf or Blind"; accelerate the payment of the state's share of education aid; and establish what constitutes maintenance of effort under the adequate minimum budget provision. Finance

**H-7323Aaa 2013 APPROPRIATIONS ACT (Melo)**

**ART. 21 SCHOOL BUS INSPECTIONS** This article would require the Division of Motor Vehicles to impose a fee of \$100 for each re-inspection of a school bus that has failed to pass inspection. Finance

**H-7335 CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Silva)** This act would change the formula used in granting state aid for reimbursement of charter public school housing costs. Finance

**H-7342 SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGE TAX (Ajello & Others)** This act would impose a sugar-sweetened beverage tax on distributors, manufacturers, or wholesalers who sell these products within the state. Part of the proceeds from collection of this tax would be distributed to elementary and secondary schools to fund various approaches that promote nutrition and physical activity. Finance

**H-7343 BUS MONITORS (Walsh & Others)** This act would allow local school districts the option of utilizing bus monitors or alternative technologies which provide equivalent safety for the children, which request must be granted by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education. H.E.W.

**H-7344 MAYORAL ACADEMIES (Blazejewski & Others)** This act would require mayoral academies to use a random selection process to select those students who would be invited to attend the mayoral academy. The methodology for this randomized process is explicitly set forth in this bill. H.E.W.

**H-7345 SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR VEHICLES (Diaz)** This act would change the requirement that the approved Emergency Airway Kit must be mounted in an area accessible to the operator of the school extra-curricular vehicle, to the basic requirement of every school extra-curricular vehicle being equipped with an approved Emergency Airway Kit. H.E.W.

**H-7378 SCHOOL AID: MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (Chippendale & Others)** This act would provide that debt service that is no longer carried on the books of any regional school district would no longer be included in the annual regional school district budget, nor be included in maintenance of effort or in the operating budget. Finance

**H-7412 ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN UP OBJECTIVES FOR SCHOOLS** (Slater & Others) This act would prohibit the construction, rehabilitation, and leasing of buildings to be used as schools where there exists the potential for contamination by hazardous materials. In certain situations the project sponsor may choose to satisfy a burdensome set of measures in order to have the opportunity to proceed. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7413 ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE** (Naughton & Others) This act would provide that notifications in writing must be provided to parents or guardians of students identified as performing “significantly below proficient” on any state assessment. This act also provides that no state assessment nor standardized testing program would be used to determine a student’s eligibility to graduate from high school. H.E.W.

**H-7444 CRIMINAL RECORDS REVIEW** (MacBeth & Others) This act would require that anyone seeking to volunteer with a private school or public school department, who has not previously volunteered during the last 12 months, undergo a national and state criminal background check prior to the commencement of the volunteer work. H.E.W.

**H-7447A ALLERGIC EMERGENCIES** (Malik & Others) This act would allow school bus drivers and monitors to administer epinephrine to an identified student to prevent or treat a case of anaphylaxis. School bus drivers and monitors must receive training in the administration of the epinephrine auto-injection. H.E.W.

**H-7538 WEAPONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS** (MacBeth & Others) This act would prohibit the possession of knives of any length, whether or not designed to cut or stab another. H.E.W.

**H-7541 RHODE ISLAND DYSLEXIA ACT** (Naughton & Others) This act would establish “The Rhode Island Dyslexia Act” which purpose it would be to require schools to recognize dyslexia, and treat the literacy challenges of dyslexic students in a proactive manner. H.E.W.

**H-7542B READING DISABILITIES AND DYSLEXIA** (Naughton & Others) This resolution would create a special legislative study commission which purpose it would be to assess the educational needs of children with reading disabilities and dyslexia. H.E.W.

**H-7567 TRANSPORTATION OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOL PUPILS** (Tanzi & Others) This act would enable school committees and/or municipalities to charge an assessment for transportation costs to students who attend and seek transportation to private schools. The charges must be reasonably apportioned to reflect the actual additional costs incurred in providing the transportation. Municipal Government

**H-7576 SHARED USE AGREEMENTS** (Naughton & Others) This act would encourage school districts to enter into shared use agreements with governmental and community agencies and organizations to keep school property open for public use during non-school hours for recreational purposes or sport. H.E.W.

**H-7577**      **FEDERAL FUNDS: SPECIAL EDUCATION** (MacBeth & Others) This act would require that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education use federal education funds exclusively for special education requirements pursuant to federal law and regulations. H.E.W.

**H-7579**      **OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS - OPEB TRUSTS** (Gallison & Others) This act would add corporations established pursuant to Chapter 5 of Title 45 entitled "Councils and Governing Bodies" to the list of entities which may act as trustee for trust agreements among school districts and banks or trust companies in reference to OPEB trusts. It also would allow school districts to utilize these corporations to advise on the investment of the OPEB trust fund. Finance

**H-7653**      **RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES** (MacBeth & Others) This act concerns the education of children placed in foster homes, group homes or other residential facility. The Department of Children, Youth and Families would be considered the public agency and local educational agency responsible for compliance with state and federal special education laws and regulations. H.E.W.

**H-7654**      **SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF** (MacBeth & Others) This act would provide that a school district of this state would not be responsible for the cost of a student attending the Rhode Island School for the Deaf, unless the individualized educational plan (IEP) team of that school district is responsible for the placement of that student at the School for the Deaf. H.E.W.

**H-7655**      **CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES** (Naughton & Others) This act would provide that, in situations when children with disabilities are placed in a non-public special education program or school, the non-public school's teaching staff need not meet the Department of Education's certification requirements for public school regular or special education teachers. H.E.W.

**H-7719**      **SCHOOL AID: MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT** (Chippendale & Others) This act would provide that debt service that is no longer carried on the books of any school district would no longer be included in the annual school district budget, nor be included in maintenance of effort or in the operating budget. Also, non-recurring debt service would not be included in maintenance of effort or in the operating budget. Finance

**H-7757**      **CARUOLO ACT REPEALED** (Morgan & Others) This act would provide that city/town councils must ratify collective bargaining agreements negotiated by school committees for them to become effective. Labor

**H-7815**      **MANDATED MINIMUM PROGRAM LEVEL** (MacBeth & Others) This act would require that the Auditor General determine the mandated minimum program level for students on an annual basis. Currently this is the responsibility of the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education upon recommendation of the Commissioner. Finance

**H-7819 AFTER SCHOOL AND SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS** (Ferri & Others)  
This act would enable the Department of Education to implement its final report on the creation of a demonstration program for after school and summer learning for school children. The act also would provide funding for the operation of that demonstration program. Finance

**H-7826 STUDENTS IN ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS** (Morrison & Others) This act would provide that students who complete the graduation requirements of an alternative learning program approved by a school district must be awarded a diploma upon graduation. H.E.W

**H-7828 CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK** (Hearn & Marcello) This act would require that all persons and entities which would provide any kind of service to children and minors up to the age of 17, whether as an employee, self-employed or volunteer, be subject to a nationwide criminal records check through the state Bureau of Criminal Identification. H.E.W.

**H-7829 CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES** (MacBeth & Others) This act would transfer "due process" hearings relating to the process of resolving disputes relating to the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of children with disabilities to the Department of Health. H.E.W.

**H-7831 RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES** (Naughton & Others)  
This act would provide that licensed child placement agencies and state governmental agencies would promote the educational stability of children in foster care by considering the child's school attendance area when making placement decisions. More specifically, the act would provide that a student who is in foster care would have the right to attend school in a district where the student previously resided, if such placement was deemed by the family court to be in the pupil's best interest. H.E.W.

**H-7832 EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER ACT** (MacBeth & Others)  
This act would create an Educational Resource Center to provide informational resources for families, students, schools, and professionals regarding neurological impairments such as autism, brain injury and seizure disorders. H.E.W.

**H-7863 TEACHER TENURE** (Brien) This act provides for a system of teacher tenure based on effective performance as determined by the newly created "district evaluation system". Various other sections of Chapter 16-13 entitled "Teachers' Tenure" are amended to incorporate this new system of evaluation. Labor

**H-7890 AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEES** (Phillips & Others) This act would direct school committees to establish an audit subcommittee to insure adherence to sound fiscal practices. The composition and responsibilities of the audit subcommittee shall be determined by the Advisory Council on School Finances. H.E.W.

**H-7943**      **GAMBLING REVENUE: EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES** (Watson & Ehrhardt) This act would provide that sums withheld from lottery and pari-mutuel winnings for state income tax would be placed by the tax administrator in a restricted receipt account, and distributed on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September in each year to the cities/towns in an equal amount for educational purposes. Finance

**H-7953**      **PERMANENT FOUNDATION EDUCATION AID** (McCauley) This act would amend the formula for determination of the state's share for funding the William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical High School and the Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical School. The act also provides for funding the actual cost of transportation to the above schools through the transportation categorical fund. Finance

**H-7954**      **REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS** (McCauley) This act would expand the geographic areas served by the William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical High School and the Metropolitan Career and Technical School to cover eligible students statewide. Finance

**H-7968**      **PERMANENT FOUNDATION EDUCATION AID** (Petarca & Others) This act would amend the formula for determination of the state's share for funding the William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical High School and the Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical School. The act also provides for funding the actual cost of transportation to the above schools through the transportation categorical fund. Finance

**H-7976**      **CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK** (San Bento & Others) This act would require that all persons and entities which would provide any kind of service to children and minors up to the age of 17, whether as an employee, self-employed or volunteer, be subject to a nationwide criminal records check through the state Bureau of Criminal Identification. H.E.W.

**H-8008**      **SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCOUNTING COMPLIANCE** (Brien & Newberry) This act would require all school districts, regional school districts, state schools and charter schools to implement a budget model approved by the Department of Education. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education must conduct periodic reviews and analysis of school revenues and expenses, and monitor compliance with the approved budget model and best practices. Also, the act would provide that state education aid could be withheld for failure to comply with school reporting requirements. Finance

**H-8012**      **SCHOOL AID: MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT** (Brien & Newberry) This act would provide that the appropriation of supplemental funds to reduce a school budget deficit made by a city, town, or regional school district appropriating authority for the payment of past annual expenditures would not be used in the computation of the maintenance of effort requirements established under section 16-7-23 – "Community requirements – Adequate minimum budget provision". Finance

**H-8049**      **FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN** (Hearn & Others) This act would provide for the funding of up to 4 eligible school districts for full-day kindergarten programs per year. The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education would determine which school districts would receive these funds to voluntarily implement this program. Finance

**H-8052 SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROCESS** (Lima & Others) This act would repeal a moratorium providing that the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education would not grant final approval for school construction projects between June 30, 2011, and June 30, 2014, unless necessitated by immediate health and safety reasons. This act also would repeal the provision that inactive projects for which approval had been granted prior to the adoption of the school construction regulations in 2007, and certain other projects would no longer be eligible for reimbursement. Finance

**H-8074 TRANSPORTATION OF SCHOOL PUPILS** (Tanzi & Others) This act would relieve municipalities from the mandatory obligation of providing suitable transportation for pupils of both public schools and private schools. The act would leave it to the discretion of the school committee as to whether to provide transportation for pupils attending public schools and nonprofit private schools. Municipal Government

**H-8091 SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS** (Baldelli-Hunt & Others) This act would provide that funding of the education of special education students with extraordinary needs who require private school placements would be done through the Rhode Island Department of Education. The entire cost of educating students in these placements would be deemed to be "extraordinary costs", and would be calculated and funded pursuant to the permanent foundation education aid program. Finance

**H-8257 BOARD OF REGENTS** (Fox) This act would authorize the addition of a student representative member to the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education. The act also would establish a Student Advisory Council to the Board of Regents consisting of one high school student representative from each public secondary school in the state. H.E.W.

**S-2021 PURCHASE AND USE OF TEXTBOOKS** (O'Neill & Others) **This joint resolution would reinstate the life of and extend the reporting and expiration date to December 31, 2014, of the "Special Legislative Commission to Study the Purchase and Use of Textbooks in Public Schools". (Enacted as [Resolution 256](#) effective 1/31/12)**

**S-2030 SCHOOL COMMITTEES: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (Gallo & Others) This act would provide that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education would be included in developing the professional development educational program for school committees required under the current law. It also would provide that courses would be offered online as soon as practical. Education

**S-2038 OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS – OPEB TRUSTS** (DiPalma & Others) This act would add corporations established pursuant to Chapter 5 of Title 45 entitled "Councils and Governing Bodies" to the list of entities which may act as trustee for trust agreements among school districts and banks or trust companies in reference to OPEB trusts. It also would allow school districts to utilize these corporations to advise on the investment of the OPEB trust fund. Finance

**S-2042 COOPERATIVE SERVICE AMONG SCHOOL DISTRICTS** (Gallo & Miller) This act would provide that the Urban Collaborative would be funded pursuant to the provisions of "The Education Equity and Property Tax Relief Act", with the state's share and local share paid directly to the Urban Collaborative. Finance

**S-2047 SCHOOL AID: MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT** (Fogarty) This act would provide that debt service that is no longer carried on the books of any regional school district would not be included in the annual regional school district budget, nor be included in maintenance of effort or in the operating budget. Finance

**S-2077 AFTER SCHOOL AND SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS** (DeVall & Others) This act would enable the Department of Education to implement its final report on the creation of a demonstration program for after school and summer learning for school children. This act also would provide funding for the operation of that demonstration program. Education

**S-2078 PAYMENTS FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES** (DiPalma) This act would allow school districts to assess students reasonable fees for participation in extracurricular school activities such as sports, clubs and bands. The act also would allow school departments and school committees to accept grants, gifts and donations from various specified entities. Education

**S-2079 CELL PHONES IN SCHOOL** (Tassoni & Others) This act would require the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to adopt a statewide policy prohibiting texting during school hours, except in certain circumstances. Education

**S-2080 MUSICAL PERFORMANCE EDUCATION** (Picard) This act would require that all children attending secondary public schools, or any other secondary schools managed and controlled by the state, have available to them in those schools instruction in musical performance education. Education

**S-2081 SCHOOL DRESS CODE** (Tassoni & Others) This act would authorize all school committees in the state to adopt a school dress code. Education

**S-2108 REGIONALIZATION BONUS** (Felag & Others) This act would amend the provisions of "The Education Equity and Property Tax Relief Act" by freezing the amount of the regionalization bonus at 2% of the state's share of the foundation education aid for the regionalized districts. Finance

**S-2114 ADVANED PLACEMENT TEACHER BONUS** (Hodgson & Others) This act would provide for teacher bonuses for every student who has earned advanced placement credits in the teacher's subject area, with the bonuses being capped at \$1,000 per teacher per year and to be paid from the general fund. Finance

**S-2117 STUDENT PERFORMANCE** (Picard) This act would provide that the annual state assessment program of student performance would include the results from an alternative test for up to 1% of students who are identified as having severe cognitive disabilities, and up to 2% of students who are identified as performing academically below grade level but are higher functioning than those students with severe cognitive disabilities. Finance

**S-2158 TEACHERS' TENURE** (DiPalma & Others) This act would amend the notification requirements regarding the dismissal, suspension or lay-off of teachers, moving the notification date from March 1<sup>st</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup>. Labor

**S-2173Aaa ALLERGIC EMERGENCIES** (Felag & Others) This act would allow school bus drivers and monitors to administer epinephrine to an identified student to prevent or treat a case of anaphylaxis. School bus drivers and monitors must receive training in the administration of the epinephrine auto-injector. Health & Human Services

**S-2183 SCHOOL BUSES: ADVERTISING SPACE** (Tassoni & Others) This act would authorize school committees to sell advertising space on school buses. Education

**S-2184 SCHOOL BUSES: ADVERTISING SPACE** (Gallo & Others) This act would authorize the school committee of any city/town or regional school district to sell advertising space on the exterior of school buses, and to negotiate with private school bus carriers regarding the content of the advertising and the sharing of revenues derived therefrom. Education

**S-2239 SCHOOL BUDGETS: CITY AND TOWN COUNCILS** (Tassoni & Others) This act would vest school committees with the powers and duties over the direct provision of educational services, including the hiring and retention of personnel, the content and curriculum to be provided, and educational administration. In contrast, the city and town councils would have direct control over the direct financial aspects of the education, including total budgets to be expended, the amount of salaries, interior and exterior maintenance of school buildings and school grounds, and capital improvements. Education

**S-2258 TEACHERS' RIGHT TO WORK** (Kettle & Others) This act would enact the "Teachers' Right to Work Act" which makes union membership and the payment of union dues voluntary. Each teacher would have the right to bargain independently with the employing educational institution or school system. Labor

**S-2274 ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE** (Metts & Others) This act would provide that notifications in writing must be provided to parents or guardians of students identified as performing "significantly below proficient" on any state assessment. This act also provides that no state assessment nor standardized testing program would be used to determine a student's eligibility to graduate from high school. Education

**S-2275** **COLLEGE AND CAREER SUCCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT** (Pichardo & Others) This act would require the establishment of clear training guidelines for teachers who teach advanced placement classes in Rhode Island public schools. Education

**S-2276Aaa** **STATEWIDE VIRTUAL EDUCATION** (DiPalma & Others) This act would establish "The Rhode Island Statewide Virtual Education Act" which purpose is to create comprehensive regulations that will result in high quality virtual instruction that will engage and challenge students through structured, sustained study. Education

**S-2277Aaa** **ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN UP OBJECTIVES FOR SCHOOLS** (Pichardo & Others) This act would prohibit the construction, rehabilitation, and leasing of buildings to be used as schools where there exists the potential for contamination by hazardous materials. In certain situations the project sponsor may choose to satisfy a burdensome set of measures in order to have the opportunity to proceed. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2309** **BUS MONITORS** (Algieri & Maher) This act would allow local school districts the option of utilizing bus monitors or alternative technologies which provide equivalent safety for the children, which request must be granted by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education. Education

**S-2310** **ADVISORY COUNCIL ON SCHOOL FINANCES** (Hodgson & Others) This act would make various amendments to section 16-2-9 – "General powers and duties of school committees". The act also would add the Chief of the Division of Municipal Finance to the Advisory Council on School Finances; require school districts to utilize financing and accounting systems provide by their municipal appropriating authority; and repeal the school committee's right to seek additional appropriations by bringing an action in Superior Court. Education

**S-2318** **CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS** (Doyle & Nesselbush) This act would change the formula used in granting state aid for reimbursement of charter public school housing costs. Finance

**S-2320** **SITING SCHOOLS ON TOXIC WASTE SITES** (Metts & Others) This act would prohibit housing aid from being used to cover the costs of remediation of a hazardous waste site, and it also would prohibit locating schools on toxic waste sites. Finance

**S-2356** **ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES** (Gallo & Others) This act would amend Title 16 ("Education") by adding a new Chapter entitled "Access to Advanced Placement Courses for All Students Act" designed to promote access to advanced placement courses for all students in Rhode Island public high schools. Education

**S-2417** **WEAPONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS** (Picard) This act would prohibit the possession on school grounds of knives of any length, whether or not designed to cut or stab another. Judiciary

**S-2424 TEACHERS' TENURE** (Ciccone) This act would amend the situations in which a school board could suspend or layoff teachers by including program reduction or elimination or budget reduction as reasons. Also, this act would move the notification date from March 1<sup>st</sup> to May 15<sup>th</sup>. Labor

**S-2446 CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES** (Gallo & Others) This act would lower from 16 to 14 the age for transition planning to be initiated by school districts for students with disabilities. Education

**S-2447Aaa BOARD OF REGENTS** (Perry) This act would authorize the addition of a student representative member to the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education. The act also would establish a Student Advisory Council to the Board of Regents consisting of one high school student representative from each public secondary school in the state. Education

**S-2461 STATE REIMBURSEMENT: DCYF** (Lombardo & Others) This act would provide that the state, acting through the Department of Children, Youth and Families, would pay for the entire cost of educating children placed by DCYF in a group home or other residential facility. Finance

**S-2464 SCHOOL AID: PUPIL TRANSPORTATION** (DiPalma & Others) This act would revise the provisions of "The Education Equity and Property Tax Relief Act" by amending the formula that determines the amount to support career and technical education beyond the core instruction amount. It also would amend provisions affecting transportation of pupils attending the Davies Career and Technical High School and the Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center by funding the actual cost of this transportation through the transportation categorical fund. Finance

**S-2507 CRIMINAL RECORDS REVIEW** (Picard) This act would require that anyone seeking to volunteer in a private or public school department, who has not volunteered during the last 12 months, would undergo a national and state criminal background check prior to the commencement of the volunteer work. Judiciary

**S-2513 CRIMINAL RECORDS REVIEW** (Walaska & Others) This act would require that individuals seeking to participate in any mentoring program, whereby the individual would be working with students as a mentor or in a mentoring situation, are required to undergo a criminal background check. Judiciary

**S-2531 TEACHER TENURE** (Nesselbush & Others) This act provides for a system of teacher tenure based on effective performance as determined by the newly created "district evaluation system". Various other sections of Chapter 16-13 entitled "Teachers' Tenure" are amended to incorporate this new system of evaluation. Labor

**S-2534 FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN** (Gallo & Others) This act would provide that the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education approves up to 4 eligible public school districts per year to voluntarily implement a full-day kindergarten program. Finance

**S-2542A COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE** (Pichardo & Others) This act would prohibit schools from using a student's truancy or absenteeism as a basis for using an out-of-school suspension as a disciplinary action. Education

**S-2543 CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES** (Pichardo & Others) This act would require that there be a prompt referral to an individualized education program team for all children who have been suspended repeatedly or whose behavior, attendance or progress in school is considered unsatisfactory or at a marginal level of acceptance. Education

**S-2544 SCHOOL YEAR** (Picard) This act would allow school districts to use longer school days to educate students, and to do so in less than 180 days as long as the total amount of school hours is a minimum of 1,080 per school year. Education

**S-2545 SHARED USE AGREEMENTS** (Metts & Others) This act would encourage school districts to enter into shared use agreements with governmental and community agencies and organizations to keep school property open for public use during non-school hours for recreation purposes or sport. Education

**S-2608 FIRE, EVACUATION AND LOCKDOWN DRILLS** (DiPalma & Others) This act would establish greater detail and specifications regarding the type, manner, and frequency of fire and evacuation drills in educational facilities. Education

**S-2609 READING DISABILITIES AND DYSLEXIA** (Gallo & Others) This Senate Resolution would create a special legislative study commission which purpose it would be to assess the educational needs of children with reading disabilities and dyslexia. Education

**S-2669 CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES** (Pichardo & Others) In the area of education of children with disabilities this new section would require that the public agency has the burden of proof regarding the appropriateness of child's program or placement. Judiciary

**S-2709 MAYORAL ACADEMIES** (Jabour & Others) This act would make various amendments to Chapter 16-77.4 entitled "Mayoral Academies". The act would add language to further define what entities are eligible to apply to become mayoral academies; it also would allow the sending school districts to retain 25% of revenue for administration and operation costs; and require an annual report to various entities. Also the act would require that the state law on Teachers' Retirement (Chapter 16-16) be binding on mayoral academies. Education

**S-2710 SCHOOL COMMITTEES** (Jabour & Others) This act would provide that all school committees would be elected. Providence is currently the only community which appoints its school committee members. Education

**S-2711 RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES** (Perry & Others) This act would provide that licensed child placement agencies and state governmental agencies would promote the educational stability of children in foster care by considering the child's school attendance area when making placement decisions. More specifically, the act would provide that a student who is in foster care would have the right to attend school in a district where the student previously resided, if such placement was deemed by the family court to be in the pupil's best interest. Education

**S-2719 AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEES** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would direct school committees to establish an audit subcommittee to insure adherence to sound fiscal practices. The composition and responsibilities of the audit subcommittee shall be determined by the Advisory Council on School Finances. Finance

**S-2737 GAMBLING REVENUE** (Metts & Others) This act would provide that 100% of any additional state revenues gained from the expansion of gambling would be deposited into a restricted receipt account to fund elementary and secondary education on the state and local levels. Special Legislation and Veterans' Affairs

**S-2752 REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS** (Metts & Others) This act would expand the geographic areas served by the William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical High School and the Metropolitan Career and Technical School to cover eligible students statewide. Education.

**S-2757 SCHOOL AID: MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT** (Fogarty) This act would provide that debt service that is no longer carried on the books of any regional school district would no longer be included in the annual regional school district budget, nor be included in maintenance of effort or in the operating budget. Finance

**S-2791 SCHOOL BUS MONITORS** (Picard) This act would remove the requirement that bus monitors, in addition to the bus drivers, be on certain school buses by allowing school committees to have discretion to utilize, authorize, or employ school bus monitors. Education

**S-2796 AFTER SCHOOL AND SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS** (DeVall & Others) This act would enable the Department of Education to implement its final report on the creation of a demonstration program for after school and summer learning for school children. The act also would provide funding for the operation of that demonstration program. Finance

**S-2798 SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGE TAX** (Perry & Others) This act would impose a sugar-sweetened beverage tax on distributors, manufacturers, or wholesalers who sell these products within the state. Part of the proceeds from collection of this tax would be distributed to elementary and secondary schools to fund various approaches that promote nutrition and physical activity. Finance

**S-2823 SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCOUNTING COMPLIANCE** (DaPonte & Bates) This act would require all school districts, regional school districts, state schools and charter schools to implement a budget model approved by the Department of Education. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education must conduct periodic reviews and analysis of school revenues and expenses, and monitor compliance with the approved budget model and best practices. Also, the act would provide that state education aid could be withheld for failure to comply with school reporting requirements. Finance

**S-2829 SCHOOL AID: MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT** (DaPonte & Bates) This act would provide that the appropriation of supplemental funds to reduce a school budget deficit made by a city, town or regional school district appropriating authority for the payment of past annual expenditures would not be used in the computation of the maintenance of effort requirements established under section 16-7-23 – “Community requirements – Adequate minimum budget provision”. Finance

**S-2837 MAYORAL ACADEMIES** (Lanzi) This act would require mayoral academies to use a random selection process to select those students who would be invited to attend the mayoral academy. The methodology for this randomized process is explicitly set forth in this bill. Education

## **ELECTIONS**

**H-7055A POLLING PLACES** (Carnevale & Others) This act would change the maximum number of voters to be served by each polling place from 1,900 to 3,000 without creating a polling place serving less than 500 voters. Changes to the polling place would not be allowed until the next redistricting except under certain specified circumstances. (Enacted as **Public Law 28** effective 5/1/12)

**H-7089A POLITICAL PARTY DESIGNATION** (Brien & Others) This act would enable an unaffiliated person participating in a party primary to immediately after voting execute at the poll an affidavit changing the party designation back to unaffiliated which disaffiliation would be effective immediately. Judiciary

**H-7100 MAIL BALLOTS** (Gallison & Others) This act would enable the holder of a single federal postcard application (FPCA) through the “Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act” to request an absentee ballot for each primary and election “for the time period specified by federal law”. Veterans’ Affairs

**H-7113 CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS AND VOTING EQUIPMENT** (Ajello & Others) This act would make changes to the elections recount process, It also would increase the number of provisional ballot votes to be counted. Minor changes are made to the polling place laws, and it would subject the Board of Elections to the “Administrative Procedures Act” concerning its adoption of rules and regulations. Judiciary

**H-7219 VOTER IDENTIFICATION** (Lima & Others) This act would repeal the newly adopted “Voter Identification” provision of the general laws. Judiciary

**H-7288**      **IRREGULAR BALLOTS** (Carnevale & Others) This act would require all local boards of canvassers to count and record all irregular ballots only in those races in which the irregular ballot totals are 10% or more of the winning candidate's votes. Judiciary

**H-7426**      **CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS** (Marcello & Others) This act would make numerous amendments to Chapter 17-19 of the general laws entitled "Conduct of Elections and Voting Equipment and Supplies" to reflect the elimination of the option for straight party voting. Judiciary

**H-7561**      **REGISTRATION OF VOTERS** (Keable & Others) This act would provide for the use of post office boxes for purposes of mailing the acknowledgement of registration notices by the local board of canvassers in those cases in which the prospective voter is not eligible to receive home delivery. Judiciary

**H-7853**      **RIGHT TO VOTE** (Williams & Others) This proposed constitutional amendment would, if approved by the voters, amend the Rhode Island Constitution to entitle permanent legal resident aliens of the age of eighteen who establish residency to have the right to vote in all statewide and local elections. Judiciary

**H-7854**      **PROVISIONAL BALLOTS** (Marcello & Others) This act would require every local board of canvassers to report to the State Board of Elections the number of provisional ballots cast in every primary, special or general election, including the number of those accepted and rejected, after problems with identification verification have been resolved. Judiciary

**H-7897**      **PRIMARY ELECTION OFFICIALS** (Slater) This act would allow federal, state and municipal employees to be appointed to serve as primary election officials. Judiciary

**H-7949A**      **VOTER CHOICE STUDY COMMISSION** (Blazejewski) This act would add 2 members to the Voter Choice Study Commission for a total of 16 members. This act also would extend the reporting date of the commission from January 4, 2012, to May 1, 2013. Judiciary

**H-8093**      **POLLING PLACES** (Williams) This act would exempt polling places which are located in a low-income or elderly residential development from the minimum requirement of at least 500 eligible registered voters. It also would preserve existing polling places which are presently located in low-income or elderly residential developments. Judiciary

**S-2059**      **COMPUTER BALLOTS AND SAMPLE BALLOTS** (Bates & Others) This act would require the Board of Elections to program the voting equipment to prevent straight party voting by means of a single mark, and would require the Secretary of State to produce ballots that do not have the option to vote for a straight party ticket by means of a single mark. Judiciary

**S-2060 CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS AND VOTING EQUIPMENT** (Bates & Others) This act would make numerous amendments to Chapter 17-19 of the general laws entitled "Conduct of Elections and Voting Equipment and Supplies" to reflect the elimination of the option for straight party voting. Judiciary

**S-2231 STATEWIDE REFERENDA** (O'Neill & Others) This act would provide a procedure for statements in support of and in opposition to statewide referenda ballot measures to be printed in voter handbooks distributed to all voters prior to each general election. Special Legislation & Veterans Affairs

**S-2335 MAIL BALLOTS** (Pichardo & Others) This act would enable the holder of a single federal postcard application (FPCA) through the "Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act" to request an absentee ballot for each primary and election "for the time period specified by federal law". Judiciary

**S-2370 MAIL BALLOTS** (DiPalma & Others) This act would enable the holder of a single federal postcard application (FPCA) through the "Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act" to request an absentee ballot for each primary and election "through the general election for federal office or for the time period specified by federal law". Judiciary

**S-2489Aaa POLLING PLACES** (Doyle & Others) This act would change the maximum numbers of voters to be served by each polling place from 1,900 to 3,000 without creating a polling place serving less than 500 voters. Changes to the polling place would not be allowed until the next redistricting except under certain specified circumstances. (Enacted as [Public Law 26](#) effective 5/1/12)

**S-2673 REGISTRATION OF VOTERS** (Fogarty) This act would provide for the use of post office boxes for the purpose of mailing the acknowledgement of registration notices by the local board of canvassers in those cases in which the prospective voter is not eligible to receive home delivery. (Enacted as [Public Law 86](#) effective 5/22/12)

**S-2806 RIGHT TO VOTE** (Tassoni) This proposed constitutional amendment would, if approved by the voters, amend the Rhode Island Constitution to entitle permanent legal resident aliens of the age of eighteen who establish residency to have the right to vote in all statewide and local elections. Judiciary

**S-2977 POLLING PLACES** (Jabour & Crowley) This act would exempt polling places which are located in a low-income or elderly residential development from the minimum requirement of at least 500 eligible registered voters. It also would preserve existing polling places which are presently located in such low-income or elderly residential developments. Judiciary

## **ENVIRONMENT**

**H-7171**      **CONSERVATION RESTRICTIONS** (Walsh & Others) This act would add language regarding court actions affecting a conservation restriction held by a private land trust. It specifies who may bring or intervene in those court actions. Judiciary

**H-7254**      **PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SUPPLY** (Carnevale & Others) This act would repeal the current language in the general laws requiring public drinking water suppliers to formulate a program for the installation of radio frequency reading systems. Municipal Government

**H-7285**      **DAMS AND RESERVOIRS** (Ferri & Others) This act would provide that orders or notices issued by the Director of the Department of Environmental Management regarding unsafe dams or reservoirs, as well as the notice of satisfactory completion of the requirements of the order or notice, must be recorded in the land evidence records in the city/town in which the subject property is located. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7323Aaa 2013 APPROPRIATIONS ACT** (Melo)

**ART. 17**      **DRINKING WATER WELLS** This article would amend various sections of Chapter 46-13.2 entitled "Drilling of Drinking Water Wells". It also would create a new Chapter - 5-65.2 entitled "Rhode Island Well Drilling Contractors Licensing Law". Well drilling contractors would be subject to the jurisdiction of the Contractors' Registration and Licensing Board, as well as to regulations pertaining to licensing and registration promulgated by the board pursuant to Chapter 5-65.2 Finance

**H-7333**      **COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL** (Ehrhardt & Others) This act would alter the composition and method of appointment of the members of the Coastal Resources Management Council due to separation of powers considerations. It also would create the Permanent Joint Committee on Coastal Resources consisting of 8 members. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7369**      **INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS** (Menard & Others) This act would eliminate the requirement that the Director of the Department of Environmental Management must approve an individual sewage disposal system, if the system is designed by a licensed designer who submits plans stamped and certified. These requirements apply only if the applicant on the plan for the sewage disposal system uses city/town water, and the structure is no larger than a duplex. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7385**      **ARTIFICIAL REEF PROGRAM** (Keable & Others) This act would create the Rhode Island Artificial Reef Program which would provide a mechanism through which local municipalities are permitted to place vessels in Rhode Island waters as artificial reefs, and can apply for state matching grants for the placement of obsolete ex-military, MARAD or other vessels. Finance

**H-7412**      **ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN UP OBJECTIVES FOR SCHOOLS** (Slater & Others) This act would prohibit the construction, rehabilitation, and leasing of buildings to be used as schools where there exists the potential for contamination by hazardous materials. In certain situations the project sponsor may choose to satisfy a burdensome set of measures in order to have the opportunity to proceed. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7428**      **RIGHTS-OF-WAY: PUBLIC PARKING** (Ehrhardt & Gallison) This act would require cities/towns that own land within 250 feet of Coastal Resources Management Council designated rights-of-way to set out so much of the land as they deem necessary for public parking. Municipal Government

**H-7535**      **CRMC** (Naughton & Coderre) This act would dissolve the current Coastal Resources Management Council and replace it with a new executive department to be known as the Department of Coastal Resources Management. It also would create a Permanent Joint Committee on Coastal Resources. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7592**      **EAST BAY ENERGY CONSORTIUM ACT** (Gallison & Others) This act would create the East Bay Energy Consortium, the overall purpose of which would be to encourage municipal participation in the development of facilities in the East Bay for the generation of electrical energy from sources not primarily dependent on fossil fuels. The act also would establish a tax exemption ( both state and local ) for any property acquired by or under the jurisdiction of the Consortium. A payment in lieu of taxes provision is included in the act. Finance

**H-7672**      **DAM MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS** (Keable) This act would grant Dam Management Districts immunity from civil liability for any tort committed upon any lake bed the Dam Management District may acquire, hold, use or lease. Municipal Government

**H-7696**      **SMALL WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS** (Carnevale) This act would allow the installation of small wind energy systems subject to regulations and standards. It would mandate specific provisions for municipal zoning ordinances, create a system of fees including the requirement that a permit be obtained, and make the system subject to a structural and electrical inspection by a local official. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7702aa**      **DAMS AND RESERVOIRS** (Handy) This act would provide that orders or notices issued by the Director of the Department of Environmental Management regarding unsafe dams or reservoirs, as well as the notice of satisfactory completion of the requirements of the order or notice, must be recorded in the land evidence records in the city/town in which the subject property is located. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7801**      **DERELICT AND ABANDONED VESSELS** (Malik & Others) This act would allow an "authorized public entity", which definition includes cities/towns with ownership, management, or jurisdiction over the tidal lands where an abandoned or derelict vessel is located, to use or dispose of these vessels in any appropriate and environmentally sound manner without notice to any owners. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7804**      **ON-SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS** (Edwards & Others) This act would require that zoning ordinances in which municipalities set forth standards or requirements with respect to on-site sewage disposal systems must first be submitted to the Directors of the Department of Environmental Management and the Department of Health for approval of the technical merits of the ordinance, and zoning ordinances that set forth standards regarding wetland setbacks must first be submitted to the Director of the Department of Environmental Management. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7912**      **TIPPING FEES** (Ucci & Others) This act would increase the per vehicle tipping fee charged by the Resource Recovery Corporation from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per vehicle. Vehicles carrying municipal solid waste continue to be exempt from this fee. Finance

**H-8109**      **NARRAGANSETT BAY COMMISSION TASK FORCE** (Petrarca & Others) This act would establish the Narragansett Bay Commission Task Force to determine the feasibility of the Narragansett Bay Commission acquiring and accepting responsibility for the operation and maintenance of local lateral sewer systems in Providence and the surrounding cities/towns within its district. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-8233**      **ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM PLANS** (Ruggiero & Others) This act would require all electric distribution companies to support the installation and investment in clear and efficient combined heat and power installations at commercial, institutional, municipal and industrial facilities. This support must be documented annually in the electric distribution company's energy efficiency program plan. Environment & Natural Resources

**S-2087**      **RADON REDUCTION** (Tassoni & Others) This act would provide that all public water supply systems must reduce radon levels in drinking water to a maximum of 4,000 pCi/L no later than January 1, 2015. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2119**      **ARTIFICIAL REEF PROGRAM** (Tassoni & Others) This act would create the Rhode Island Artificial Reef Program which would provide a mechanism through which local municipalities are permitted to place vessels in Rhode Island waters as artificial reefs, and can apply for state matching grants for the placement of obsolete ex-military, MARAD or other vessels. Finance

**S-2195**      **ARTIFICIAL REEF PROGRAM** (Tassoni & Others) This act would create the Rhode Island Artificial Reef Program which would provide a mechanism through which local municipalities are permitted to place vessels in Rhode Island waters as artificial reefs, and can apply for state matching grants for the placement of obsolete ex-military, MARAD or other vessels. Finance

**S-2224**      **CONSERVATION RESTRICTIONS** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would add language regarding court actions affecting a conservation restriction held by a private land trust. It specifies who may bring or intervene in those court actions. Judiciary

**S-2240**      **CESSPOOLS** (Walaska) This act would make technical changes to legislation that requires cesspools either to be abandoned and replaced by an approved Onsite Wastewater Treatment System or converted to a public sewer. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2277Aaa**      **ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN UP OBJECTIVES FOR SCHOOLS** (Pichardo & Others) This act would prohibit the construction, rehabilitation, and leasing of buildings to be used as schools where there exists the potential for contamination by hazardous materials. In certain situations the project sponsor may choose to satisfy a burdensome set of measures in order to have the opportunity to proceed. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2441**      **REFUSE DISPOSAL** (Ottiano & Lynch) This act would require the Director of the Department of Environmental Management to test all solid waste management facilities and construction and demolition debris processing facilities for arsenic and heavy metals present in the soil. This provision also applies to all “brownfield sites” within the state. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2445A**      **STORMWATER MANAGEMENT** (Miller & Others) This act would provide that city/town ordinances and regulations may require compliance with the Rhode Island stormwater design and installation standards manual, as amended, for any development, redevelopment, or land disturbance. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2610**      **DERELICT AND ABANDONED VESSELS** (Felag & Others) This act would allow an “authorized public entity”, which definition includes cities/towns with ownership, management, or jurisdiction over the tidal lands where an abandoned or derelict vessel is located, to use or dispose of these vessels in any appropriate and environmentally sound manner without notice to any owners. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2615**      **DAMS AND RESERVOIRS** (McCaffrey) This act would provide that orders or notices issued by the Director of the Department of Environmental Management regarding unsafe dams and reservoirs, as well as the notice of satisfactory completion of the requirements of the order or notice, must be recorded in the land evidence records in the city/town in which the subject property is located. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2617A**      **DAMS AND RESERVOIRS** (Fogarty & Others) This act would provide that orders or notices issued by the Director of the Department of Environmental Management regarding unsafe dams and reservoirs, as well as the notice of satisfactory completion of the requirements of the order or notice, must be recorded in the land evidence records in the city/town in which the subject property is located. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2630**      **BEACH PARKING FEES** (Sheehan & Others) This act would allow the host municipality to share in all beach parking fee receipts, not just daily parking fee receipts. Finance

**S-2729**      **DAM MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS** (Fogarty) This act would grant Dam Management Districts immunity from civil liability for any tort committed upon any lake bed the Dam Management District may acquire, hold, use or lease. Judiciary

**[S-2790](#) PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SUPPLY** (Tassoni) This act would repeal the current language in the general laws requiring public drinking water suppliers to formulate a program for the installation of radio frequency reading systems. Environment & Agriculture

**[S-2870A](#) EAST BAY ENERGY CONSORTIUM ACT** (DiPalma) This act would create the East Bay Energy Consortium, the overall purpose of which would be to encourage municipal participation in the development of facilities in the East Bay for the generation of electrical energy from sources not primarily dependent on fossil fuels. The East Bay Energy Consortium would be a subsidiary of the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation. Environment & Agriculture

## **FINANCE & TAXATION**

**[H-7005](#) BUDGET COMMISSIONS** (Melo & Others) This act would authorize a Budget Commission established under Chapter 45-9 of the general laws to certify to the Department of Revenue the need to advance payments of the state's basic education program in the amount determined by the Budget Commission. Finance

**[H-7015](#) TRANSFER OF PROPERTY TO TRUST** (Marcello) This act would provide that any exemption or freeze of tax rate and/or valuation granted to any individual under Chapter 44-3 – "Property Subject to Taxation" is not affected if an eligible individual transfers the property to an irrevocable living trust. Municipal Government

**[H-7037](#) EXCISE TAX PHASE-OUT** (Medina & Others) This act would provide that any motor vehicle valued at \$3,000 or less would be exempt from the motor vehicle excise tax. Finance

**[H-7045](#) ANNUAL POST AUDIT** (Marcello & Others) This act would prohibit auditors or auditing firms to serve as auditors or prepare audited financial statements on behalf of the same municipality for more than 3 consecutive years. Municipal Government

**[H-7048aa](#) TRAINING FOR LOCAL TAX COLLECTORS** (Kennedy & Others) This act would establish an annual training institute for local tax collectors to be conducted by the Department of Revenue in cooperation with the Rhode Island Association of Collection Officers. (Enacted as [Public Law 14](#) effective 3/28/12)

**[H-7052](#) BUDGET COMMISSIONS** (Melo & Others) This act would authorize a Budget Commission established under Chapter 45-9 of the general laws to certify to the Department of Revenue the need to advance payments of the state's basic education program in the amount determined by the Budget Commission. These advance payments would be subject to the approval of the Director of the Department of Revenue. (Enacted as [Public Law 2](#) effective 1/18/12)

**H-7061**      **TAX SALES** (Diaz & Others) This act would amend the time frame and process by which tax collectors must notify Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation of pending tax sales. It also would amend the section pertaining to petitions for foreclosure of redemption as it affects properties acquired by RIHMFC. Municipal Government

**H-7073**      **STATE MANDATES** (Edwards & Others) This act would provide that, if during any fiscal year the state reimbursement to cities/towns and school districts is insufficient to cover the costs of state mandates as reported by the Department of Revenue, those affected cities/towns and school districts may cease implementation of state mandates at their discretion up to 50% of the value of the reimbursement shortfall. Finance

**H-7074**      **ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION** (Gallison & Others) This act would redefine the criteria for certification as a “qualified business” under the “Distressed Areas Economic Revitalization Act” by creating another exception to the total Rhode Island wages paid criterion. Finance

**H-7098**      **EXCISE TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLES** (McNamara & Others) This act would amend the method of valuation of motor vehicles for purposes of determining excise taxes by basing values on the average trade-in price rather than the average retail price. It also amends the appeal procedure provision by extending the appeal period from 30 days to 45 days, and by eliminating the role of the Rhode Island Vehicle Value Commission in the appeal process. Municipal Government

**H-7118**      **RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES** (Tomasso & Others) This act would require that, in the event a municipality reports a surplus at the end of its fiscal year but has not made its actuarially-required contribution to its pension system, the municipality must apply the surplus to the pension system up to the amount equal to the actuarially-required contribution. Municipal Government

**H-7142**      **QUARTERLY TAX PAYMENTS** (Nunes & Others) This act would give municipalities the authority to require immediate payment of taxes on any late installment, and to impose an interest charge no greater than 6% per annum only on the late installment. Municipal Government

**H-7143**      **MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTING COMPLIANCE** (Gallison & Others) This act would create a uniform system of accounting promulgated by the Office of Auditor General and Division of Municipal Finance, and would require all accounts of the municipality to be kept in accordance with this system. Municipal Government

**H-7144**      **OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS – OPEB TRUSTS** (Gallison & Others) This act would allow for shared service administration of OPEB trusts among municipalities. It also would add corporations established pursuant to Chapter 5 of Title 45 entitled “Councils and Governing Bodies” to the list of entities which may act as trustee for trust agreements among municipalities and banks or trust companies in reference to OPEB trusts. Also, it would allow municipalities to utilize these corporations to advise on the investment of the OPEB trust fund. Municipal Government

**H-7158 TAX TREATIES** (Winfield & Others) This act would provide that a non-profit educational institution that does not enter into a tax treaty with the municipality in which it is located shall not be considered tax exempt, and its real and personal property would be subject to taxation in the same manner as other businesses taxed by the municipality. Finance

**H-7161 TAX TREATIES** (Petrarca & Others) This act would provide that a non-profit educational institution that does not enter into a tax treaty with the municipality in which it is located shall not be considered tax exempt, and its real and personal property would be subject to taxation in the same manner as other businesses taxed by the municipality. Finance

**H-7224 EXCISE TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLES** (Azzinaro & Others) This act would amend the method of valuation of motor vehicles for purposes of determining excise taxes by using "Kelley Blue Book" values for a vehicle in "good condition", and calculating the amount of excise tax to be paid based on a formula comprised of both the vehicle's age and a percentage of its presumptive value. It also would make changes to the appeal procedure. Municipal Government

**H-7253 MOTOR VEHICLE TAX ELIMINATION** (Silva & Others) This act would provide a \$6,000 exemption to the motor vehicle excise tax for residents of distressed communities. Municipal Government

**H-7260 MOTOR VEHICLES – TAXATION** (Petrarca & Others) This act would expand the definition of "owners of motor vehicles" for registration and property tax purposes to include partnerships, firms, associations, corporations, and limited liability companies whose vehicles operate on state roads for more than 30 days. Corporations

**H-7323Aaa 2013 APPROPRIATIONS ACT** (Melo)

**ART. 16 DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES RELIEF FUND** This article provides that, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, \$784,458 of the total appropriation continues to be distributed equally to each qualifying distressed community. Finance

**H-7323a 2013 APPROPRIATIONS ACT** (Melo)

**ART. 16 ACTUARIAL VALUATION STUDY** This article would require the state to reimburse each municipality for 50% of the cost of undertaking the annual actuarial valuation study which is due on April 1, 2012. Finance

**H-7323Aaa 2013 APPROPRIATIONS ACT** (Melo)

**ART. 22 BUDGET COMMISSIONS** This article provides that, if a budget commission or a receiver has been appointed for a municipality, then under the various "Arbitration Statutes" collective bargaining contracts shall not exceed the term of 5 years. The current language of the "Arbitration Statutes" calls for contracts not to exceed 3 years. Finance

**H-7334 PAYMENT OF ACTUARIAL STUDIES** (McLaughlin & Others) This act would provide that, if a municipality conducts an actuarial study as part of an effort to reduce its pension-related obligations, 50% of any and all costs associated with the preparation of the study shall be paid by the state. Finance

**H-7350**      **EXCISE TAX PHASE-OUT** (Medina & Others) This act would provide that any vehicle valued at \$3,000 or less would be exempt from the motor vehicle excise tax, and would add the vehicle's mileage to the factors to be considered when adopting a methodology for determining the presumptive value of vehicles. Municipal Government

**H-7353**      **FISCAL OVERSEERS, BUDGET COMMISSIONS, AND RECEIVERS** (Silva & McLaughlin) This act would clarify the powers of fiscal overseers, budget commissions, and receivers appointed under the "Budget Commissions" chapter of the general laws. Specifically, they are limited to dealing with financial matters, and shall not have the authority to enact any ordinance, resolution or charter revision, nor be empowered to abolish any board or committee. Municipal Government

**H-7372**      **UNFUNDED STATE MANDATES** (Menard & Others) This act would repeal all unfunded state mandates not funded by federal monies required of cities/towns in municipal areas of operation. Finance

**H-7376**      **ELECTRIC DRIVE VEHICLES** (Handy & Others) This act would exempt "qualified plug-in electric drive vehicles" from the state sales tax, and under this new provision a tax credit is allowed against both the excise tax and sales tax imposed on the vehicle subject to certain limitations. Finance

**H-7395**      **DISCLOSURE AND TRANSPARENCY REQUIRED** (Lima & Bennett) This act would require persons or entities receiving government funds, whether in the form of a grant or by way of a tax reduction pursuant to an incentive program, to disclose the names of all contractors and subcontractors as part of the bidding or grant application process, or as part of the required certification for continuing in the incentive program. Labor

**H-7397**      **MAXIMUM TAX: FIRE DISTRICTS** (Nunes & Others) This act would provide that fire districts are subject to the maximum levy provision. Municipal Government

**H-7399**      **MAXIMUM LEVY: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** (O'Grady & Others) This act would fund economic development within municipally-designated and state approved "growth centers" by excluding incremental property tax revenue greater than the amount collected in fiscal year 2011 from the levy subject to the cap in an amount up to an aggregate maximum of 2% of the total municipal levy. Municipal Government

**H-7417**      **BUDGET COMMISSIONS: COMPENSATION OF STAFF** (Silva & Others) This act would require that the compensation for city/town budget commission staff must be paid by the State of Rhode Island from its general fund. Finance

**H-7436**      **NONPROFIT CORPORATIONS** (O'Grady & Others) This act would require that single family owner-occupied property which is encumbered by a covenant in favor of a governmental unit, or RIHMFC, or a Section 501 (3)(c) nonprofit corporation, which covenant restricts the sale price, is to be assessed for tax purposes by taking into account the affect of the covenant on the value of the property. Municipal Government

**H-7450 MUNICIPAL SERVICES PRO RATA REIMBURSEMENT** (Carnevale & Others) This act would permit municipalities to seek reimbursement for essential services provided to tax exempt “nonprofit hospitals” or “private nonprofit institutions of higher education” on a pro rata basis according to assessed property value serviced up to a maximum of 25% of all taxes that would have been collected. Finance

**H-7453 MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONES** (O’Neill & Others) This act would create an additional criterion for the creation of a MED zone (exempt from or stabilization of sales and use taxes). It must be located in a municipally designated and state approved “growth center” in accordance with the land-use 2005 element of the state guide plan. Finance

**H-7568 FISCAL DISCLOSURE: PUBLICATION OF PROPERTY TAX RATES** (Marcello & Others) This act would require cities/towns, if there is a proposed increase or decrease to the current property tax rate, to publish the proposed rate as applied to a property representing the median assessed value within the city/town. This publication must now also appear on the official municipal website, if available. Municipal Government

**H-7569 MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTING COMPLIANCE** (Gallison & Others) This act would create a uniform system of accounting promulgated by the Office of Auditor General and the Division of Municipal Finance, and would require all accounts of the municipality to be kept in accordance with this system. Municipal Government

**H-7576 SHARED USE AGREEMENTS** (Naughton & Others) This act would encourage school districts to enter into shared use agreements with governmental and community agencies and organizations to keep school property open for public use during non-school hours for recreational purposes. H.E.W.

**H-7579 OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS – OPEB TRUSTS** (Gallison & Others) This act would add corporations established pursuant to Chapter 5 of Title 45 entitled “Councils and Governing Bodies” to the list of entities that may act as trustee for trust agreements among school districts and banks or trust companies in reference to OPEB trusts. It also would allow school districts to utilize these corporations to advise on the investment of the OPEB trust fund. Finance

**H-7592 EAST BAY ENERGY CONSORTIUM ACT** (Gallison & Others) This act would create the East Bay Energy Consortium, the overall purpose of which would be to encourage municipal participation in the development of facilities in the East Bay for the generation of electrical energy from sources not primarily dependent on fossil fuels. The act also would establish a tax exemption ( both state and local ) for any property acquired by or under the jurisdiction of the Consortium. A payment in lieu of taxes provision is included in the act. Finance

- H-7640 EXCISE TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLES: INTERSTATE COMMERCE** (Ucci) This act would provide that buses operated by a bus company would not be subject to the excise tax on the condition that the bus is utilized more than 80% of the time in interstate commerce. This is a change from the current language of “utilized exclusively”. Finance
- H-7646 EXEMPTION OF OFFICE EQUIPMENT** (Gordon) This act would require that city/town councils by ordinance wholly exempt from taxation office equipment used for manufacturing or commercial purposes. It also removes the prohibition that this exemption not be allowed for businesses relocating within Rhode Island. Finance
- H-7662 TRANSFER OF PROPERTY TO TRUST** (Jackson & Others) This act would provide that tax exemptions created by the general laws, public laws, or municipal ordinance would not be affected by the transfer of an ownership interest in property if a life estate is retained, if the transferor leases the property back, and by a transfer to a revocable or irrevocable living trust if certain conditions are met. Judiciary
- H-7666 TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL TAX COLLECTORS** (McLaughlin & Blazejewski) This act would establish an annual training institute for local tax collectors, including tax collectors for independent fire districts, to be conducted by the Department of Revenue in cooperation with the Rhode Island Association of Collection Officers. Municipal Government
- H-7714 LOCALLY ADMINISTERED PENSION FUNDS** (Trillo & Others) This act would prohibit the use of binding arbitration in the development of locally administered pension funds. Finance
- H-7722 DORMITORY ASSESSMENT FEE** (Carnevale & Others) This act would authorize a municipality to charge a dormitory assessment fee of \$150.00 per semester for each dormitory in the municipality operated by a “private nonprofit institution of higher education”. Finance
- H-7726 MOBILE AND MANUFACTURED HOMES** (Keable & Others) This act would exempt a qualified sale of a mobile and manufactured home in a resident-owned community from any excise tax imposed pursuant to the general laws. Finance
- H-7812 PROPERTY EXEMPT: STATE-OWNED** (Lima) This act would remove the exemption from local property taxes currently granted state-owned property. Finance
- H-7868 ASSESSMENT AT FULL AND FAIR CASH VALUE** (McCauley) This act would provide that no municipality shall assess a new dwelling unit at its full and fair cash value until such time as the certificate of occupancy is issued. Municipal Government

**H-7869**      **TRANSFER OF VEHICLES** (Ucci) This act would provide that, when the ownership interest in a registered motor vehicle is sold or transferred, and the motor vehicle identification number is registered by the new owner, that cities/towns use the vehicle identification numbers as the criterion for purposes of motor vehicle taxes. Municipal Government

**H-7893**      **HOTEL TAX** (Brien & Others) This act would make substantial changes in the percentage distribution of the taxes generated by the hotel tax. Finance

**H-7906**      **PAYMENT IN LIEU** (Newberry) This act would include residences for the mentally ill and/or developmentally disabled as entities exempt from local real property tax, thus making the city/town in which the property lies eligible for a payment in lieu of taxes from the general assembly. Municipal Government

**H-7915**      **PROPERTY EXEMPT: EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND LIBRARIES** (Carnevale & Others) This act would provide that no property owned by an educational institution or library would be exempt from taxation if the income derived from the property was from activity not involving education or activity related to its exempt status, or the income or profits derived are divided amongst its owners or stockholders. Finance

**H-7944**      **MUNICIPALLY-RUN PENSION SYSTEMS** (Watson) This joint resolution would create a special legislative commission known as the "Municipally Run Pension Systems Task Force" which purpose it would be to make a comprehensive study and to develop a strategy for maintaining the solvency and integrity of municipally run pension systems. Finance

**H-7971**      **ZERO-BASED BUDGETING** (Reilly & Others) This act would provide that, in the event a municipality fails to provide a year-end deficit elimination plan when required by statute, such municipality shall immediately employ the budgetary process known as "zero-based" budgeting. Municipal Government

**H-8006**      **HIGHLY DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES** (Brien & Newberry) This act would authorize and empower communities which have been determined to be "highly distressed communities" to adopt by ordinance or charter a set of relief provisions which are specified in the act. Also, the act extensively amends both Chapter 28-9.1 - "Firefighters' Arbitration" and Chapter 28-9.2 – "Municipal Police Arbitration". Finance

**H-8007**      **STATE AID PROGRAMS** (Brien & Newberry) This act would change the dates for payment of the state's share of the basic program for foundational level school support and approved expenditures. It would also change the percentage of the state's share due for both the July payment and the August through June payments, which are payable based on the data for the reference year. This act also would provide for payments from the Distressed Communities Relief Fund to eligible communities each August. Finance

**H-8023**      **PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT BOARD** (Mattiello & Others) This act would change the date by which the Public Finance Management Board must submit annual reports on debt issues by cities/towns and a comprehensive review of the financing of capital improvements from March 31<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>. Municipal Government

**H-8101**      **REAL ESTATE VALUATION APPEALS** (Keable & Marcello) This act would reduce the statutory interest added to pecuniary damages awarded in real estate valuation appeals from 12% per annum to 6% per annum both for prejudgement and post judgement interest. Judiciary

**H-8103**      **QUARTERLY PAYMENT OF TAXES** (Baldelli-Hunt & Nunes) This act would provide that a municipality may only accelerate the payment of any late tax installment, and not the whole tax, when the first installment or succeeding installments are unpaid or paid late. An interest charge may be imposed only on that late installment. Municipal Government

**H-8111**      **FRANCHISES** (Hull) This act would permit cities/towns to grant non-exclusive franchise rights to telecommunications and cable services. Finance

**H-8127**      **BUDGET COMMISSIONS** (Silva) This act would amend the "Expenditures in excess of appropriations prohibited" section (45-9-11) of the Budget Commissions chapter of the general laws by adding language reaffirming protection and/or indemnification of local elected officials that is afforded by the Constitutions of the United States and Rhode Island, as well as city/town charters. Finance

**H-8163**      **PROPERTY EXEMPT: PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS** (Ferri & Others) This act would provide that the real and personal property of non-profit performing and visual arts organizations that are qualified as tax exempt corporations under section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code would be exempt from property taxation. Finance

**H-8212**      **APPLICATION OF PENSION FUNDS TO REDUCE TAX LEVY** (Brien & Others) This act would enable any city/town or municipal agency which controls any municipal pension fund to apply the pension funds or direct the custodian to apply the pension funds to reduce the overall tax levy of the municipality. Finance

**H-8236**      **PROPERTY EXEMPT: CONGRSSIONALLY CHARTERED ORGANIZATIONS** (Baldelli-Hunt & Others) This act would authorize city/town councils to exempt from valuation for taxation any real property owned by a qualified 501(c)(3) organization that is affiliated and in good standing with a national congressionally chartered organization providing recreational, educational and character building activities for children from ages 6 to 17 years. Finance

**H-8237**      **PROPERTY EXEMPT: CONGRESSIONALLY CHARTERED ORGANIZATIONS** (Messier) This act would exempt from taxation the real and personal property owned by a qualified 501(c)(3) organization that is affiliated and in good standing with a national congressionally chartered organization providing recreational, educational and character building activities for children from ages 6 to 17 years. Finance

**S-2013**      **BUDGET COMMISSIONS** (DaPonte & Others) This act would authorize a Budget Commission established under Chapter 45-9 of the general laws to certify to the Department of Revenue the need to advance payments of the state's basic education program in the amount determined by the Budget Commission. These advance payments would be subject to the approval of the Director of the Department of Administration. Finance

**S-2016**      **BUDGET COMMISSIONS** (DaPonte & Others) This act would authorize a Budget Commission established under Chapter 45-9 of the general laws to certify to the Department of Revenue the need to advance payments of the state's basic education program in the amount determined by the Budget Commission. These advance payments would be subject to the approval of the Director of the Department of Revenue. (Enacted as [Public Law 1](#) effective 1/18/12)

**S-2036**      **OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS – OPEB TRUSTS** (DiPalma & Others) This act would allow for shared service administration of OPEB trusts among municipalities. It also would add corporations established pursuant to Chapter 5 of Title 45 entitled "Councils and Governing Bodies" to the list of entities that may act as trustee for trust agreements among municipalities and banks or trust companies in reference to OPEB trusts. Also, it would allow municipalities to utilize these corporations to advise on the investment of the OPEB trust fund. Finance

**S-2038**      **OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS – OPEB TRUSTS** (DiPalma & Others) This act would add corporations established pursuant to Chapter 5 of Title 45 entitled "Councils and Governing Bodies" to the list of entities that may act as trustee for trust agreements among school districts and banks or trust companies in reference to OPEB trusts. It also would allow school districts to utilize these corporations to advise on the investment of the OPEB trust fund. Finance

**S-2039Aaa**      **TRAINING FOR LOCAL TAX COLLECTORS** (Algiere & Crowley) This act would establish an annual training institute for local tax collectors to be conducted by the Department of Revenue in cooperation with the Rhode Island Association of Collection Officers. (Enacted as [Public Law 13](#) effective 3/28/12)

**S-2044**      **VEHICLE VALUE COMMISSION** (Walaska & Others) This Senate resolution requests the Vehicle Value Commission to examine current methodology for determining motor vehicle values, and to implement changes that would institute a more accurate and realistic assessment of market values. Finance

**S-2050**      **EXCISE TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLES** (Tassoni & Others) This act would allow cities/towns and fire districts to increase their tax rates and to exceed the maximum levy for fiscal years 2012 and 2013. It also would establish an average value of \$1,000 for vehicles more than 20 years old, and provides that the uniform value of vehicles must include depreciation at a rate of 4% per year beginning in the second year of the vehicle life. Finance

**S-2099**      **MOBILE AND MANUFACTURED HOMES** (Fogarty & Others) This act would exempt a qualified sale of a mobile and manufactured home in a resident-owned community from any excise tax imposed pursuant to the general laws. Finance

**S-2100**      **EXCISE TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLES** (Walaska & Others) This act would amend the method of valuation of motor vehicles for purposes of determining excise taxes by basing values on the average trade-in price rather than the average retail price. It also amends the appeal procedure provision by extending the appeal period from 30 days to 45 days, and by eliminating the role of the Rhode Island Vehicle Value Commission in the appeal process. Finance

**S-2103**      **ANNUAL POST AUDIT** (Lanzi) This act would prohibit auditors or auditing firms to serve as auditors or prepare audited financial statements on behalf of the same municipality for more than 3 consecutive years. Finance

**S-2107**      **NONPROFIT CORPORATIONS** (Tassoni & Doyle) This act would require that single family owner-occupied property which is encumbered by a covenant in favor of a governmental unit, or RIHMFC, or a Section 501(3)(c) nonprofit corporation, which covenant restricts the sale price, is to be assessed for tax purposes by taking into account the affect of the covenant on the value of the property. Finance

**S-2110**      **TRANSFER OF PROPERTY TO TRUST** (Lanzi) This act would provide that any exemption or freeze of tax rate and/or valuation granted to any individual under Chapter 44-3 – “Property Subject to Taxation” is not affected if an eligible individual transfers the property to an irrevocable living trust. Finance

**S-2116**      **RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES** (Tassoni & Ottiano) This act would require that, in the event that a municipality reports a surplus at the end of its fiscal year but has not made its actuarially-required contribution to the pension system, the municipality must apply the surplus to the pension system up to the amount equal to the actuarially-required contribution. Finance

**S-2122**      **TAX TREATIES** (Tassoni & Others) This act would provide that a nonprofit educational institution that does not enter into a tax treaty with the municipality in which it is located shall not be considered tax exempt, and its real and personal property would be subject to taxation in the same manner as other businesses taxed by the municipality. Finance

**S-2123**      **ELECTRIC DRIVE VEHICLES** (Miller & Others) This act would exempt “qualified plug-in electric drive vehicles” from the state sales tax, and under this new provision a tax credit is allowed against both the excise tax and sales tax imposed on the vehicle subject to certain limitations. Finance

**S-2134**      **VETERANS’ EXEMPTIONS** (Tassoni & Others) This act would give cities/towns the option of totally exempting from taxation the homestead of a totally disabled veteran or his/her surviving spouse. Judiciary

**S-2241 EXCISE ON MOTOR VEHICLES: INTERSTATE COMMERCE** (Walaska) This act would provide that buses operated by a bus company would not be subject to the excise tax on the condition that the bus is utilized more than 80% of the time in interstate commerce. This is a change from the current language of “utilized exclusively”. Finance

**S-2242 ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION** (Felag) This act would redefine the criteria for certification as a “qualified business” under the “Distressed Areas Economic Revitalization Act” by creating another exception to the total Rhode Island wages paid criterion. Finance

**S-2280 FISCAL OVERSEERS, BUDGET COMMISSIONS, AND RECEIVERS** (Crowley & Others) This act would clarify the powers of fiscal overseers, budget commissions, and receivers appointed under the “Budget Commissions” chapter of the general laws. Specifically, they are limited to dealing with financial matters, and shall not have the authority to enact any ordinance, resolution or charter revision, nor be empowered to abolish any board or committee. Finance

**S-2291 TAX SALES: RIHMFC** (Metts & Others) This act would amend the time frame and process by which tax collectors must notify the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation of pending tax sales. It also would amend the section pertaining to petitions for foreclosure of redemption as it affects properties acquired by RIHMFC. Judiciary

**S-2310 ADVISORY COUNCIL ON SCHOOL FINANCES** (Hodgson & Others) This act would make various amendments to section 16-2-9 “General powers and duties of school committees”. The act also would add the Chief of the Division of Municipal Finance to the Advisory Council on School Finances; require school districts to utilize financing and accounting systems provided by their municipal appropriating authority; and repeal the school committee’s right to seek additional appropriations by bringing an action in Superior Court. Education

**S-2316 MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTING COMPLIANCE** (DiPalma & Others) This act would create a uniform system of accounting promulgated by the Office of Auditor General and Division of Municipal Finance, and would require all accounts of the municipality to be kept in accordance with this system. Finance

**S-2403 STATE MANDATES: WAIVERS** (Algiere & Others) This act would authorize the Director of the Department of Administration to grant waivers from the operation of any state mandate or other requirement administered by the department in response to a petition from a municipality. Finance

**S-2462 MAXIMUM LEVY: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** (Tassoni & Others) This act would fund economic development within municipally-designated and state approved “growth centers” by excluding incremental property tax revenue greater than the amount collected in fiscal year 2011 from the levy subject to the cap in an amount up to an aggregate maximum of 2% of the total municipal levy. Finance

**S-2472**      **EXCISE TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLES: 90% OF AVERAGE RETAIL** (DiPalma & Others) This act would establish motor vehicle valuations at 90% of the average retail price, and also would enable cities/towns by ordinance to establish a minimum tax not to exceed \$100 per year. Finance

**S-2473**      **BUDGET COMMISSIONS** (Crowley & Others) This act would amend the "Expenditures in excess of appropriations prohibited" section (45-9-11) of the Budget Commissions chapter of the general laws by adding language reaffirming protection and/or indemnification of local elected officials that is afforded by the Constitutions of the United States and Rhode Island, as well as city/town charters. Finance

**S-2485**      **TRANSFER OF PROPERTY TO TRUST** (McCaffrey) This act would provide that tax exemptions created by the general laws, public laws or municipal ordinance would not be affected by the transfer of an ownership interest in property if a life estate is retained, if the transferor leases the property back, and by a transfer to a revocable or irrevocable living trust if certain conditions are met. Judiciary

**S-2492**      **TRANSFER OF PROPERTY TO TRUST** (McCaffrey) This act would provide that tax exemptions created by the general laws, public laws or municipal ordinance would not be affected by the transfer of an ownership interest in property if a life estate is retained, if the transferor leases the property back, and by a transfer to a revocable or irrevocable living trust if certain conditions are met. Judiciary

**S-2601**      **FRANCHISES** (Pichardo & Others) This act would permit cities/towns to grant non-exclusive franchise rights to telecommunications and cable services. Corporations

**S-2630**      **BEACH PARKING FEES** (Sheehan & Others) This act would allow the host municipality to share in all beach parking fee receipts, not just daily parking fee receipts. Finance

**S-2631**      **PAYMENT IN LIEU: FEDERAL FACILITIES** (DiPalma) This act would allow cities/towns to receive state aid in lieu of property taxes not paid by federal government facilities located in their jurisdiction by removing the current exclusivity provision. Active military installations are specifically mentioned as qualifying. Finance

**S-2633**      **MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONES** (Doyle & Others) This act would create an additional criterion for the creation of a MED zone (exempt from or stabilization of sales and use taxes). It must be located in a municipally designated and state approved "growth center" in accordance with land-use 2005 element of the state guide plan. Finance

**S-2641**      **ASSESSMENT AT FULL AND FAIR CASH VALUE** (McCaffrey & Lynch) This act would provide that no municipality shall assess a new dwelling unit at its full and fair cash value until such time as the certificate of occupancy is issued. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-2737**      **GAMBLING REVENUE** (Metts & Others) This act would provide that 100% of any additional state revenues gained from the expansion of gambling would be deposited into a restricted receipt account to fund elementary and secondary education on the state and local levels. Special Legislation and Veterans' Affairs

**S-2754**      **MOBILE AND MANUFACTURED HOMES** (Fogarty & Others) This act would provide that qualified sales of a mobile or manufactured home community to a resident-owned organization is exempt from the real estate conveyance tax. Finance

**S-2786**      **MUNICIPAL SERVICES PRO RATA REIMBURSEMENT** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would permit municipalities to seek reimbursement for essential services provided to tax exempt "nonprofit hospitals" or "private nonprofit institutions of higher education" on a pro rata basis according to assessed property value serviced up to a maximum of 25% of all taxes that would have been collected. This act also would provide that no property owned by any institution of higher education or nonprofit hospital facility would be exempt from taxation if the income derived from the property was from activity not involving education or health care, or the income or profits derived are divided amongst its owners or stockholders. Finance

**S-2788**      **MOTOR VEHICLES – TAXATION** (Tassoni) This act would expand the definition of "owners of motor vehicles" for registration and property tax purposes to include partnerships, firms, associations, corporations, and limited liability companies whose vehicles operate on state roads for more than 30 days. Corporations

**S-2797**      **DORMITORY ASSESSMENT FEE** (Ciccone & Others) This act would authorize a municipality to charge a dormitory fee of \$150.00 per semester for each dormitory in the municipality operated by a "private nonprofit institution of higher education". Finance

**S-2826**      **HIGHLY DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES** (DaPonte & Bates) This act would authorize and empower communities which have been determined to be "highly distressed communities" to adopt by ordinance or charter a set of relief provisions which are specified in the act. Also, the act extensively amends both Chapter 28-9.1 – "Firefighters' Arbitration" and Chapter 28-9.2 – "Municipal Police Arbitration". Finance

**S-2827**      **STATE AID PROGRAMS** (Daponte & Bates) This act would change the dates for payment of the state's share of the basic program for foundational level school support and approved expenditures. It also would change the percentage of the state's share for both the July payment and the August through June payments, which are payable based on the data for the reference year. This act also would provide for payments from the Distressed Communities Relief Fund to eligible communities each August. Finance

**S-2874**      **PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT BOARD** (Felag) This act would change the date by which the Public Finance Management Board must submit annual reports on debt issues by cities/towns, and a comprehensive review of the financing of capital improvements from March 31<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>. Finance

**S-2928**      **FARM, FOREST AND OPEN SPACE** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would amend Chapter 44-27 entitled "Taxation of Farm, Forest and Open Space Land" by altering the method of notification to property owners wishing to maintain the current designation of their property, enabling tax assessors to save postage costs. Finance

**S-2944**      **REAL ESTATE VALUATION APPEALS** (Fogarty) This act would reduce the statutory interest added to pecuniary damages awarded in real estate valuation appeals from 12% per annum to 6% per annum both for prejudgement and post judgement interest. Judiciary

**S-2955**      **TRANSITION OF LOCALLY-ADMINISTERED PENSION PLANS** (Crowley) This act would provide a process for municipalities that have been placed under state oversight pursuant to Chapter 45-9 – "Budget Commissions", and which have locally-administered pension plans, to transition existing retirees, and, at their option, active employees to MERS. The act also would specifically address the transferral of existing retirees of the City of Central Falls who participate in a locally-administered plan to MERS. Finance

**S-2971**      **PROPERTY EXEMPT: PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS** (Goodwin) This act would provide that the real and personal property of non-profit performing and visual arts organizations that are qualified as tax exempt corporations under section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code would be exempt from property taxation. Finance

## **HOUSING**

**H-7136A**      **FORECLOSED PROPERTY** (Edwards & Others) This act would provide a tenant of a foreclosed property greater protection against eviction by increasing notice requirements and delineating what would constitute just cause for eviction. Judiciary

**H-7173**      **HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS** (Blazejewski & Others) This act would create a "Homeless Bill of Rights" which provides that no person's rights, privileges, or access to public services can be denied or abridged solely because of homeless status. Judiciary

**H-7177**      **EVICTON FOR NONPAYMENT OF RENT** (Petrarca & Others) This act would allow a landlord who has a tenant who is more than 10 days in arrears in rent, as opposed to the current 15 days, to send a notice of nonpayment. It also would abolish the landlord's current obligation to have the tenant's possessions removed and stored by the sheriff serving the court execution. Judiciary

**H-7225A**      **MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE AND SALE** (Gallison & Others) This act would give the court power to stay proceedings, to adjust the obligation to preserve the interest of all parties, and to invalidate the foreclosure on property owned by persons in the military during periods of military deployment or within 9 months after these periods. Veterans' Affairs

**[H-7237](#) NEIGHBORHOOD OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM** (Ucci & Others) This act would establish and fund the neighborhood opportunities program to address the housing and revitalization needs of the State's deteriorating neighborhoods. It would appropriate the sum of \$12,500,000 for this purpose, and also seeks to submit for vote in the November, 2012, general election a proposition approving a \$75,000,000 bond issue. Finance

**[H-7265](#) NEIGHBORHOOD OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM** (Slater & Others) This act would establish and fund the neighborhood opportunities program to address the housing and revitalization needs of the State's deteriorating neighborhoods. It would appropriate the sum of \$12,500,000 for this purpose, and also seeks to submit for vote in the November, 2012, general election a proposition approving a \$75,000,000 bond issue Finance

**H-7323Aaa 2013 APPROPRIATIONS ACT** (Melo)

**[ART. 1](#) MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES** This article would require that the Attorney General, in consultation with Rhode Island Housing, develop the Rhode Island Foreclosure Protection Program to prevent or reduce the number of initiated foreclosures and assist homeowners struggling with mortgage payments. Finance

**[H-7401](#) LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING** (Walsh & Valencia) This act would place a one year moratorium on the submission of applications for comprehensive permits for construction of low or moderate income housing. Municipal Government

**[H-7477](#) LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING (Kennedy & Others)** This act would extend the reporting date of the Housing Act of 2004 Implementation Oversight Commission from February 15, 2011, to March 1, 2013, and would extend its expiration date from March 31, 2011, to March 31, 2015. (Enacted as **[Public Law 22](#)** effective 3/1/12)

**[H-7625](#) RENTAL UNITS** (Lally) This act would include rental units in the definition of low and moderate income housing, including naturally occurring, in which the amount of rent charged falls within the appropriate amounts as defined by the applicable federal or state statutes. It also would include units which utilize the HUD Section 8 Program. Municipal Government

**[H-7656](#) PAYMENT OF RENT** (Tarro & Dickinson) This act would require that a tenant, during the pendency of an appeal, pay rent which is due and payable from the date of the hearing or entry of judgment, whichever is earlier. Judiciary

**[H-7657](#) EVICTION OF RESIDENTIAL TENANTS: FORECLOSED PROPERTY** (Ucci & Others) This act would prohibit mortgagees that acquire residential real estate at a foreclosure sale from evicting tenants for a period of 60 days after the foreclosure sale as long as the tenant pays all rent due during this period. Judiciary

**H-7658**      **MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES** (Williams & Others) This act would amend the time frame in which foreclosure deeds must be recorded in the land evidence records from within 45 to within 30 days of the date of sale. This act also would significantly increase the penalties for violation of this requirement, with penalties being paid to the municipality in which the real estate is located at the time of recordation. Judiciary

**H-7667**      **LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING** (Keable & Others) This act would allow mobile and manufactured homes which are part of a mobile and manufactured home park to be counted as low and moderate income housing for purposes of compliance with the requirements of the city's or town's comprehensive land use plan. Municipal Government

**H-7746**      **MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES** (Brien) This act would amend the time frame in which foreclosure deeds must be recorded in the land evidence records from within 45 days to within 30 days of the date of sale. This act also would significantly increase the penalties for violation of this requirement, with penalties being paid to the municipality in which the real estate is located at the time of recordation. Judiciary

**H-7842**      **MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE: CONCILIATION CONFERENCE** (Morrison & Others) This act would create the concept of a "Conciliation Conference", a conference involving the mortgagee and mortgagor which purpose it would be to facilitate a loan work-out in an effort to avoid foreclosure. A procedure is set up to insure proper notice, and to bring parties together with a 'Conciliation Coordinator' to reach an agreement. At various stages in this process the conciliation coordinator issues certificates which must be recorded in the land evidence records. The city/town recorder of deeds cannot accept/record a deed offered as a result of a mortgage foreclosure action unless the above requirements are met. Judiciary

**H-7855**      **FORECLOSURES BY ADVERTISING** (Lima) This act would provide that foreclosures through the statutory power of sale by advertising can be exercised only by the person or entity which owns the mortgage note secured by the mortgage deed. Any other person or entity shall only foreclose through judicial proceedings. Judiciary

**H-7987**      **FORECLOSED PROPERTY UPKEEP ACT** (Lima & Others) This act would establish the "Rhode Island Foreclosed Property Upkeep Act" which would require a financial institution or business entity that purchases a foreclosed property to maintain the property in accordance with the "Rhode Island Housing Maintenance and Occupancy Code", and to post a bond with the municipality in which the foreclosed property is located. The financial institution or business entity that holds a mortgage must record in the land evidence records a document identifying an agent in Rhode Island for service of process. Judiciary

**S-2052A**      **HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS** (Tassoni & Others) This act would create a "Homeless Bill of Rights" which provides that no person's rights, privileges, or access to public services can be denied or abridged solely because of homeless status. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-2054 EVICTION FOR NONPAYMENT OF RENT** (Tassoni & Doyle) This act would allow a landlord who has a tenant who is more than 10 days in arrears in rent, as opposed to the current 15 days, to send a notice of nonpayment. It also would abolish the landlord's current obligation to have the tenant's possessions removed and stored by the sheriff serving the court execution. Judiciary

**S-2171 LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING** (Fogarty & Others) This act would allow mobile and manufactured homes which are part of a mobile and manufactured home park to be counted as low and moderate income housing for purposes of compliance with the requirements of the city's or town's comprehensive land use plan. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-2203 NEIGHBORHOOD OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM** (Tassoni & Others) This act would establish and fund the neighborhood opportunities program to address the housing and revitalization needs of the State's deteriorating neighborhoods. It would appropriate the sum of \$12,500,000 for this purpose, and also seeks to submit for vote in the November, 2012, general election a proposition approving a \$75,000,000 bond issue. Finance

**S-2212 FORECLOSED PROPERTY** (Metts & Others) This act would provide a tenant of a foreclosed property greater protection against eviction by increasing notice requirements and delineating what would constitute just cause for eviction. Judiciary

**S-2330 IMMIGRATION STATUS** (Metts & Pichardo) This act would prohibit a landlord from asking the immigration status of a prospective tenant, or from being compelled to do so by a local municipality or housing agency. Judiciary

**S-2338 FAIR HOUSING** (Metts & Others) This act would make various amendments to the "Rhode Island Fair Housing Practices Act" which prohibit discrimination based upon "government assistance recipient status". Judiciary

**S-2365 LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING (Tassoni & Others)** This act would extend the reporting date of the Housing Act of 2004 Implementation Oversight Commission from February 15, 2011, to March 1, 2013, and would extend its expiration date from March 31, 2011, to March 31, 2015. (Enacted as **Public Law 19** effective 3/1/12)

**S-2371 MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES** (Tassoni & Others) This act would amend the time frame in which foreclosure deeds must be recorded in the records of land evidence from within 45 days to within 30 days of the date of the sale. This act also would significantly increase the penalties for violation of this requirement, with penalties being paid to the municipality in which the real estate is located at the time of recordation. Judiciary

**S-2409 LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING** (Algiere & Maher) This act would place a one year moratorium on the submission of applications for comprehensive permits for construction of low or moderate income housing. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-2434**      **LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE** (McCaffrey) This act would repeal the “Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Enhancement Plan” which was created to supplement the federal LIHEAP program funding being received by customers of electric and gas distribution companies. Corporations

**S-2533A**      **MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE AND SALE** (Felag & Others) This act would give the court power to stay proceedings, to adjust the obligation to preserve the interest of all parties, and to invalidate the foreclosure on property owned by persons in the military during periods of military deployment or within 9 months after these periods. Special Legislation & Veterans’ Affairs

**S-2684**      **MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE AND SALE: CONCILIATION CONFERENCE** (Nesselbush & Crowley) This act would create the concept of a “Conciliation Conference”, a conference involving the mortgagee and mortgagor which purpose it would be to facilitate a loan work-out in an effort to avoid foreclosure. A procedure is set up to insure proper notice, and to bring parties together with a ‘Conciliation Coordinator” to reach an agreement. At various stages in this process the conciliation coordinator issues certificates which must be recorded in the land evidence records. The city/town recorder of deeds cannot accept/record a deed offered as a result of a mortgage foreclosure action unless the above requirements are met. Judiciary

### **LABOR RELATIONS**

**H-7250**      **SCHOOL TEACHERS’ ARBITRATION** (Carnevale & Others) This act would provide that, if a successor collective bargaining agreement has not been agreed to by the parties, then the existing contract continues in effect until an agreement has been reached among the parties. Labor

**H-7286**      **TEACHERS’ RIGHT TO WORK** (Costa & Others) This act would enact the “Teachers’ Right to Work Act” which makes union membership and the payment of union dues voluntary. Each teacher would have the right to bargain independently with the employing educational institution or school system. H.E.W.

**H-7316**      **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING** (Chippendale & Others) This act would prohibit the ratification, modification, or negotiation of any collective bargaining agreement during the period between the date of a primary election and the date of the subsequent swearing-in of those elected at the general election. Labor

**H-7317**      **MAXIMUM LEGAL FEES** (Guthrie & Others) This act would prohibit attorneys from charging legal fees to towns/cities for any labor contract in an amount greater than 0.2% of the value of the contract. Labor

**H-7323Aaa 2013 APPROPRIATIONS ACT (Melo)**

**ART. 22 BUDGET COMMISSIONS** This article provides that, if a budget commission or a receiver has been appointed for a municipality, then under the various "Arbitration Statutes" collective bargaining contracts shall not exceed the term of 5 years. The current language of the "Arbitration Statutes" calls for contracts not to exceed 3 years. Finance

**H-7346 FIREFIGHTERS' AND MUNICIPAL POLICE ARBITRATION** (Jackson & Others) This act would allow an arbitration board, with the agreement of the parties, to render a decision that brings the bargaining agreement up to date, regardless of the amount of years in question, under the "Firefighters' Arbitration" and the "Municipal Police Arbitration" statutes. Labor

**H-7349 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION** (Blazejewski & Others) This act would authorize the Labor Relations Board to certify and recognize union representatives of public employees who submit authorization cards signed by at least 70% of the eligible employee members of the bargaining unit. Labor

**H-7617 CERTIFIED SCHOOL TEACHERS' ARBITRATION** (McCauley & Others) This act would expand the scope of the binding arbitration process to include monetary issues, and also would streamline the actual binding arbitration process itself under the "Certified School Teachers' Arbitration Act". Provisions covering arbitration for non-teacher and non-certified employees would be newly added to this chapter. Labor

**H-7618 FIREFIGHTERS' ARBITRATION: CONTINUANCE OF CONTRACTUAL PROVISIONS** (Lally) This act would provide that, upon the expiration of a firefighters' collective bargaining agreement, all contractual provisions in effect will continue until a successor collective bargaining agreement has been reached among the parties or an interest arbitration award has been rendered. Labor

**H-7619 MUNICIPAL POLICE ARBITRATION: CONTINUANCE OF CONTRACTUAL PROVISIONS** (Lally) This act would provide that, upon the expiration of a municipal police collective bargaining agreement, all contractual provisions in effect will continue until a successor collective bargaining agreement has been reached among the parties or an interest arbitration award has been rendered. Labor

**H-7620 MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE ARBITRATION** (Lally) This act would make numerous amendments and addition of new sections to Chapter 28-9.4 entitled "Municipal Employees' Arbitration". Among the newly added provisions are "Continuance of contractual provisions", and "Factors to be considered by the arbitration board". Labor

**H-7668**      **MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE UNIFORM BENEFIT ACT** (Brien & Others) This act will enact the "Rhode Island Municipal Employee Uniform Benefit Act" which purpose it would be to create uniform medical and prescription drug benefit plan designs for municipal employees. The act establishes a board of directors to make recommendations to accomplish this purpose. It would require that the negotiated medical benefits for firefighters, municipal police, teachers and municipal employee retirees remain in full force and effect, except that all future negotiated changes for active employees relating to cost sharing and plan design of health insurance shall be applicable to all new and existing retirees. Municipal Government

**H-7713**      **HOME RULE AMENDMENT** (Morgan & Others) This joint resolution proposes an amendment which would curb local legislative powers by prohibiting cities/towns from offering compensation or benefits ( including retirement benefits ) in excess of those allowed by any law enacted by the General Assembly. Finance

**H-7714**      **LOCALLY ADMINISTERED PENSION FUNDS** (Trillo & Others) This act would prohibit the use of binding arbitration in the development of locally administered pension funds. Finance

**H-7760**      **FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES** (Slater & Others) This act would prohibit any state or city/town agency from denying the issuance of any license or employment by reason of the applicant having been previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses. Labor

**H-8006**      **HIGHLY DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES** (Brien & Newberry) This act would authorize and empower communities which have been determined to be "highly distressed communities" to adopt by ordinance or charter a set of relief provisions which are specified in the act. Also, the act extensively amends both Chapter 28-9.1 – "Firefighters' Arbitration" and Chapter 28-9.2 – "Municipal Police Arbitration". Finance

**S-2258**      **TEACHERS' RIGHT TO WORK** (Kettle & Others) This act would enact the "Teachers' Right to Work Act" which makes union membership and the payment of union dues voluntary. Each teacher would have the right to bargain independently with the employing educational institution or school system. Labor

**S-2411**      **FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES** (Metts & Others) This act would prohibit any state or city/town agency from denying the issuance of any license or employment by reason of the applicant having been previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses. Judiciary

**S-2423**      **FIREFIGHTERS' AND MUNICIPAL POLICE ARBITRATION** (DiPalma & Others) This act would allow an arbitration board, with the agreement of the parties, to render a decision that brings the bargaining agreement up to date, regardless of the amount of years in question, under the "Firefighters' Arbitration" and the "Municipal Police Arbitration" statutes. Labor

**S-2425 MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE ARBITRATION** (Ciccone) This act would make numerous amendments and addition of new sections to Chapter 28-9.4 entitled "Municipal Employees' Arbitration". Among the newly added provisions are "Continuance of contractual provisions" and "Factors to be considered by the arbitration board". Labor

**S-2432 SCHOOL TEACHERS' ARBITRATION** (McCaffrey & Lynch) This act would provide that, if a successor collective bargaining agreement has not been agreed to by the parties, then the existing contract continues in effect until an agreement has been reached among the parties. Labor

**S-2678 FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES** (Metts & Others) This act would prohibit any state or city/town agency from denying the issuance of any license or employment by reason of the applicant having been previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses. Judiciary

**S-2690 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION** (Goodwin) This act would authorize the Labor Relations Board to certify and recognize union representatives of public employees who submit authorization cards signed by at least 70% of the eligible employee members of the bargaining unit. Labor

**S-2692 FIREFIGHTERS' ARBITRATION: CONTINUANCE OF CONTRACTUAL PROVISIONS** (Lanzi) This act would provide that, upon the expiration of a firefighters' collective bargaining agreement, all contractual provisions in effect will continue until a successor collective bargaining agreement has been reached among the parties or an interest arbitration award has been rendered. Labor

**S-2826 HIGHLY DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES** (DaPonte & Bates) This act would authorize and empower communities which have been determined to be "highly distressed communities" to adopt by ordinance or charter a set of relief provisions which are specified in the act. Also, the act extensively amends both Chapter 28-9.1 – "Firefighters' Arbitration" and Chapter 28-9.2 – "Municipal Police Arbitration". Finance

**S-2945 CONTINUANCE OF CONTRACTUAL PROVISIONS** (Lanzi) This act would provide that, upon expiration of a municipal police collective bargaining agreement, all contractual provisions in effect will continue until a successor collective bargaining agreement has been reached among the parties or an interest arbitration award has been rendered. Labor

### **LIQUOR CONTROL & LICENSES**

**H-7066Aaa SALES ON SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS** (Gallison & Others) This act would allow holders of Class A liquor licenses to remain open on the prior Sunday no later than 9:00 p.m. if the following Monday is a holiday. Corporations

**H-7097 LOCKBOX REQUIREMENTS** (Costa & Chippendale) This act would provide that no gun shop licensee would be required to maintain an outside lockbox or other receptacle containing a key to the premises. Judiciary

**H-7216 ALCOHOL ENERGY DRINKS** (Menard & Others) This act would make it a violation to sell “alcohol energy drinks”, and would give wholesalers and retailers 30 days from the date of passage to remove these products from their shelves. H.E.W.

**H-7244 CLASS C LICENSE** (Silva & Serpa) This act would permit the extension of the operating hours of holders of Class C retail alcoholic beverage sale licenses upon application to the local licensing board. Upon approval, hours on Friday and Saturday nights and the night before legal state holidays would be extended to 1:00 a.m. Judiciary

**H-7291 HOISTING ENGINEERS** (Edwards & Others) This act would exempt the employees and volunteers of land trusts and other land conservation organizations from the requirements of Chapter 28-26 entitled “Hoisting Engineers”, which governs the licensing of operators of hoisting or excavation equipment. Labor

**H-7468 CLASS N NIGHTCLUB LICENSE** (Hearn & Marcello) This act would eliminate underage nights at nightclubs in which alcoholic beverages are served by not allowing patrons under the age of 21 on the premises. Judiciary

**H-7610 ARCHER’S PERMIT** (Lally) This act would exempt persons seeking a license to hunt by bow and arrow with an archer’s permit from the provision that provides for disqualification if there has been a conviction of a crime of violence or if the person is a fugitive from justice. Judiciary

**H-7680 UNDERGROUND UTILITY CONTRACTORS** (San Bento & Others) This act would require that underground utility contractors obtain a license from the Director of the Department of Labor and Training. A Board of Underground Utility Contractor Licensing would be established within the Department of Labor and Training. It also would require that a bond be furnished by the contractor that would indemnify the local cities/towns. The act also would repeal section 5-20-11 entitled “Licensing of drainlayers and installers”. Corporations

**H-7686 SAMPLE TASTINGS** (Carnevale & Others) This act would expand the rights of holders of retail Class A licenses, by allowing these holders to conduct sampling events inside the licensed premises which now may include liquor, cordial and alcoholic beverages in addition to wine and beer. Corporations

**H-7865 WATER METER REPLACEMENT** (Edwards & Others) This act would amend the recently approved exemption allowing municipalities and water districts to replace water meters without hiring licensed plumbers. The exemption would apply to residential property, or dwelling as defined in the international plumbing code. Municipal Government

**H-7941 LICENSING OF CHAIN STORES** (Carnevale & DeSimone) This act would allow a holder of a Rhode Island liquor license to purchase an out-of-state liquor licensed business. Corporations

**H-7948**      **WEAPONS** (Williams & Medina) This act would remove the statutory preemption giving the state the control of firearms (ownership, licensing, registration, taxation, etc.). Control would now be vested in the city/town wherein the license was issued. Judiciary

**H-8017**      **CLASS T LEGITIMATE THEATER LICENSE** (Martin & Jackson) This act now would enable for profit theaters to apply for Class T legitimate theater liquor licenses. Corporations

**H-8055**      **REGULATED METALS** (Carnevale & Others) This act would establish a new chapter of the general laws entitled "Purchase and Sale of Regulated Metals", but would be known as the Copper Theft Prevention Act. It would require all businesses involved in the selling or recycling of regulated metals to obtain a license from the Department of Attorney , General. The licensee would be required to complete report forms for all transactions, which forms would be delivered or mailed weekly to the chief of police of the city/town in which the business is located and to the Attorney General. Corporations

**S-2163**      **MANUFACTURER'S LICENSE** (DiPalma & Others) This act would allow the holder of a manufacturer's license to sell certain levels of distilled spirits and malt beverages at the licensed place of the manufacturer to visitors for off-premise consumption only in conjunction with a tour and/or tasting. Special Legislation & Veterans Affairs

**S-2167Aaa**      **SALES ON SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS** (Felag & Goodwin) This act would allow holders of Class A liquor licenses to remain open on Sundays until 9:00 p.m. if the following Monday is a holiday. Special Legislation & Veterans Affairs

**S-2259**      **HOISTING ENGINEERS** (Fogarty & Others) This act would exempt the employees and volunteers of land trusts and other land conservation organizations from the requirements of Chapter 28-26 entitled "Hoisting Engineers", which governs the licensing of operators of hoisting or excavation equipment. Labor

**S-2345**      **SAMPLE TASTINGS** (Jabour & Others) This act would expand the rights of holders of retail Class A licenses, by allowing these holders to conduct sampling events inside the licensed premises which now may include liquor, cordial and alcoholic beverages in addition to wine and beer. Special Legislation & Veterans' Affairs

**S-2376**      **WATER METER REPLACEMENT** (Lanzi & Others) This act would amend the recently approved exemption allowing municipalities and water districts to replace water meters without hiring licensed plumbers. The exemption would apply to residential property, or dwelling as defined in the international plumbing code. Labor

**S-2573**      **WEAPONS** (Metts & Others) This act would remove the statutory preemption giving the state the control of firearms ( ownership, licensing, registration, taxation, etc. ). Control would now be vested in the city/town wherein the license was issued. Judiciary

**S-2702**      **LICENSING OF CHAIN STORES** (Jabour & Others) This act would allow a holder of a Rhode Island liquor license to purchase an out-of-state liquor licensed business. Special Legislation & Veterans' Affairs

**S-2735**      **UNDERGROUND UTILITY CONTRACTORS** (Walaska) This act would require that underground utility contractors obtain a license from the Director of the Department of Labor and Training. A Board of Underground Utility Contractor Licensing would be established within the Department of Labor and Training. It also would require that a bond be furnished by the contractor that would indemnify the local cities/towns. The act also would repeal section 5-20-11 entitled "Licensing of drainlayers and installers". Labor

**S-2805**      **REGULATED METALS** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would establish a new chapter of the general laws entitled "Purchase and Sale of Regulated Metals", but would be known as the Copper Theft Prevention Act. It would require all businesses involved in the selling or recycling of regulated metals to obtain a license from the Department of Attorney General. The licensee would be required to complete report forms for all transactions, which forms would be delivered or mailed weekly to the chief of police of the city/town in which the business is located and to the Attorney General. Judiciary

## **PLANNING & ZONING**

**H-7368**      **STATEWIDE PLANNING PROGRAM** (Bennett & Others) This act would add 4 members to the State Planning Council: The Directors of the Departments of Transportation, Environmental Management, and Health; and the executive director of the Economic Development Corporation. (Enacted as **Public Law 54** effective 5/1/12)

**H-7696**      **SMALL WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS** (Carnevale) This act would allow the installation of small wind energy systems subject to regulations and standards. It would mandate specific provisions for municipal zoning ordinances, create a system of fees including the requirement that a permit be obtained, and make the system subject to a structural and electrical inspection by a local official. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7804**      **ON-SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS** (Edwards & Others) This act would require that zoning ordinances in which municipalities set forth standards or requirements with regard to on-site sewage disposal systems must first be submitted to the Directors of the Department of Environmental Management and the Department of Health for approval of the technical merits of the ordinance, and zoning ordinances that set forth standards regarding wetland setbacks must first be submitted to the Director of the Department of Environmental Management. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7866**      **SUBDIVISION OF LAND** (Gallison & Others) This act would amend various sections of Chapter 45-23 – "Subdivision of Land" and Chapter 45-24 – "Zoning Ordinances". In Chapter 45-23 definitions for 'buildable lot' and 'yield plan' are amended or added. In Chapter 45-24 definitions for 'buildable lot' and 'conservation development' are added. Municipal Government

**H-7867**      **IMPACT FEES** (San Bento & Others) This act would establish temporary reductions of certain fees and taxes relating to building and construction: the permit fees assessed by each municipality must be reduced by 50% for a period of 24 months; a 3.5% reduction in the sales tax imposed on lumber and building materials for a period of 24 months; and a moratorium on the assessment and collection of impact fees for new construction and development for a period of 36 months. Municipal Government

**H-7963**      **PLANT AGRICULTURE** (Tanzi & Others) This act would make plant agriculture a permitted use within all lands subject to the jurisdiction of the Coastal Resources Management Council, and grants to the Department of Environmental Management jurisdiction and enforcement of such use. Municipal Government

**S-2397**      **COMPOSTING OPERATIONS** (DiPalma & Others) This act would require that all applications to conduct composting operations must have written confirmation from the respective city/town that the proposed site for the composting operation is zoned to permit such usage. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2440**      **STATE GUIDE PLAN** (Sheehan) This act would clarify that the Economic Development Corporation and its subsidiaries must conform to applicable provisions of the state guide plan, if any projects are situated on federal land they must conform substantially to the land use goals of the applicable comprehensive plan. Corporations

**S-2442A**      **PLANT AGRICULTURE** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would make plant agriculture a permitted use within all zoning districts of a municipality, including all industrial and commercial zoning districts. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2563**      **STATEWIDE PLANNING PROGRAM** (Tassoni & Others) This act would add 4 members to the State Planning Council: the Directors of the Departments of Transportation, Environmental Management, and Health; and the executive director of the Economic Development Corporation. (Enacted as **Public Law 48** effective 5/1/12)

**S-2612**      **ON-SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS** (Walaska) This act would require that zoning ordinances in which municipalities set forth standards or requirements with regard to on-site sewage disposal systems must first be submitted to the Directors of the Department of Environmental Management and the Department of Health for approval of the technical merits of the ordinance, and zoning ordinances that set forth standards regarding wetland setbacks must first be submitted to the Director of the Department of Environmental Management. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2616A**      **SUBDIVISION OF LAND** (McCaffrey & Lynch) This act would amend various sections of Chapter 45-23 – “Subdivision of Land” and Chapter 45-24 – “Zoning Ordinances”. In Chapter 45-23 definitions for ‘buildable lot’ and ‘yield plan’ are amended or added. In Chapter 45-24 definitions for ‘buildable lot’ and ‘conservation development’ are added. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2968**      **IMPACT FEES** (McCaffrey) This act would establish temporary reductions of certain fees and taxes relating to building and construction: the permit fees assessed by each municipality must be reduced by 50% for a period of 24 months; a 3.5% reduction in the sales tax imposed on lumber and building materials for a period of 24 months; and a moratorium on the assessment and collection of impact fees for new construction and development for a period of 36 months. Finance

### **PUBLIC SAFETY ( POLICE & FIRE )**

**H-7006**      **UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT** (Brien & Others) This act would delineate crimes and impose penalties for acts of violence inflicted upon an unborn child. Judiciary

**H-7010**      **ASSAULT UPON A PREGNANT WOMAN** (Brien & Others) This act would make assault upon a pregnant woman causing her to suffer a miscarriage or stillbirth punishable by up to 30 years imprisonment, and if the fetus is 12 weeks or older punishable by life imprisonment. Judiciary

**H-7042**      **COMPUTER CRIME** (Martin & DaSilva) This act would create various criminal offenses relating to Internet activity including unauthorized access to confidential information, cyberstalking and cyberharassment, online impersonation, and electronic dissemination of indecent material. Judiciary

**H-7056**      **DNA DETECTION** (Kennedy & Others) This act would require the collection of DNA samples of any person arrested for a crime of violence as defined in this act or convicted of any felony. The samples would be included in the Rhode Island DNA Database. The DNA information would be expunged and destroyed under the circumstances specified in extensive additional language added to section 12-1.5-13 entitled "Expungement". Judiciary

**H-7059**      **RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE FRAUD** (Serpa & Silva) This act would define what constitutes the crime of residential mortgage fraud, and establishes penalties for its commission. It also would extend the statute of limitations to 10 years on a variety of crimes. Judiciary

**H-7075**      **SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION** (Palumbo & Others) This act would implement the federal "Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act" (SORNA) (Title I of Public Law 109-248). The current "Sexual Offender Registration and Community Notification Act" would be repealed. The newly implemented act would contain provisions concerning registration requirements, including timing of registration, required information, tiered offenses, duration of registration and frequency of verification. Finance

**H-7091**      **FETAL PROTECTION ACT** (Edwards & Others) This act would establish the "Fetal Protection Act" which would define and impose penalties for violence to an unborn child. Judiciary

**H-7092**      **UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES** (Edwards & Others) This act would decriminalize the possession of one ounce or less of marijuana and make it a civil offense in most cases, and would impose civil penalties starting at \$150. The fines collected would be payable to the municipality in which the offense occurred, 50% of which would be expended on drug awareness and treatment programs for youth. Judiciary

**H-7095**      **PUBLIC CORRUPTION AND WHITE COLLAR CRIME UNIT** (Marcello & Others) This act would establish a public corruption and white collar crime unit within the Department of Attorney General. Its primary purpose would be to investigate and prosecute cases of abuse of the public trust by employees of the state and its municipalities. Judiciary

**H-7096**      **ARREST AFTER CLOSE PURSUIT** (Gallison & Others) This act would expand the authority of police officers to engage in close pursuit into other municipalities in order to “stop” individuals for suspected violations of the motor vehicle code. Judiciary

**H-7110**      **PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES** (Ajello & Others) This act requires that information contained in a portable electronic device would not be subject to search by a law enforcement officer incident to a lawful custodial arrest except pursuant to a warrant issued by a duly authorized magistrate. Judiciary

**H-7111**      **HATE CRIMES** (Ajello & Others) This act would make changes to the definition of ‘hate crime’ as it pertains to law enforcement agencies in the development of systems monitoring crimes motivated by bigotry and bias. Judiciary

**H-7140**      **ANIMAL ABUSER REGISTRY** (Petarca & Others) This act would require an animal abuser to register with the chief of police of the city/town in which the abuser is located. Each chief of police would maintain a local registry of animal abusers for their jurisdiction. Judiciary

**H-7187**      **MOTORCYCLE DESIGNATED PARKING** (Petarca & Others) This act would require that the state and the municipalities provide a specifically allocated number of parking spaces designated for motorcycles at public buildings. Municipal Government

**H-7203**      **ALCOHOL RELATED MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES** (Lima) This act would bar the use of checkpoints by police departments as an investigative measure in the detection and apprehension of motorists who are under the influence. Judiciary

**H-7204**      **TEXT MESSAGING** (Lima & McNamara) This act would provide for mandatory additional penalties for persons found guilty of texting while driving including the installation of a device in their vehicle that prevents text messaging and cell phone calls. Judiciary

**H-7222**      **REFUSAL TO SUBMIT TO CHEMICAL TEST** (Menard & Others) This act would authorize a bail commissioner to order a person’s license to drive be suspended immediately upon the report of a law enforcement officer that the person has refused a chemical test for driving while under the influence. Judiciary

**H-7223**      **NFPA 1500** (Guthrie & Others) This act would require fire departments to formulate a written plan of implementation of NFPA 1500 (1987 edition) or a statement of compliance by January 1, 2013, with copies given to the State Fire Marshal. It also would amend the composition of the NFPA 1500 Implementation Plan Review Committee, and make its decisions regarding implementation plans appealable to the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeals. Municipal Government

**H-7230**      **FLASHING LIGHTS** (Phillips & Others) This act would make the use of flashing lights on snow plows and snow removal equipment mandatory. Corporations

**H-7242**      **DOMESTIC ASSAULT BY STRANGULATION** (DaSilva & Others) This act adds a new section to the general laws specifically establishing and defining what constitutes the crime of domestic assault by strangulation. Judiciary

**H-7243**      **CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS** (Walsh & Others) This act would require the “Electronic Recording of Custodial Interrogations Task Force” to meet periodically rather than terminate upon the submission of its report due no later than February 1, 2012. (Enacted as [Public Law 77](#) effective 5/14/12)

**H-7248**      **GOOD SAMARITAN OVERDOSE PREVENTION ACT** (Ferri & Others) This act would create “The Good Samaritan Overdose Prevention Act” which would exempt from liability any person who administers an opioid antagonist to another person who is experiencing a drug overdose. Judiciary

**H-7249**      **WEAPONS** (Chippendale & Others) This act would specifically exclude a crossbow from the definition of a “firearm” in section 11-47-2 of the general laws regulating weapons. Judiciary

**H-7256**      **RACIAL PROFILING** (Diaz & Others) This act would amend the law banning racial profiling in traffic stops by state and municipal law enforcement agencies by fine tuning the system requiring law enforcement agencies to collect data and complete regular reports of findings and statistics regarding traffic stops. It also would add a new provision to Chapter 14-1 of the general laws (“Proceedings in Family Court”) governing the search of juveniles without a warrant. Judiciary

**H-7271**      **WEAPONS** (Carnevale & Others) This act would exempt persons issued a license to carry a pistol or revolver by the Attorney General, which includes retired members of city/town police forces, from the 7 day waiting period for purchase of a pistol or revolver, and the completion of a basic pistol/revolver safety course. Judiciary

**H-7284**      **NATURAL GAS EMERGENCIES** (Handy & Others) This act would require that all natural gas emergencies be reported to a dispatch office located in Rhode Island staffed by professionally trained gas dispatchers. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7313**      **SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS** (Palumbo & Others) This act would create the “In Support of Our Law Enforcement and Safe Neighborhoods Act” which would authorize and empower state and local law enforcement to work together with federal authorities to discourage and deter the unlawful entry and presence of aliens, and economic activity by persons unlawfully in the United States. Judiciary

**H-7315**      **ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION** (Palumbo & Others) This act would provide that state and local law enforcement agencies shall take steps to support the enforcement of federal immigration laws by investigating and determining the immigration status of all non-citizens taken into custody, incarcerated, or under investigation for any crime, and notifying federal authorities of all illegal immigrants discovered as a result of such investigations. Labor

**H-7332**      **DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE** (Gallison & Others) This act would grant judges and magistrates the authority to prohibit drivers convicted of driving under the influence of liquor or drugs from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with an ignition interlock system. Judiciary

**H-7345**      **SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR VEHICLES** (Diaz) This act would change the requirement that the approved Emergency Airway Kit must be mounted in an area accessible to the operator of the school extra-curricular vehicle, to the basic requirement of every school extra-curricular vehicle being equipped with an approved Emergency Airway Kit. H.E.W.

**H-7359A**      **STATE DECLARED DISASTER ACT** (Kennedy & Others) This act – “Facilitating Business Rapid Response to State Declared Disasters Act of 2012” would ensure that companies may focus on quick response to the needs of the state during a declared state disaster or emergency. This activity would not establish presence, residency, nor doing business in the state for purposes of state and local taxes, licensing and regulatory requirements. Corporations

**H-7361**      **PUBLIC UTILITIES: ENFORCEMENT BY POLICE DEPARTMENTS** (Keable & Others) This act would clarify the powers of the personnel of the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers relative to enforcement of all the motor carrier provisions pursuant to Chapter 39-1, and would give police departments the necessary power and authority to enforce these motor carrier provisions. Corporations

**H-7387**      **COMMERCIAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY** (Corvese & Others) This act would provide that any proceeds derived from violation of the provisions of Chapter 11-34.1 entitled “Commercial Sexual Activity” are subject to seizure and forfeiture. Judiciary

**H-7389**      **USE OF FALSE INFORMATION** (Blazejewski & Others) This act would amend the Chapter entitled “Computer Crime” (11-52) by eliminating the provision that makes the use of false information a misdemeanor, but maintains the felony provision. Judiciary

**H-7393**      **DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE** (Menard) This act would require a bail commissioner, a judge or magistrate of the traffic tribunal, or district court judge to immediately suspend a person's license to drive upon the receipt of a report from a law enforcement officer that the person was charged with driving under the influence of liquor or drugs. Judiciary

**H-7459**      **EMT SERVICES** (Reilly & Others) This act would provide that peer review board proceedings and meetings held by emergency medical technicians for the purpose of analyzing procedures and delivery of services be confidential and exempt from discovery or admissibility as evidence in any case. Judiciary

**H-7463**      **UNSAFE PASSING OF A VULNERABLE ROAD USER** (Tanzi & Others) This act would create the motor vehicle offense of unsafe passing of a "vulnerable road user". "Vulnerable road user" is defined to include pedestrians, bicyclists, police officers or emergency responders, highway workers, skateboarders, and wheelchair operators. Judiciary

**H-7470**      **EMT PLATES** (Reilly & Others) This act would allow a licensed emergency medical technician to obtain a special license plate from the Division of Motor Vehicles. Municipal Government

**H-7497**      **"HABITUAL OFFENDER" DEFINED** (Marcello) This act would amend the requirements which determine the classification of a person as an "habitual offender" under various motor vehicle statutes. Judiciary

**H-7498**      **TEST FOR IMPAIRMENT OR INTOXICATION** (MacBeth & Others) This act would permit law enforcement officers, who have reasonable suspicion that the person operated a vehicle which was involved in an accident resulting in death or serious bodily injury, to use reasonable force in requiring the person to submit to a test of bodily fluids. Judiciary

**H-7501**      **HOMICIDE BY MOTOR VEHICLE** (Keable) This act would establish the crime of homicide by motor vehicle for motor vehicle violations that cause the death of another person. The crime may be a felony or a misdemeanor depending upon the nature of the motor vehicle violation. Judiciary

**H-7503**      **REGISTRATION PLATES** (Johnston & Others) This act would establish the crime of forgery and counterfeiting of motor vehicle registration plates, which crime includes knowingly possessing such registration plates. Judiciary

**H-7506**      **TEMPORARY DRIVER'S PERMIT** (O'Neill & Others) This act would require that the holder of a temporary driver's permit have a supervising driver seated beside the permit holder in the front seat when the vehicle is in motion. Judiciary

**H-7529**      **PLACES OF ASSEMBLY: FIREFIGHTER PRESENT** (Trillo & Others) This act would exempt places of assembly meeting or exceeding current fire codes from the requirement of having a firefighter on duty during events. Corporations

**H-7538**      **WEAPONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS** (MacBeth & Others) This act would prohibit the possession on school grounds of knives of any length, whether or not designed to cut or stab another. H.E.W.

**H-7550**      **TWO-WAY LEFT TURN LANES** (Hull & Others) This act would promulgate rules of the road for use of two-way left turn lanes. Judiciary

**H-7558**      **HABITUAL OFFENDERS** (McLaughlin & Others) This act would require that an habitual offender who commits a crime of violence against women or children be held without bail until such time it is determined that bail be granted by a justice of the court of jurisdiction. Judiciary

**H-7574**      **GOOG SAMARITAN OVERDOSE PREVENTION ACT** (Ferri & Others) This act would create "The Good Samaritan Overdose Prevention Act" which would exempt from liability any person who administers an opioid antagonist to another person who is experiencing a drug overdose. H.E.W.

**H-7582**      **LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA** (Ajello & Others) This act would add two new chapters to the general laws. The first is entitled "Legalization of Marijuana" which decriminalizes the possession and use of marijuana, and the second is entitled "Taxation and Regulation of Marijuana" which addresses such issues as retailer registration and the establishment of an excise tax to be collected and remitted at the state level. Judiciary

**H-7583**      **CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT** (DaSilva & Others) This act would establish a testimonial privilege for members of critical incident stress management teams or peer support groups which would apply to communications occurring in the course of duty while providing crisis response services. Judiciary

**H-7598**      **DOMESTIC ABUSE PREVENTION** (Corvese) This act would provide that a police officer's role on the scene of a domestic dispute does not include dispute mediation or resolution, and that an officer's interaction with the parties would be to prevent escalation of the situation, and to interview the parties separately. Judiciary

**H-7600**      **NEXT-OF-KIN ACCIDENT IDENTIFICATION** (Baldelli-Hunt & Others) This act would establish an internet "Next-of-Kin Identification Registry Program" to be developed and implemented by the Administrator of the Division of Motor Vehicles. The names and telephone numbers of emergency contacts would be submitted for inclusion in the registry program. This program would provide access to this information for law enforcement officials, especially when a motor vehicle accident results in the serious bodily injury, death, or incapacitation of a driver or passenger. Judiciary

**H-7605**      **POSSESSION OF FIREARMS BY MINORS** (Diaz & Others) This act would make it unlawful for minors to "possess" any firearm unless a permit is held, and the minor is in the presence of a parent, guardian, or supervising adult. The "use" requirement is deleted from the statute. Judiciary

**H-7624 MEMORIAL BENEFIT FUND LICENSE PLATES (Lally)** This act would change the Law Enforcement Memorial License Plates, which would now be called the Rhode Island Law Enforcement Memorial Benefit Fund License Plates. (Enacted as [Public Law 52](#) effective 5/1/12)

**H-7626 BACKGROUND CHECKS (Keable & Others)** This act would authorize any municipal fire department to request a background check from their local police department for any employee or volunteer serving their community. Municipal Government

**H-7670 SALARY PAYMENT DURING LINE OF DUTY ILLNESS OR INJURY (Brien & Edwards)** This act significantly amends section 45-19-1 – “Salary payment during line of duty illness or injury”. The definitions of what constitutes both ‘police officer’s’ and ‘firefighters’ are greatly expanded with regards to criteria for qualification for the benefits provided under this section. Municipal Government

**H-7679 MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE (San Bento & Others)** This act would implement an electronic insurance confirmation and compliance system in the state, which system would make both interstate and intrastate vehicle insurance and registration status available to law enforcement for automated query at any time through the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications Network. Corporations

**H-7684 UTILITY SAFETY PERSONNEL (Trillo & Others)** This act would allow public utilities to utilize their own personnel to ensure the safety of the public during any project involving maintenance, repair or construction by the public utility. Corporations

**H-7747 REHABILITATION, RE-ENTRY AND PUBLIC SAFETY ACT (Slater)** This act would allow a person convicted of a crime to petition the court for the issuance of a “Certificate of Rehabilitation”. This certificate would enable those who have successfully completed their court-imposed sentences to more easily gain reentry into society. Judiciary

**H-7751 LOCAL POLICE ASSIGNED TO STATE POLICE (Johnston)** This act would provide that local police officers assigned to the State Police on a statewide task force shall exercise the same powers of arrest exercised by members of the State Police, but only when working on an investigation authorized by the Superintendent of the State Police, and as members of the statewide task force. Judiciary

**H-7755 CRIMES AGAINST THE PUBLIC TRUST (Marcello & Others)** This act would create Chapter 11-69 entitled “Crimes Against the Public Trust” which defines specific criminal offenses which violate the public trust or constitute the theft of honest services. The act also would extend the statute of limitations to 10 years for violations of this new chapter and section 11-41-27 – “Wrongful conversion by officer or state or municipal employee”. Judiciary

**H-7823 HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS (Hull & Others)** This act would require mandatory disclosure to appropriate law enforcement personnel if a health care provider comes into contact with or provides medical services to a patient who the provider reasonably suspects is suffering from injuries that are the result of a crime of violence. H.EW

**H-7827**      **DRUG DISPOSAL** (Marcello & Ruggiero) This act would authorize any city/town to provide for the establishment of containers at local police departments for the disposal of unused, expired or unwanted drugs with the exception of controlled substances. H.E.W.

**H-7837Aaa**      **BODY ARMOR** (Lally & O'Neill) This act would make it unlawful for any person to purchase, own or possess body armor, if that person has been convicted of a felony that is a crime of violence. Judiciary

**H-7839**      **ASSAULT ON PERSONS WITH SEVERE IMPAIRMENTS** (Naughton & Others) This act would amend various statutes that deal with assault on and crisis intervention for persons with severe impairments. Local police departments are now required to request the Department of Behavioral Health Care, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals to provide crisis intervention services for the victims. Judiciary

**H-7847**      **SEARCH WARRANTS** (O'Neill & Others) This act would enable a sworn member of law enforcement of any city/town who is serving on a statewide task force to obtain a warrant upon a complaint in writing, under oath. Judiciary

**H-7849**      **DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE** (O'Neill & Others) This act would grant judges and magistrates the authority to prohibit drivers convicted of driving under the influence of liquor or drugs from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with an ignition interlock system. Judiciary

**H-7850**      **EXPUNGEMENT OF CERTAIN CRIMINAL RECORDS** (O'Neill & Others) This act would require that all traffic offense violations which are in the jurisdiction of the Traffic Tribunal or a Municipal Court be expunged after 3 years without the requirement that a motion to expunge be filed. Judiciary

**H-7878**      **CRIMINAL RECORDS REVIEW** (Ajello) This act would amend various provisions of the general laws in order to provide more uniformity with regard to criminal background checks. Specifically, it authorizes any municipal recreation department to request a background check from its local police department for any employee or volunteer serving its community. Judiciary

**H-7881**      **WEAPONS** (Cimini & Others) This act would make simple possession of any firearm by a minor unlawful, unless the minor holds a valid permit. The act also sets forth specific situations in which possession by a minor would be lawful. Judiciary

**H-7918**      **HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE FLAG** (MacBeth & Others) This act would designate the Honor and Remembrance Flag to honor military service members, and any police personnel, fire personnel, EMT's, and rescue personnel who have lost their lives in the line of duty in response to a terrorist activity. Veterans' Affairs

**H-7926**      **DOGS** (Palumbo & Jacquard) This act would make it unlawful for any person to operate a motor vehicle with a dog sitting on the lap of the motor vehicle operator. Judiciary

**H-7947**      **POSSESSION OF FIREARMS BY MINORS** (Williams & Others) This act would make it unlawful for minors to “possess” any firearm unless a permit is held, and the minor is in the presence of a parent, guardian or supervising adult. The “use” requirement is deleted from the statute. Judiciary

**H-7959**      **FIRE CODE** (Ferri) This act grants the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review the authority to adopt and implement all of the National Fire Protection Association Codes (NFPA), prior to January 1, 2013, with enforcement powers vested in the State Fire Marshal. Effective January 1, 2013, the authority necessary to implement the NFPA codes will now be vested in the State Fire Marshal. Municipal Government

**H-7960**      **MEDICAL MARIJUANA ACT** (Slater) This act would set forth certain procedures to be followed by compassion center cardholders, primary caregiver cardholders and patient cardholders in regard to the medical use of marijuana. Certain responsibilities would be created for local police departments regarding the procedures for national criminal records checks for primary caregivers and compassion center cardholders. There is also a provision for law enforcement training and curriculum. HEW

**H-7993**      **ACCIDENT REPORTS** (Ucci) This act would repeal provisions providing for the filing of motor vehicle accident reports, and those providing penalties for failing to file accident reports, and for falsification of reports or proof of financial responsibility. Judiciary

**H-8044**      **SEAT BELTS** (Nunes & Others) This act would amend the sunset provision of the statute passed in 2011 which provides that violation of the seat belt law would be a primary offense. Seat belt violations occurring after June 30, 2012, would revert to a secondary offense. Judiciary

**H-8048**      **FIREFIGHTER CANCER WELLNESS ACT** (Keable & Others) This act would require that the cancer incidence of emergency medical technicians be reported annually by the Director of the Department of Health to the Office of the State Fire marshal, as an added group under “The Firefighter Cancer Wellness Act”. H.E.W.

**H-8069A**      **VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS** (Bennett & Others) This act would permit chiefs of police or their designees to conduct inspections of vehicle identification numbers at a licensed new motor vehicle dealership. The law previously required these inspections to occur at the local police station or at a municipally owned building only. Municipal Government

**H-8124**      **CROSSBOWS** (Fox & Others) This act would include crossbows as a weapon prohibited under section 11-47-42 of the general laws, which section prohibits carrying or possessing weapons with the intent to use unlawfully against another. Judiciary

**H-8238**      **SEONDHAND SMOKE** (Morrison & Gallison) This act would authorize all law enforcement officers to provide a verbal warning to any person who is smoking in a motor vehicle containing a child who is restrained or required to be restrained in a child passenger safety seat. H.E.W.

**S-2032**      **ANIMAL ABUSER REGISTRY** (Tassoni & Others) This act would require an animal abuser to register with the chief of police of the city/town in which the abuser is located. Each chief of police would maintain a local registry of animal abusers for their jurisdiction.  
Environment & Agriculture

**S-2061**      **DNA DETECTION** (Bates & Others) This act would require the collection of DNA samples of any person arrested for a crime of violence as defined in this act or convicted of any felony. The samples would be included in the Rhode Island DNA Database. The DNA information would be expunged and destroyed under the circumstances specified in extensive additional language added to section 12-1.5-13 entitled "Expungement".    Judiciary

**S-2130A**      **MOTORCYCLE DESIGNATED PARKING** (Tassoni & Others) This act would require each state and city/town agency to prepare a motorcycle parking plan by November 1, 2012. The plans are to provide, whenever possible, for designated parking spaces in parking areas that are adjacent to, or within sight of, state, city and town buildings.    Housing & Municipal Government

**S-2133**      **WEAPONS** (Picard) This act would make certain changes to the eligibility criteria for a license or permit to carry a weapon, whether visible or concealed, by requiring the applicant to meet the licensing requirements of general law section 11-47-11 entitled "License or permit to carry concealed pistol or revolver".    Judiciary

**S-2145**      **FLASHING LIGHTS** (Picard) This act would make the use of flashing lights on snow plows and snow removal equipment mandatory.    Judiciary

**S-2146**      **PROPERTY HELD BY POLICE DEPARTMENTS** (Fogarty & Tassoni) This act would provide that police departments and local drug control divisions would be allowed to keep confiscated property, and any income derived from such property would be used for police related community functions, to replace stolen property, or for law enforcement purposes.    Judiciary

**S-2149**      **ARREST AFTER CLOSE PURSUIT** (Hodgson & Others) This act would change the word "arrest" to "stop" to describe the action a police officer takes when crossing from one city/town into another city/town when in close pursuit. The police officer would have the authority to arrest the person pursued for violation of the motor vehicle code.    Judiciary

**S-2197**      **EXEMPTION OF POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION** (Gallo) This act would nullify the exemptions afforded police and firefighter pensions if the police officer's or firefighter's liability results from entry of a civil judgment based on a conviction for murder.  
Finance

**S-2204A**      **SECONDHAND SMOKE** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would authorize all law enforcement officers to provide a verbal warning to any person who is smoking in a motor vehicle containing a child who is restrained or required to be restrained in a child passenger safety seat.    Health & Human Services

**S-2214 UNSAFE PASSING OF A VULNERABLE ROAD USER** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would create the motor vehicle offense of unsafe passing of a “vulnerable road user”. “Vulnerable road user” is defined to include pedestrians, bicyclists, police officers or emergency responders, highway workers, skateboarders and wheelchair operators. Judiciary

**S-2220 CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT** (Lanzi & Others) This act would establish a testimonial privilege for members of critical incident stress management teams or peer support groups which would apply to communications occurring in the course of duty while providing crisis response services. Judiciary

**S-2222 ARREST AFTER CLOSE PURSUIT** (Felag) This act would expand the authority of police officers to engage in close pursuit into other municipalities in order to “stop” individuals for suspected violations of the motor vehicle code. Judiciary

**S-2223 MOBILE TELEPHONE USE** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would make it unlawful to operate a motor vehicle while using a hand-held mobile telephone to engage in a call while the vehicle is in motion. Judiciary

**S-2249A NFPA 1500** (Lanzi & Others) This act would require fire departments to formulate a written plan of implementation of NFPA 1500 (1987 edition) or a statement of compliance by January 1, 2013, with copies given to the State Fire Marshal. It also would amend the composition of the NFPA 1500 Implementation Plan Review Committee, and make its decisions regarding implementation plans appealable to the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeals. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-2251 MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE STATUS** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would establish an electronic verification and compliance system to be used by law enforcement agencies to scan license plates in order to electronically identify motor vehicles being operated without financial responsibility. Judiciary

**S-2252 RACIAL PROFILING** (Metts & Others) This act would amend the law banning racial profiling in traffic stops by state and municipal law enforcement agencies by fine tuning the system requiring law enforcement agencies to collect data and complete regular reports of findings and statistics regarding traffic stops. It also would add a new provision to Chapter 14-1 of the general laws (“Proceedings in Family Court”) governing the search of juveniles without a warrant. Judiciary

**S-2253 UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES** (Miller & Others) This act would decriminalize the possession of one ounce or less of marijuana and make it a civil offense in most cases, and would impose civil penalties starting at \$150. The fines collected would be payable to the municipality in which the offense occurred, 50% of which would be expended on drug awareness and treatment programs for youth. Judiciary

**S-2290 RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE FRAUD** (Pichardo & Others) This act would define what constitutes the crime of residential mortgage fraud, and establishes penalties for its commission. It also would extend the statute of limitations to 10 years on a variety of crimes. Judiciary

**S-2293 SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION** (Doyle & Others) This act would require the Attorney General to appeal all sexual offender level and notification determinations to the Presiding Justice of the Superior Court, unless these determinations were agreed to through mutual stipulation by the parties. Judiciary

**S-2294 IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE IN CRIME FIGHTING ACT** (Pichardo & Others) This act would establish the "Immigrant Assistance in Crime Fighting Act" to promote the safety and health of all residents by making it more likely that immigrants will report violations of state and local law by prohibiting law enforcement agencies from inquiring into the immigration status of the complainant or witness. Judiciary

**S-2295 ANTI-GANG VIOLENCE PARENTING CLASSES** (Pichardo & Others) This act would allow the Family Court judge who finds a minor delinquent by reason of the commission of a gang-related offense to order the minor's parents or guardian to attend anti-gang violence parenting classes, if the parents or guardian are allowed to retain custody of the minor. Judiciary

**S-2339 USE OF FALSE INFORMATION** (Perry & Others) This act would amend the Chapter entitled "Computer Crime" (11-52) by eliminating the provision that makes the use of false information a misdemeanor, but maintains the felony provision. Judiciary

**S-2367 LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA** (Perry & Miller) This act would add two new chapters to the general laws. The first is entitled "Legalization of Marijuana" which decriminalizes the possession and use of marijuana, and the second is entitled "Taxation and Regulation of Marijuana" which addresses such issues as retailer registration and the establishment of an excise tax to be collected and remitted at the state level. Judiciary

**S-2381 MEMORIAL BENEFIT FUND LICENSE PLATES (Lanzi & Others)** This act would change the Law Enforcement Memorial License Plates, which would now be called the Rhode Island Law Enforcement Memorial Benefit Fund License Plates. (Enacted as [Public Law 49](#) effective 5/1/12)

**S-2405 MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would implement an electronic insurance confirmation and compliance system in the state, which system would make both interstate and intrastate vehicle insurance and registration status available to law enforcement for automated query at any time through the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications Network. Finance

**S-2415 TWO-WAY LEFT TURN LANES** (Tassoni & Others) This act would promulgate rules of the road for use of two-way left turn lanes. Judiciary

**S-2417 WEAPONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS** (Picard) This act would prohibit the possession on school grounds of knives of any length, whether or not designed to cut or stab another. Judiciary

**S-2420 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS** (Tassoni & Others) This act would create a task force to investigate and develop policies and procedures for electronically recording custodial interrogations in their entirety. Judiciary

**S-2427 FIREFIGHTER CANCER WELLNESS ACT** (Fogarty & Others) This act would require that cancer incidence of emergency medical technicians be reported annually by the Director of the Department of Health to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, as an added group under "The Firefighter Cancer Wellness Act". Health & Human Services

**S-2487 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS (McCaffrey & Lynch)** This act would require the Electronic Recording of Custodial Interrogations Task Force to meet periodically rather than terminate upon the submission of its report due no later than February 1, 2012. (Enacted as [Public Law 59](#) effective 5/8/12)

**S-2496 FALSE STATEMENT TO OBTAIN GOVERNMENTAL BENEFITS** (Hodgson & Others) This act would establish criminal penalties for filing a false statement to obtain governmental benefits, or knowingly failing to provide updated information with the intent to conceal a change in circumstances which would affect government benefits being received. Judiciary

**S-2500 SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION** (Doyle & Others) This act would alter the procedure for review of the level and nature of community notification for sexual offenders. Several criteria are established to be considered by the court in an appeal of the Board of Review's determination. Judiciary

**S-2515 HUMAN TRAFFICKING** (Perry & Others) This act would repeal the law creating the Interagency Human Trafficking of Persons Task Force. It also would revise the reporting requirements contained in Chapter 11-67 entitled "Trafficking of Persons and Involuntary Servitude". Judiciary

**S-2568 DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would grant judges and magistrates the authority to prohibit drivers convicted of driving under the influence of liquor or drugs from operating a motor vehicle not equipped with an ignition interlock system. Judiciary

**S-2572 SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION** (Doyle & Others) This act would implement the federal "Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act" (SORNA) (Title I of Public Law 109-248). The current "Sexual Offender Registration and Community Notification Act" would be repealed. The newly implemented act would contain provisions concerning registration requirements, including timing of registration, required information, tiered offenses, duration of registration and frequency of verification. Judiciary

**S-2574 CRISIS INTERVENTION TRAINING** (DeVall & Others) This act would require that within 3 years all municipal police departments must implement crisis intervention training. Judiciary

**S-2581 CONTRIBUTING TO DELINQUENCY** (Tassoni & Others) This act raises the age for the crime of contributing to the delinquency of a minor from age 16 to 18. Judiciary

**S-2582 POSSESSION OF FIREARMS BY MINORS** (Jabour & Others) This act would make it unlawful for minors to “possess” any firearm unless a permit is held, and the minor is in the presence of a parent, guardian or supervising adult. The “use” requirement is deleted from the statute. Judiciary

**S-2584 PUBLIC CORRUPTION AND WHITE COLLAR CRIME UNIT** (Ciccione & Others) This act would establish a public corruption and white collar crime unit within the Department of Attorney General. Its primary purpose would be to investigate and prosecute cases of abuse of the public trust by employees of the state and its municipalities. Judiciary

**S-2604 STATE DECLARED DISASTER ACT** (Fogarty & Others) This act – “Facilitating Business Rapid Response to State Declared Disasters Act of 2012” would ensure that companies may focus on quick response to the needs of the state during a declared state disaster or emergency. This activity would not establish presence, residency, nor doing business in the state for purposes of state and local taxes, licensing and regulatory requirements. Corporations

**S-2635 DRUG DISPOSAL (Sosnowski & Others)** This act would authorize any city/town to provide for the establishment of containers at local police departments for the disposal of unused, expired or unwanted drugs with the exception of controlled substances. (Enacted as [Public Law 87](#) effective 5/22/12)

**S-2643 SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE** (McCaffrey) This act would provide that any proceeds derived directly from criminal commercial sexual activity, including, but not limited to, prostitution would be subject to seizure and forfeiture. The act also would provide for the forfeiture of property and money derived from the crime of conspiracy under the “Uniform Controlled Substances Act”. Judiciary

**S-2645 CRIMES AGAINST THE PUBLIC TRUST** (Ciccione & Others) This act would create Chapter 11-69 entitled “Crimes Against the Public Trust” which defines specific criminal offenses which violate the public trust or constitute the theft of honest services. The act also would extend the statute of limitations to 10 years for violations of this new chapter and section 11-41-27 – “Wrongful conversion by officer or state or municipal employee”. Judiciary

**S-2647 COMPUTER CRIME** (Lanzi & Others) This act would create various criminal offenses relating to Internet activity including unauthorized access to confidential information, cyberstalking and cyberharassment, online impersonation, and electric dissemination of indecent material. Judiciary

**S-2650 RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE FRAUD** (Pichardo & Others) This act would define what constitutes the crime of residential mortgage fraud, and establishes penalties for its commission. It also would extend the statute of limitations to 10 years on a variety of crimes. Judiciary

**S-2653 CRIMINAL STREET GANG ENHANCEMENT** (Jabour & Others) This act would establish a sentence enhancement for those who commit misdemeanors or felonies for the benefit of, at the direction of, or in association with any criminal street gang or criminal street gang member. Judiciary

**S-2666 REGISTRATION PLATES** (DiPalma & Others) This act would establish the crime of forgery and counterfeiting of motor vehicle registration plates, which crime includes knowingly possessing such registration plates. Judiciary

**S-2670 PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS: ENFORCEMENT BY POLICE DEPARTMENTS** (Walaska) This act would clarify the powers of the personnel of the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers relative to enforcement of all the motor carrier provisions pursuant to Chapter 39-1, and would give police departments the necessary power and authority to enforce these motor carrier provisions. (Enacted as **Public Law 82** effective 5/21/12)

**S-2672 LOCAL POLICE ASSIGNED TO STATE POLICE** (Gallo & Others) This act would provide that local police officers assigned to the State Police on a statewide task force shall exercise the same powers of arrest exercised by members of the State Police, but only when working on an investigation authorized by the Superintendent of the State Police, and as members of the statewide task force. Judiciary

**S-2679 TEMPORARY DRIVER'S PERMIT** (Lombardo & Others) This act would require that the holder of a temporary driver's permit have a supervising driver seated beside the permit holder in the front seat when the vehicle is in motion. Judiciary

**S-2682 EXPUNGEMENT OF CERTAIN CRIMINAL RECORDS** (McCaffrey & Others) This act would require that all traffic offense violations which are in the jurisdiction of the Traffic Tribunal or a Municipal Court be expunged after 3 years without the requirement that a motion to expunge be filed. Judiciary

**S-2685Aaa BODY ARMOR** (McCaffrey) This act would make it unlawful for any person to purchase, own or possess body armor, if that person has been convicted of a felony that is a crime of violence. Judiciary

**S-2687 BACKGROUND CHECKS** (Fogarty & Others) This act would authorize any municipal fire department to request a background check from their local police department for any employee or volunteer serving their community. Judiciary

**S-2700 EMT PLATES** (Maher & Others) This act would allow a licensed emergency medical technician to obtain a special license plate from the Division of Motor Vehicles. Special Legislation & Veterans' Affairs

**S-2730aa ASSAULT ON PERSONS WITH SEVERE IMPAIRMENTS** (McCaffrey & Others) This act would amend various statutes that deal with assault on and crisis intervention for persons with severe impairments. Local police departments may request the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals to provide crisis intervention services for the victim. Judiciary

**S-2731 HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS** (Jabour & Others) This act would require mandatory disclosure to appropriate law enforcement personnel if a health care provider comes into contact with or provides medical services to a patient who the provider reasonably suspects is suffering from injuries that are the result of a crime of violence. Judiciary

**S-2765 TWO-WAY LEFT TURN LANES** (Crowley & Others) This act would promulgate rules of the road for use of two-way left turn lanes. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-2772 SEARCH WARRANTS** (Goodwin) This act would enable a sworn member of law enforcement of any city/town who is serving on a statewide task force to obtain a warrant upon a complaint in writing, under oath. Judiciary

**S-2783 MEDICAL MARIJUANA ACT** (Perry & Others) This act would set forth certain procedures to be followed by compassion center cardholders, primary caregiver cardholders and patient cardholders in regard to the medical use of marijuana. Certain responsibilities would be created for local police departments regarding the procedures for national criminal records checks for primary caregivers and compassion center cardholders. There is also a provision for law enforcement training and curriculum. Health & Human Services

**S-2838 DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE** (Goodwin) This act would grant judges and magistrates the authority to prohibit drivers convicted of driving under the influence of liquor or drugs from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with an ignition interlock system. Judiciary

**S-2841 GOOD SAMARITAN OVERDOSE PREVENTION ACT** (Perry & Others) This act would create "The Good Samaritan Overdose Prevention Act" which would exempt from liability any person who administers an opioid antagonist to another person who is experiencing a drug overdose. Judiciary

**S-2882 RHODE ISLAND JUSTICE COMMISSION** (McCaffrey) This act would change the composition of the Criminal Justice Policy Board by eliminating the provision designating that 7 members of the General Assembly serve on the board. (Enacted as **Public Law 93** effective 5/22/12)

**S-2979 CRIMES AGAINST THE PUBLIC TRUST** (McCaffrey) This act would create Chapter 11-69 entitled "Crimes Against the Public Trust" which defines specific criminal offenses which violate the public trust or constitute the theft of honest services. The act also would extend the statute of limitations to 10 years for violations of this new chapter and section 11-41-27 – "Wrongful conversion by officer or state or municipal employee". Judiciary

**S-2980 PUBLIC CORRUPTION AND WHITE COLLAR CRIME UNIT** (McCaffrey) This act would establish a public corruption and white collar crime unit within the Department of Attorney General. Its primary purpose would be to investigate and prosecute cases of abuse of the public trust by employees of the state and its municipalities. Judiciary

**S-2982 VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS** (McCaffrey) This act would permit chiefs of police or their designees to conduct inspections of vehicle identification numbers at a licensed new motor vehicle dealership. The law previously required these inspections to occur at the local police station or at a municipally owned building only. Judiciary

**S-2983 WEAPONS** (Maher & Others) This act would specifically exclude a crossbow from the definition of a "firearm" in section 11-47-2 of the general laws regulating weapons. Judiciary

**S-3074 PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES** (Nesselbush) This act would require that information contained in a portable electronic device shall not be subject to search by a law enforcement officer incident to a lawful custodial arrest, except pursuant to a warrant issued by a duly authorized magistrate. Senate Calendar

## **RETIREMENT**

**H-7043 POST RETIREMENT EMPLOYMENT** (Bennett & Others) This act would allow any member who retired under Titles 16, 36, or 45 of the general laws to be employed or reemployed by a Municipal Employees Retirement System participating municipality for up to 99 working days (currently 75) or 198 half days (currently 150) per year without reduction of retirement benefits. Labor

**H-7118 RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES** (Tomasso & Others) This act would require that, in the event that a municipality reports a surplus at the end of its fiscal year but has not made its actuarially-required contribution to the pension system, the municipality must apply the surplus to the pension system up to the amount equal to the actuarially-required contribution. Municipal Government

**H-7156 MAXIMUM RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE** (Edwards & Others) This act would amend statutes relating to the various state and municipal retirement systems to provide that the annual benefit adjustment provided in any calendar year not exceed 105% of the highest annual compensation paid prior to retirement. It also would add a new section (45-6-12) empowering city/town councils by a 2/3rds majority vote to establish the above mentioned maximum retirement allowance by ordinance or through collective bargaining. Finance

**H-7201**      **MAYORAL ACADEMIES** (Savage & Others) This act would require that teachers, administrators and employees of mayoral academies participate in the state teachers' retirement system. H.E.W.

**H-7329**      **EXEMPTION OF POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS' PENSIONS** (Palumbo) This act would nullify the exemptions afforded police and firefighter pensions if the police officer's or firefighter's liability results from entry of a civil judgment based on a conviction of murder. Judiciary

**H-7334**      **PAYMENT OF ACTUARIAL STUDIES** (McLaughlin & Others) This act would provide that if a municipality conducts an actuarial study as part of an effort to reduce its pension-related obligations, 50% of any and all costs associated with the preparation of the study shall be paid by the state. Finance

**H-7418**      **MERS: LIMIT MEMBERSHIP** (Guthrie) This act would limit membership in the Municipal Employees' Retirement System to those municipalities that do not participate in any other pension plan or system. Finance

**H-7616**      **DISABILITY PENSIONS** (Ehrhardt & Others) This act would amend various sections under Title 16 (Teachers) and Title 45 (Municipal Employees) relating to disability retirements. The act would add language to these various sections regarding "reasonable accommodation", "suitable alternative employment", and "reinstatement of injured worker". Labor

**H-7622**      **RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES** (Brien & Others) This act would enable municipalities which participate in MERS to establish a defined contribution plan for employees who are not participants in, and may not become participants in the Municipal Employees' Retirement System. Municipal Government

**H-7648**      **RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES** (Menard & Others) This act would add language to Chapter 45-21 – "Retirement of Municipal Employees" regarding the definition of 'final compensation'. This language provides that when a portion of a member's total service consists of elective or appointive municipal office or board membership then 'final compensation' is the average of the salary, wage, or stipend paid in all of the years counted toward the member's total service. Finance

**H-7668**      **MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE UNIFORM BENEFIT ACT** (Brien & Others) This act will enact the "Rhode Island Municipal Employee Uniform Benefit Act" which purpose it would be to create uniform medical and prescription drug benefit plan designs for municipal employees. The act establishes a board of directors to make recommendations to accomplish this purpose. It would require that the negotiated medical benefits for firefighters, municipal police, teachers and municipal employee retirees remain in full force and effect, except that all future negotiated changes for active employees relating to cost sharing and plan design of health insurance shall be applicable to all new and existing retirees. Municipal Government

**H-7669**      **ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY ALLOWANCE** (Brien & Others) This act would change the percentage members of the Municipal Employees' Retirement System would receive for accidental disability allowance at the time of retirement for any application submitted on or after July 1, 2012. This act would pertain to accidental disability allowance for municipal employees, and also firefighters and police force members. Municipal Government

**H-7708**      **RETIRED EMPLOYEES** (DeSimone & Others) This act would provide that annual automatic adjustment increases (COLA's) for MERS retirees would continue to be calculated and paid out for retirees whose retirement allowance is at or below 150% of the federal poverty level. Finance

**H-7711**      **MERS: AUTOMATIC INCREASE IN SERVICE RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE** (Carnevale & Others) This act would amend the time when a benefit adjustment would be made for retired municipal employees. The adjustment would be made on the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the date of the member's retirement, eliminating the age 55 aspect of the law. This act also would amend the specified time for retirement in certain cases for members of the police force and firefighters by eliminating the requirement that the member has attained the age of at least 55, if 25 years of service have been completed. Finance

**H-7713**      **HOME RULE AMENDMENT** (Morgan & Others) This Joint Resolution proposes an amendment which would curb local legislative powers by prohibiting cities/towns from offering compensation or benefits ( including retirement benefits ) in excess of those allowed by any law enacted by the General Assembly. Finance

**H-7769**      **DISABILITY PENSIONS** (Trillo & Others) This act would require retirement systems supported wholly or in part by municipal and quasi-municipal entities to annually readjust the disability pensions of beneficiaries to an amount, which when added to the amount of compensation earned by the beneficiary, would not be greater than 100% of the base salary rate of compensation in effect for the classification held by the disability recipient prior to retirement. Municipal Government

**H-7814**      **RETIREMENT SYSTEM: MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS** (Menard & Others) This act would provide that an elected or appointed municipal official or member of a board or commission currently devoting less than 30 business hours per week to the service of the state and/or municipality, and who is not eligible to retire, would no longer be eligible to participate in the retirement system. Any such employee who is eligible to retire would no longer be eligible to accrue further service credits. Finance

**H-7875**      **POST RETIREMENT EMPLOYMENT** (Morgan & Others) This act would address situations in which retired state and municipal employees are working more than 20 hours per week for other entities that provide retirement benefits for public employees. Retirement benefits could not be collected in these situations. Finance

**H-7895 TEACHERS' RETIREMENT** (Brien & Others) This act would provide that the amount of the state's contributions to the Teachers' Retirement System would be at a rate determined each year by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as the state share ratio. Finance

**H-8005 POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS** (Lally) This act would provide under the "Optional Retirement for Members of Police Force and Firefighters" chapter (45-21.2) that any member who has contributory service after July 1, 2012, but who has not completed 25 years of service, is eligible to retire but shall not be able to collect a pension until the member has reached social security retirement year or age 67, whichever comes first. Finance

**H-8009 CRITICAL PLAN EMPOWERMENT ACT** (Brien & Newberry) This act would allow a municipality with a locally administered pension which is in critical status to suspend future benefit adjustments (COLA'S) to retirees. If a municipality is determined to be no longer in critical status, COLA'S shall resume, but these adjustments shall not exceed the consumer price index (CPI-U) until the actuarial value of the plan's assets is 100% of the actuarial value of the plan's liabilities. Finance

**H-8010 MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT PROGRAMS (M.E.R.S.)** (Brien & Newberry) This act would prohibit municipal ordinances, collective bargaining agreements, and interest arbitration awards from providing employee retirement benefits which exceed the actuarial value of benefits afforded under the Municipal Employees Retirement System. This act also would authorize city/town councils to amend retirement benefits for new and non-vested employees by municipal ordinance. Prior to final action on an ordinance, the city/town clerk must forward to the Executive Director of the State Retirement System an actuarial study by a qualified actuarial firm of the normal costs of the proposed benefits. Finance

**H-8011 ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY PENSIONS** (Brien & Newberry) This act would permit municipalities to provide accidental disability pensions of 50% of the rate of compensation if the member is permanently and totally disabled from service, but not found to be permanently and totally disabled from any employment. If permanently and totally disabled from any employment, the member receives 66 2/3% of the rate of compensation. Finance

**H-8256 POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS** (Keable & Others) This act would clarify section 45-21.2-22 of the general laws entitled "Optional twenty year retirement on service allowance" (which pertains to police officers and firefighters) by extending the eligibility provisions to qualify for this benefit to those "eligible to retire" on or before June 30, 2012. Finance

**S-2098 TEACHERS' RETIREMENT** (DiPalma & Others) This act would mandate that any teacher employed in at least a 1/2 year program, including a job share program in a school district or among 2 or more different school districts, must remain a contributing member of the retirement system and receive credit for that part-time service. Finance

**S-2116**      **RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES** (Tassoni & Ottiano) This act would require that, in the event that a municipality reports a surplus at the end of its fiscal year but has not made its actuarially-required contribution to the pension system, the municipality must apply the surplus to the pension system up to the amount equal to the actuarially-required contribution. Finance

**S-2197**      **EXEMPTION OF POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS' PENSIONS** (Gallo) This act would nullify the exemptions afforded police and firefighter pensions if the police officer's or firefighter's liability results from entry of a civil judgment based on a conviction for murder. Finance

**S-2406**      **TEACHERS' RETIREMENT** (Picard) This act would provide that the amount of the state's contribution to the Teachers' Retirement System would be at a rate determined each year by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as the state share ratio. Finance

**S-2452**      **POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS** (Lanzi) This act would provide under the "Optional Retirement for Members of Police Force and Firefighters" chapter (45-21.2) that any member who has contributory service after July 1, 2012, but who has not completed 25 years of service, is eligible to retire but shall not be able to collect a pension until the member has reached social security retirement year or age 67, whichever comes first. Finance

**S-2454**      **POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS** (DiPalma & Others) This act would provide under the "Optional Retirement for Members of Police Force and Firefighters" chapter (45-21.2) that any member who has contributory service after July 1, 2012, but who has not completed 25 years of service, is eligible to retire and collect the pension upon the attainment of social security retirement age. Finance

**S-2512**      **EXEMPTION OF POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS' PENSIONS** (Lanzi & Others) This act would nullify the exemptions afforded police and firefighter pensions if the police officer's or firefighter's liability results from entry of a civil judgment based on a conviction of murder. Judiciary

**S-2552**      **RETIRED EMPLOYEES** (Pichardo & Others) This act would provide that annual automatic adjustment increases (COLA's) for MERS retirees would continue to be calculated and paid out for retirees whose retirement allowance is at or below 150% of the federal poverty level. Finance

**S-2824**      **MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT PROGRAMS (M.E.R.S.)** (DaPonte & Bates) This act would prohibit municipal ordinances, collective bargaining agreements, and interest arbitration awards from providing employee retirement benefits which exceed the actuarial value of benefits afforded under the Municipal Employees Retirement System. This act also would authorize city/town councils to amend retirement benefits for new and non-vested employees by municipal ordinance. Prior to final action on an ordinance, the city/town clerk must forward to the Executive Director of the State Retirement System an actuarial study by a qualified actuarial firm of the normal costs of the proposed benefits. Finance

**S-2825**      **CRITICAL PLAN EMPOWERMENT ACT** (DaPonte & Bates) This act would allow a municipality with a locally administered pension which is in critical status to suspend future benefit adjustments (COLA's) to retirees. If a municipality is determined to be no longer in critical status, COLA's shall resume, but these adjustments shall not exceed the consumer price index (CPI-U) until the actuarial value of the plan's assets is 100% of the actuarial value of the plan's liabilities. Finance

**S-2828**      **ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY PENSIONS** (DaPonte & Bates) This act would permit municipalities to provide accidental disability pensions of 50% of the rate of compensation if the member is permanently and totally disabled from service, but not found to be permanently and totally disabled from any employment. If permanently and totally disabled from any employment, the member receives 66 2/3% of the rate of compensation. Finance

**S-2875**      **ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY ALLOWANCE** (DaPonte & Others) This act would change the percentage members of the Municipal Employees' Retirement System would receive for accidental disability allowance at the time of retirement for any application submitted on or after July 1, 2012. This act would pertain to accidental disability allowance for municipal employees, and also firefighters and police force members. Finance

**S-2933**      **MERS: AUTOMATIC INCREASE IN SERVICE RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE** (Lanzi) This act would amend the time when a benefit adjustment would be made for retired municipal employees. The adjustment would be made on the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the date of the member's retirement, eliminating the age 55 aspect of the law. This act also would amend the specified time for retirement in certain cases for members of the police force and firefighters by eliminating the requirement that the member has attained the age of at least 55, if 25 years of service has been completed. Finance

**S-2955**      **TRANSITION OF LOCALLY-ADMINISTERED PENSION PLANS** (Crowley) This act would provide a process for municipalities that have been placed under state oversight pursuant to Chapter 45-9 – "Budget Commissions", and which have locally-administered pension plans, to transition existing retirees, and, at their option, active employees to MERS. The act also would specifically address the transferral of existing retirees of the City of Central Falls who participate in a locally-administered pension plan to MERS. Finance

## **TOWN & CITY CLERKS**

**H-7084**      **PUBLIC RECORDS** (Keable & Others) This act would amend the definition of "agency" or "public body" to include quasi-public agencies of state or local government for the purposes of administration of the state public records law. Judiciary

**H-7134**      **ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS** (DaSilva & Others) This act would require public access to all provisions of individual employment contracts of public employees. Judiciary

**H-7285**      **DAMS AND RESERVOIRS** (Ferri & Others) This act would provide that orders or notices issued by the Director of the Department of Environmental Management regarding unsafe dams or reservoirs, as well as the notice of satisfactory completion of the requirements of the order or notice, must be recorded in the land evidence records in the city/town in which the subject property is located. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7323Aaa 2013 APPROPRIATIONS ACT** (Melo)

**ART. 11**      **DECEDENTS' ESTATES: NOTIFICATION TO HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

This article would require that a copy of the petition for admission to probate of a decedent's will or for administration of a decedent's estate along with a copy of the death certificate, when the decedent was 55 years or older, be sent to the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. Also, in order to close an estate, it would require the fiduciary to submit to the probate court an affidavit regarding notice to creditors and to the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. Finance

**H-7390**      **CONVEYANCING DEFECTS** (Lally & Others) This act would provide that various types of instruments that are used to convey an interest in real property, and which are recorded in the land evidence records are valid even if executed with certain defects. Judiciary

**H-7472**      **GENERAL RECORDING FEES** (Coderre) This act would repeal section 34-13-8 ( "Fees for attachment, executions, and mechanics' lien accounts" ), and move the language to section 34-13-7 entitled "General recording fees". It also would add an \$8.00 filing fee for recording 'Notices of intention under the mechanics' lien law'. Municipal Government

**H-7474**      **RENEWAL OF VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS** (Reilly & Others) This act would enable city/town councils to enact ordinances allowing city/town clerks to accept applications for renewal of vehicle registrations in cooperation with the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles. Municipal Government

**H-7531**      **NOTARY PUBLICS** (San Bento & Others) This act would allow certified public accountants to apply to become notary publics regardless of residency upon presentment of a certified copy of the certificate of public accountancy. Corporations

**H-7555**      **ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS** (Marcello & Others) This act would amend various sections of the "Access to Public Records Act". Proposed changes include a reduction of the time period for compliance with or denial of the request for records from 10 business days to 7 business days, the waiver of copying and search fees if there is a failure to produce requested records in a timely manner, and an increase in the amount of fines for either willful or reckless violation. It also would require the identification of a designated public records officer, and the establishment of procedures for making a public records request which must be posted. It also addresses specifically the issue of what information should be made public following an initial arrest. Judiciary

**H-7597**      **PRACTICE IN PROBATE COURT** (Jackson & Others) This act would eliminate and revise certain notice requirements to parties in interest in the probate courts, and also establishes fees for petitions for change of name and for adoption Judiciary

**H-7599 PROBATE: BONDS OF EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND GUARDIANS** (Jackson & Others) This act would provide a cause of action on behalf of any principal or claimant covered under a fiduciary bond filed under a probate court order against the issuing surety for wrongfully refusing to pay or settle a claim, or to perform timely its obligations under the bond. Judiciary

**H-7601 PROBATE PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE** (Jackson & Others) This act would make various amendments to general law Chapter 33-1 entitled "Rules of Descent", and would create a new Chapter – 33-28 entitled "Elective Share" concerning the right to an elective share given the surviving spouse of a decedent domiciled in Rhode Island. Judiciary

**H-7615 PUBLIC RECORDS** (Ucci & Others) This act would provide that records of a personal nature relating to employees of contractors and subcontractors working on public works projects are not public records. Labor

**H-7658 MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES** (Williams & Others) This act would amend the time frame in which foreclosure deeds must be recorded in the records of land evidence from within 45 days to within 30 days of the date of the sale. This act also would significantly increase the penalties for violation of this requirement, with penalties being paid to the municipality in which the real estate is located at the time of recordation. Judiciary

**H-7702aa DAMS AND RESERVOIRS** (Handy) This act would provide that orders or notices issued by the Director of the Department of Environmental Management regarding unsafe dams and reservoirs, as well as the notice of satisfactory completion of the requirements of the order or notice, must be recorded in the land evidence records in the city/town in which the subject property is located. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-7744 PROBATE: NOTIFICATION BY EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR** (Morgan & Others) This act would require an executor or administrator of an estate in cases that the decedent had been receiving Medicaid benefits from the state to send a notice of commencement of probate within 60 days of appointment to the Department of Health and Human Services, together with a request for a determination of the amount due to the state in reimbursement for such benefits. Judiciary

**H-7746 MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES** (Brien) This act would amend the time frame in which foreclosure deeds must be recorded in the records of land evidence from within 45 days to within 30 days of the date of the sale. This act also would significantly increase the penalties for violation of this requirement, with penalties being paid to the municipality in which the real estate is located at the time of recordation. Judiciary

**H-7753 CIVIL UNIONS** (Ferri & Others) This act would provide various protections for religions that refuse to officiate at civil unions. Judiciary

**H-7838**      **PUBLIC RECORDS** (Lally & Gallison) This act would make various amendments to the APRA, among which are: what information should be made public following an initial arrest; the designation of a public records officer, and the establishment of procedures for making a public records request which must be posted; an increase in the amount of fines for reckless violation; a waiver of copying and search fees if there is a failure to produce requested records in a timely manner; and, if the search and retrieval is expected to exceed 30 business days, the public body may apply to a Superior Court justice to extend the time to comply. Judiciary

**H-7842**      **MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE: CONCILIATION CONFERENCE** (Morrison & Others) This act would create the concept of a "Conciliation Conference", a conference involving the mortgagee and mortgagor which purpose would be to facilitate a loan work-out in an effort to avoid foreclosure. A procedure is set up to insure proper notice, and to bring parties together with a 'Conciliation Coordinator' to reach an agreement . At various stages in this process the conciliation coordinator issues certificates which must be recorded in the land evidence records. The city/town recorder of deeds cannot accept / record a deed offered as a result of a mortgage foreclosure action unless the above requirements are met. Judiciary

**H-7845**      **PERSONS ELIGIBLE TO MARRY** (Handy & Others) This act would amend and add various sections to the chapter entitled "Persons Eligible to Marry". These changes would broaden the definition of persons eligible to marry. It also would repeal various sections in the recently enacted "Civil Unions" chapter, and allow for merger of civil unions into marriage. It also contains protection of freedom of religion in marriage. Judiciary

**H-7987**      **FORECLOSED PROPERTY UPKEEP ACT** (Lima & Others) This act would establish the "Rhode Island Foreclosed Property Upkeep Act" which would require a financial institution or business entity that purchases a foreclosed property to maintain the property in accordance with the "Rhode Island Housing Maintenance and Occupancy Code", and to post a bond with the municipality in which the foreclosed property is located. The financial institution or business entity that holds a mortgage must record in the land evidence records a document identifying an agent in Rhode Island for service of process. Judiciary

**H-8010**      **MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT PROGRAMS (M.E.R.S.)** (Brien & Newberry) This act would authorize city/town councils to amend retirement benefits for new and non-vested employees by municipal ordinance. Prior to final action on an ordinance, the city/town clerk must forward to the Executive Director of the State Retirement System an actuarial study by a qualified actuarial firm of the normal costs of the proposed benefits. Finance

**S-2097**      **RECORDING OF INSTRUMENTS** (Crowley) This act would authorize recording officers to charge a rate of \$1.00 for each additional page after the first page on writs of attachment or execution affecting title to real estate, accounts under the mechanics' lien law, and writs of attachment or liens affecting title to mobile and manufactured homes. Finance

**S-2115 HISTORICAL RECORDS TRUST** (Crowley) This act would subject the recording of attachments, executions and mechanics' liens under section 34-13-8 of the general laws to a \$4.00 surcharge for the benefit of the Rhode Island Historical Records Trust (\$3.00) and local Historical Records Trusts (\$1.00). Finance

**S-2371 MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES** (Tassoni & Others) This act would amend the time frame in which foreclosure deeds must be recorded in the records of land evidence from within 45 days to within 30 days of the date of the sale. This act also would significantly increase the penalties for violation of this requirement, with penalties being paid to the municipality in which the real estate is located at the time of recordation. Judiciary

**S-2412A PROBATE: TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY** (Jabour & Others) This act would repeal section 34-7-1 entitled "Conclusive title by peaceful possession under claim of title", which had allowed the passage of title to real property peacefully possessed for a period of 10 years. Judiciary

**S-2419aa PUBLIC RECORDS** (Ciccone & Others) This act would amend the definition of "agency" or "public body" to include quasi-public agencies of state or local government for the purposes of administration of the state public records law. Judiciary

**S-2495 INSTRUMENTS ELIGIBLE FOR RECORDING** (Crowley & Others) This act would specify certain requirements that all instruments which are to be recorded (except survey plans) must satisfy. If the registrar of deeds accepts a document for recording which doesn't satisfy the specified requirements, a surcharge over and above the statutory fee is authorized. Judiciary

**S-2503 CIVIL UNIONS** (Miller & Others) This act would provide various protections for religions that refuse to officiate at civil unions. Judiciary

**S-2504 PERSONS ELIGIBLE TO MARRY** (Perry & Others) This act would amend and add various sections to the chapter entitled "Persons Eligible to Marry". These changes would broaden the definition of persons eligible to marry. It also would repeal various sections in the recently enacted "Civil Unions" chapter, and allow for merger of civil unions into marriage. It also contains protection of freedom of religion in marriage. Judiciary

**S-2508 GENERAL RECORDING FEES** (Crowley & Others) This act would repeal section 34-13-8 ( "Fees for attachment, executions, and mechanics' lien accounts" ), and move the language to section 34-13-7 entitled "General recording fees". It also would add an \$8.00 filing fee for recording 'Notices of intention under the mechanics' lien law'. Judiciary

**S-2511**      **ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS** (Sheehan & Others) This act would amend various sections of the "Access to Public Records Act". Proposed changes include a reduction of the time period for compliance with or denial of the request for records from 10 business days to 7 business days, the waiver of copying and search fees if there is a failure to produce requested records in a timely manner, and an increase in the amount of fines for either willful or reckless violation. It also would require the identification of a designated public records officer, and the establishment of procedures for making a public records request which must be posted. It also addresses specifically the issue of what information should be made public following an initial arrest. Judiciary

**S-2615**      **DAMS AND RESERVOIRS** (McCaffrey) This act would provide that orders or notices issued by the Director of the Department of Environmental Management regarding unsafe dams or reservoirs, as well as the notice of satisfactory completion of the requirements of the order or notice, must be recorded in the land evidence records in the city/town in which the subject property is located. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2617A**      **DAMS AND RESERVOIRS** (Fogarty & Others) This act would provide that orders or notices issued by the Director of the Department of Environmental Management regarding unsafe dams or reservoirs, as well as the notice of satisfactory completion of the requirements of the order or notice, must be recorded in the land evidence records in the city/town in which the subject property is located. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2652**      **PUBLIC RECORDS** (Sheehan & Others) This act would make various amendments to the APRA, among which are: what information should be made public following an initial arrest; the designation of a public records officer, and the establishment of procedures for making a public records request which must be posted; an increase in the amount of fines for reckless violation; a waiver of copying and search fees if there is a failure to produce requested records in a timely manner; and, if the search and retrieval is expected to exceed 30 business days, the public body may apply to a Superior Court justice to extend the time to comply. Judiciary

**S-2655**      **GUARDIANSHIPS** (Jabour & Others) This act would allow the probate court to waive the requirement of an annual status report, if, in its discretion, such waiver is warranted. The annual status report is required to be returned to the probate court by a limited guardian or guardian with authority to make decisions under Chapter 33-15 – "Limited Guardianship and Guardianship of Adults". Judiciary

**S-2658**      **CONVEYANCING DEFECTS** (Lynch) This act would provide that various types of instruments that are used to convey an interest in real property, and which are recorded in the land evidence records are valid even if executed with certain defects. Judiciary

**S-2668**      **CONVEYANCE TO OR BY NOMINEE TRUST** (Jabour & Others) This act would provide that conveyances of real estate to a nominee trust or to the trustee of a nominee trust, and conveyances by a trustee of a nominee trust are not defective if certain specified requirements are met including recordation of a properly prepared memorandum of trust. Judiciary

**S-2684 MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE: CONCILIATION CONFERENCE** (Nesselbush & Crowley) This act would create the concept of a "Conciliation Conference", a conference involving the mortgagee and mortgagor, which purpose it would be to facilitate a loan work-out in an effort to avoid foreclosure. A procedure is set up to insure proper notice, and to bring parties together with a 'Conciliation Coordinator' to reach an agreement. At various stages in this process the conciliation coordinator issues certificates which must be recorded in the land evidence records. The city/town recorder of deeds cannot accept / record a deed offered as a result of a mortgage foreclosure action unless the above requirements are met. Judiciary

**S-2771 GUARDIANSHIPS** (Metts) This act would require any legally appointed guardian, whether acting in a temporary or permanent capacity, to file the Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care and/or living will with either the probate court or the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs within 30 days of appointment. Judiciary

**S-2824 MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT PROGRAMS (M.E.R.S.)** (DaPonte & Bates) This act would authorize city/town councils to amend retirement benefits for new and non-vested employees by municipal ordinance. Prior to final action on an ordinance, the city/town clerk must forward to the Executive Director of the State Retirement System an actuarial study by a qualified actuarial firm of the normal costs of the proposed benefits. Finance

**S-3040 ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS** (McCaffrey) This act would provide that certain records relating to employees of contractors and subcontractors working on public works projects which are required to be listed as certified payrolls are deemed to be "public records". Labor

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

**H-7039aa MUNICIPAL PURCHASING** (Corvese) This act would make a knowing and intentional violation of the provisions of Chapter 45-55 – "Award of Municipal Contracts" a misdemeanor offense. Judiciary

**H-7057 ADVERSE POSSESSION** (Newberry & Others) This act would exempt land held by nonprofit corporations for cemetery purposes from adverse possession or prescription. Judiciary

**H-7072 INSPECTOR GENERAL** (Valencia & Others) This act would establish the Office of Inspector General as an independent administrative agency charged with the purpose of preventing and detecting fraud, waste and abuse, and mismanagement in the expenditure of public funds. Finance

**H-7138 DOGS** (Petarca & Others) This act would provide guidelines and penalties for any person who keeps a dog outside tethered, penned, caged, fenced or otherwise confined without adequate shelter from the elements, and would add definitions of "proper food", "proper water", "proper veterinary care" and "shelter for a dog" to the chapter entitled "Cruelty to Animals". Judiciary

[H-7166](#)      **OUTDOOR SMOKING** (Morrison & Others) This act would prohibit smoking in certain specified unenclosed public areas within the state. H.E.W.

[H-7348](#)      **PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS** (Williams & Others) This act would provide that each bidder prior to the award of a contract for public works would submit to the proper authority a list of subcontractors. This is a change from the current language that specifies submission by each contractor after the award of the contract. Labor

[H-7352](#)      **SAFE ACCESS TO PUBLIC ROADS** (Martin) This act would require the use of complete street design principles to ensure the safety of all users by all agencies who construct or modify roads or highways, including local municipalities. Municipal Government

[H-7373](#)      **LIBRARY ASSISTANCE GRANTS** (Ruggiero & Others) This act would provide that the Chief of Library Services, upon the recommendation of the Library Board of Rhode Island, would award library assistance grants to assist in funding library operations, enhancing library collections, and aiding interlibrary cooperation. Finance

[H-7435](#)      **LOW SPEED VEHICLES** (Valencia & Others) This act would permit cities/towns, by ordinance, to authorize the use of low speed vehicles on state, city or town roads within a specified distance from a golf course. Municipal Government

[H-7663](#)      **DOGS** (DeSimone & Others) This act would provide guidelines and penalties for any person who keeps a dog outside tethered, penned, caged, fenced or otherwise confined without adequate shelter from the elements, and would add definitions of "proper food", "proper water", "proper veterinary care" and "shelter for a dog" to the chapter entitled "Cruelty to Animals". Judiciary

[H-7741](#)      **DOGS** (DeSimone & Palumbo) This act would provide guidelines and penalties for any person who keeps a dog outside tethered, penned, caged, fenced or otherwise confined without adequate shelter from the elements, and would add definitions of "proper food", "proper water", "proper veterinary care" and "shelter for a dog" to the chapter entitled "Cruelty to Animals". Judiciary

[H-7763](#)      **PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS** (Reilly & Others) This act would raise the threshold for when contracts for public works projects must contain a provision stating that prevailing wages must be paid from \$1,000 to \$50,000. Labor

[H-7950](#)      **STATE FALSE CLAIM ACT** (DeSimone & Others) This act would confer upon city/town solicitors the power to bring an action under "The State False Claim Act" with regard to their respective municipalities. Judiciary

[H-8014](#)      **SALE OR ADOPTION OF CATS** (Serpa) This act would impose a fine on any licensed releasing agency offering non-spayed or non-neutered cats for sale or adoption unless specifically offered for breeding purposes. Judiciary

**H-8100**      **ANIMAL SHELTERS** (Fellela & Others) This act would require that animal shelters establish a registry of all organizations willing to accept animals for adoption or long-term placement, and also would require that animal shelters meet certain conditions prior to euthanizing an animal. Judiciary

**H-8143**      **CATEGORY ONE MEMORIAL ITEMS** (McLaughlin & Others) This act would provide for the designation of certain memorials as category one memorial items. By definition, such memorials would have a secular traditional, cultural, or community recognition and/or value, and would not constitute the making of a law regarding the establishment of a state religion. Any elected state or municipal official may identify and designate a category one memorial item. Judiciary

**H-8154**      **RHODE ISLAND MUSEUM PROPERTY ACT** (Lally & Keable) This act would create certain procedures, including notice requirements, for museums to follow governing disposition of items of property within their control. Municipal Government

**H-8258**      **TORT LIABILITY** (Marcello) This act would not allow prejudgment interest for damages against the state, cities/towns or governmental employees in civil actions, and would provide for the calculation of post judgment interest at the rate of 12% commencing 4 weeks after the date the judgment was entered. The act also would prohibit lawsuits against city/town or fire district officials or employees in their individual capacities unless the act or omission was not performed within the scope of their employment or involved actual fraud or malice or willful misconduct. Also, it provides that joint and several liability shall not apply to the state, cities/towns, and/or their employees unless the proportionate liability is equal to or exceeds 25% of the total judgment. This act also would increase the limitation of damages recovered in tort actions against the state and any political subdivision from \$100,000 to \$250,000. Finance

**S-2035A**      **DOGS** (Tassoni & Others) This act would provide guidelines and penalties for any person who keeps a dog outside tethered, or otherwise confined without adequate shelter from the elements. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2084**      **SALE OR ADOPTION OF CATS** (DeVall & Others) This act would impose a fine on any licensed releasing agency offering non-spayed or non-neutered cats for sale or adoption unless specifically offered for breeding purposes. Environment & Agriculture

**S-2142**      **TORT LIABILITY** (Walaska) This act would not allow prejudgment interest for damages against the state, cities/towns or governmental employees in civil actions, and would provide for the calculation of post judgment interest at the rate of 12% commencing 4 weeks after the date the judgment was entered. The act also would prohibit lawsuits against city/town or fire district officials or employees in their individual capacities unless the act or omission was not performed within the scope of their employment or involved actual fraud or malice or willful misconduct. Also, it provides that joint and several liability shall not apply to the state, cities/towns, and/or their employees unless the proportionate liability is equal to or exceeds 25% of the total judgment. Judiciary

**S-2148**      **ADVERSE POSSESSION** (Bates & Others) This act would exempt land held by nonprofit corporations for cemetery purposes from adverse possession or prescription.  
Judiciary

**S-2182**      **UNDERGROUND UTILITY FACILITIES** (Fogarty & Others) This act would require public utilities to be responsible for any costs incurred by municipal corporations associated with the temporary or permanent relocation of utility infrastructure during public works projects within municipal rights-of-way. Corporations

**S-2193**      **CRUELTY TO ANIMALS** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would provide penalties for the devocalization of dogs and cats unless medically necessary as determined through certification by a licensed veterinarian filed with the applicable animal control officer.  
Environment & Agriculture

**S-2227**      **PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would require all contractors and their subcontractors bidding on public works projects to provide a certification that all workers are covered by current workers' compensation coverage. Labor

**S-2229**      **ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS** (DeVall & Others) This act would require public access to all provisions of individual employment contracts of public employees except for personally identifiable information including social security numbers, home address, and non-business telephone numbers. Labor

**S-2315**      **LIBRARY ASSISTANCE GRANTS** (DiPalma & Others) This act would provide that the Chief of Library Services, upon the recommendation of the Library Board of Rhode Island, would award library assistance grants to assist in funding library operations, enhancing library collections, and aiding interlibrary cooperation. Finance

**S-2340**      **PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS** (DiPalma & Others) This act would provide that each bidder prior to the award of a contract for public works would submit to the proper authority a list of subcontractors. This is a change from the current language that specifies submission by each contractor after the award of the contract. Labor

**S-2491**      **LIABILITY LIMITATIONS** (McCaffrey) This act would change the definition of "owner" to exclude the state and municipalities for the purpose of limiting liability relating to public use of private lands. Judiciary

**S-2659**      **STATE FALSE CLAIM ACT** (Goodwin & Others) This act would confer upon city/town solicitors the power to bring an action under "The State False Claim Act" with regard to their respective municipalities. Judiciary

[S-3035](#)      **CATEGORY ONE MEMORIAL ITEMS** (Picard & Cote) This act would provide for the designation of certain memorials as category one memorial items. By definition, such memorials would have a secular traditional, cultural, or community recognition and/or value, and would not constitute the making of a law regarding the establishment of a state religion. Any elected state or municipal official may identify and designate a category one memorial item. Judiciary

**SPECIAL ACTS for CITIES & TOWNS**

**BARRINGTON**

[H-7473](#)      Authorization to Establish a Municipal Court

[S-2132](#)      Authorization to Establish a Municipal Court

**BRISTOL**

[H-7239](#)      Sales and Income Tax Exemptions in Arts and Entertainment District  
[H-8206](#)      Bonds - \$9,000,000 – Capital Improvement Projects

[S-2199](#)      Sales and Income Tax Exemptions in Arts and Entertainment District  
[S-2935](#)      Weight Restrictions on Route 114  
[S-3012](#)      Bonds - \$9,000,000 – Capital Improvement Projects

**BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY**

[H-8225](#)      Articles of Incorporation Amended

[S-3050](#)      Articles of Incorporation Amended

**BURRILLVILLE**

[H-8172](#)      Pascoag Utility District – Articles of Incorporation Amended  
[H-8256](#)      Optional Twenty Year Retirement – Eligibility Language Change

[S-2963](#)      Pascoag Utility District – Articles of Incorporation Amended

## CENTRAL FALLS

[H-7238](#) Sales Tax Exemption in the Arts and Entertainment District  
H-7323Aaa [Article 12](#) – Central Falls Stabilization Fund – Language Amended  
H-7323Aaa [Article 12](#) – Control and Management Over Public Schools  
H-7323Aaa [Article 22](#) – Appropriation to City for Benefit of Municipal Retirees  
[H-7904](#) Authority to Exempt Class B License Holder from Proximity Provision  
[H-7967](#) Retirement Benefits for Existing Retirees – Settlement Agreement

[S-2111](#) Sales Tax Exemption in the Arts and Entertainment District  
[S-2113](#) Sales and Income Tax Exemptions in Arts and Entertainment District  
[S-2169](#) Report/Expiration Dates-Commission to Study Wyatt Detention Facility  
(Enacted as [Resolution 257](#) effective 1/31/12)  
[S-2948](#) Authority to Exempt Class B License Holder from Proximity Provision  
[S-2955](#) Transition of Retirees from Locally Administered Pension Plans to MERS  
[S-2965](#) Exemption/Stabilization of Taxes on Qualifying Property – 10 Years  
[S-2967](#) Reassessment of Improved Property – Exemption Increased to \$25,000

## COVENTRY

[H-7883](#) Fire Districts Subject to Maximum Levy Restrictions  
[H-7914](#) Bonds - \$5,000,000 – Repairs to School / Municipal Buildings  
[H-7917](#) Borrowing to Pay Court Judgments – 10% of Adopted Budget  
[H-7979](#) Establishment of Tax Amnesty Program  
[H-8104A](#) Central Coventry Fire District – Articles of Incorporation Amended  
[H-8207](#) Bonds - \$1,600,000 – Improvements to Heating Systems in Schools  
[H-8208](#) Bonds - \$1,000,000 – Renovations of Athletic Complex at High School  
[H-8209](#) Bonds - \$550,000 – Flooring Replacement in Schools  
[H-8210](#) Bonds - \$5,000,000 – Roof Repairs for Schools  
[H-8211](#) Bonds - \$400,000 – Improvements to Fire Systems in High School

[S-2550](#) Fire Districts Subject to Maximum Levy Restrictions  
[S-2628](#) Borrowing to Pay Court Judgments – 10% of Adopted Budget  
[S-2632](#) Bonds - \$5,000,000 – Repairs to School / Municipal Buildings  
[S-2836](#) Establishment of Tax Amnesty Program  
[S-2937A](#) Central Coventry Fire District – Articles of Incorporation Amended  
[S-3005](#) Bonds - \$1,000,000 – Renovations of Athletic Complex at High School  
[S-3006](#) Bonds - \$5,000,000 – Roof Repairs for Schools  
[S-3007](#) Bonds - \$550,000 – Flooring Replacement in Schools  
[S-3008](#) Bonds - \$400,000 – Improvements to Fire Systems in High School  
[H-3011](#) Bonds - \$1,600,000 – Improvements to Heating Systems in Schools

**CRANSTON**

[H-7292](#) Abatement of Taxes for Residences Uninhabitable Due to Flooding  
[H-7910](#) Establishment of Off-site Ambient Air Monitoring Network  
[H-8150](#) Defined Contribution Retirement Plan – School Dept. Employees  
[H-8153](#) Reapportionment of City Council / School Committee Voting Wards  
[H-8160](#) Bonds - \$2,500,000 – Playgrounds and Athletic Fields  
[H-8205Aaa](#) Resource Recovery Corp. – Composition of Citizens Advisory Board

[S-2319](#) Abatement of Taxes for Residences Uninhabitable Due to Flooding  
[S-2395](#) Establishment of Off-site Ambient Air Monitoring Network  
[S-2876](#) Defined Contribution Retirement Plan – School Dept. Employees  
[S-2966](#) Bonds - \$2,500,000 – Playgrounds and Athletic Fields  
[S-3049](#) Reapportionment of City Council / School Committee Voting Wards  
[S-3075](#) Resource Recovery Corp. – Composition of Citizens Advisory Board

**CUMBERLAND**

[H-7141](#) Fire Districts Subject to Maximum Levy Restrictions  
[H-7238](#) Sales Tax Exemption in the Arts and Entertainment District  
[H-7511A](#) Cumberland Hill Fire District – Establish a Tax Classification System

[S-2111](#) Sales Tax Exemption in the Arts and Entertainment District  
[S-2113](#) Sales and Income Tax Exemptions in Arts and Entertainment District  
[S-2877](#) Fire Districts Subject to Maximum Levy Restrictions

**EAST GREENWICH**

[S-3009](#) Veterans' Exemptions – Amounts Amended / Tax Credits  
[S-3010](#) Gold Star Parents' Exemption – Amounts Amended / Tax Credits  
[S-3019](#) Municipal Lien Certificates – Certain Exempt Transactions  
[S-3034](#) Elderly Tax Exemption–Age Criteria and Amounts Amended/Tax Credits

**EAST PROVIDENCE**

[H-7005](#) Budget Commissions – Advanced Education Payments  
[H-7052](#) Budget Commissions – Advanced Education Payments  
  
[S-2013](#) Budget Commissions – Advanced Education Payments  
[S-2016](#) Budget Commissions – Advanced Education Payments

**EXETER**

[H-8120](#) Weapons – Licensing Authority / Superintendent of State Police  
  
[S-3060](#) Weapons-Licensing Authority-Atty. Gen./State Police Superintnendent

## FOSTER

- [H-8166](#) Abbey Lane Community Water District – Establishment  
[S-2974aa](#) Abbey Lane Community Water District – Establishment

## GLOCESTER

- [H-8046](#) Composition and Terms of Members of Land Trust  
[S-2766](#) Composition and Terms of Members of Land Trust  
[S-3057](#) Exemption from Hoisting Engineer License Fees

## JOHNSTON

- [H-7186Aaa](#) Membership of Police Officers in Municipal Retirement System  
(Enacted as [Public Law 16](#) effective 4/3/12)  
[H-7634](#) Annual Payment of \$6,000,000 by Resource Recovery Corporation  
[H-7910](#) Establishment of Off-site Ambient Air Monitoring Network  
[H-7912](#) Tipping Fee Increased to \$5.00 per Vehicle for Non-exempt Vehicles  
[H-8188](#) Resource Recovery Corp. – Construction/Demolition Debris – Fines  
[H-8189](#) Resource Recovery Corp. – Cover Materials Prohibited – Fines  
[H-8205Aaa](#) Resource Recovery Corp. – Composition of Citizens Advisory Board  
  
[S-2121Aaa](#) Membership of Police Officers in Municipal Retirement System  
(Enacted as [Public Law 15](#) effective 4/3/12)  
[S-2395](#) Establishment of Off-site Ambient Air Monitoring Network  
[S-2469](#) Annual Payment of \$6,000,000 by Resource Recovery Corporation  
[S-3029](#) Resource Recovery Corp. – Cover Materials Prohibited – Fines  
[S-3030](#) Resource Recovery Corp. – Construction/Demolition Debris – Fines  
[S-3075](#) Resource Recovery Corp. – Composition of Citizens Advisory Board

## LINCOLN

- [H-7306](#) Allocation of Net Terminal Income – Extended to June 30, 2013  
[H-8084](#) Amendment to Master Video Lottery Terminal Contract  
[H-8213](#) Revenue Protection – Allocation of Revenue if Table Games Approved  
  
[S-2230](#) Allocation of Net Terminal Income – Extended to June 30, 2013  
[S-2905](#) Amendment to Master Video Lottery Terminal Contract  
[S-3001](#) Revenue Protection – Allocation of Revenue if Table Games Approved

## LITTLE COMPTON

[H-7594](#) Bonds - \$11,310,000 – School Renovations and Repairs  
(Enacted as [Public Law 11](#) effective 3/16/12)

[S-2314](#) Bonds - \$11,310,000 – School Renovations and Repairs  
(Enacted as [Public Law 10](#) effective 3/16/12)

## MIDDLETOWN

[H-7766aa](#) Additional Tracts of Land Ceded to U.S. Government for Naval Use  
[H-8161](#) Enterprise Zone Designation – Additional Census Tracts  
[H-8178](#) Municipal Employees Retirement – Defined Contribution Plan  
[H-8222](#) Bonds - \$6,000,000 – Construction of Beach Pavilion  
[H-8234](#) Bonds - \$7,500,000–Renovations to Fire Dept. / Public Works Facilities

[S-2724A](#) Additional Tracts of Land Ceded to U.S. Government for Naval Use  
[S-2835](#) Enterprise Zone Designation – Additional Census Tracts  
[S-2970](#) Municipal Employees Retirement – Defined Contribution Plan  
[S-3031](#) Bonds - \$6,000,000 – Construction of Beach Pavilion  
[S-3032](#) Bonds - \$7,500,000–Renovations to Fire Dept. / Public Works Facilities

## NARRAGANSETT

[H-8118](#) Bonds - \$17,000,000 – Roadways, Sidewalks, and Storm Drains

[S-2923](#) Bonds - \$17,000,000 – Roadways, Sidewalks, and Storm Drains

## NEW SHOREHAM

[H-7429](#) Warden’s Court – Maximum Fine Allowed Increased  
(Enacted as [Public Law 74](#) effective 5/14/12)

[S-2372](#) Warden’s Court – Maximum Fine Allowed Increased  
(Enacted as [Public Law 50](#) effective 5/1/12)

## NEWPORT

[H-7306](#) Allocation of Net Terminal Income – Extended to June 30, 2013  
[H-7543A](#) Casino Gaming at Newport Grand – Voter Referendum  
(Enacted as [Public Law 25](#) effective 4/11/12)  
[H-7766aa](#) Additional Tracts of Land Ceded to U.S. Government for Naval Use  
[H-8022](#) Authority to Exempt Class B License Holder from Proximity Provision  
[H-8084](#) Amendment to Master Video Lottery Terminal Contract  
[H-8213](#) Revenue Protection – Allocation of Revenue if Table Games Approved

[S-2230](#) Allocation of Net Terminal Income – Extended to June 30, 2013  
[S-2695A](#) Casino Gaming at Newport Grand – Voter Referendum  
 (Enacted as [Public Law 24](#) effective 4/11/12)  
[S-2724A](#) Additional Tracts of Land Ceded to U.S. Government for Naval Use  
[S-2905](#) Amendment to Master Video Lottery Terminal Contract  
[S-2906](#) Authority to Exempt Class B License Holder from Proximity Provision  
[S-2946](#) Class T Legitimate Theater Liquor License – For Profit Historic Theaters  
[S-3001](#) Revenue Protection – Allocation of Revenue if Table Games Approved

#### NORTH KINGSTOWN

[H-7236](#) Bonds - \$6,465,000 – Renovations to Public Schools  
 (Enacted as [Public Law 8](#) effective 2/13/12)  
[H-7627](#) Wickford Harbor Land – Quieting of Title  
[H-8202](#) Sales Tax Exemption in the Arts and Entertainment District

[S-2244](#) Bonds - \$6,465,000 – Renovations to Public Schools  
 (Enacted as [Public Law 9](#) effective 2/13/12)  
[S-2440](#) Economic Development Projects – Conformity to Comprehensive Plan  
[S-2448](#) Sales Tax Exemption in the Arts and Entertainment District  
[S-2565](#) Wickford Harbor Land – Quieting of Title

#### NORTH PROVIDENCE

[H-7047](#) Charter Amendment – Town Council Meetings  
[H-8075](#) Issuance of Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Certificate  
[H-8116](#) Redistricting of Town Council and School Committee Districts

[S-2210A](#) Charter Amendment – Town Council Meetings  
 (Enacted as [Public Law 92](#) effective 5/22/12)  
[S-2943](#) Redistricting of Town Council and School District Committees  
[S-3067](#) Issuance of Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Certificate

#### NORTH SMITHFIELD

[H-7434](#) Maximum Levy – Exemption of Tax Revenues from Dowling Village  
[S-2451](#) Maximum Levy – Exemption of Tax Revenues from Dowling Village

## PAWTUCKET

- [H-7160](#) Creates "Pawtucket River and Division Street Bridge Account"  
[H-7162](#) Issuance of Tax Anticipation Notes  
(Enacted as [Public Law 4](#) effective 1/27/12)
- [H-7163](#) Structural Study of Division Street Bridge by Dept. of Transportation  
[H-7164](#) Fund to Compensate Qualified Businesses for Traffic Disruptions  
[H-7400A](#) Increased Membership for Pawtucket Housing Authority  
(Enacted as [Public Law 36](#) effective 4/13/12)
- [H-7416](#) Sales and Income Tax Exemptions in "Arts and Entertainment District"  
[H-7430](#) Licenses Granted by the Pawtucket Board of License Commissioners  
Enacted as [Public Law 35](#) effective 4/13/12)
- [H-7431](#) Authority to Close Unlicensed Taverns, etc.  
(Enacted as [Public Law 60](#) effective 5/8/12)
- [H-7432](#) Pawtucket Housing Court – Expanded Jurisdiction  
(Enacted as [Public Law 73](#) effective 5/14/12)
- [H-8085](#) Bonds - \$300,000 – Sewer and Sanitation System  
[H-8086](#) Bonds - \$200,000 – Traffic Control Devices  
[H-8087](#) Bonds - \$1,000,000 – Streets and Sidewalks  
[H-8088](#) Bonds - \$700,000 – Renovation of Public Buildings  
[H-8089A](#) Bonds - \$5,000,000 – Renovation of Public School Buildings  
[H-8090](#) Bonds - \$200,000 – Reconstruction of Bridges  
[H-8102](#) Bonds - \$600,000 – Public Recreation Facilities  
[H-8128](#) Pawtucket Boys and Girls Club – Increased Holdings Exempt from Taxes  
[H-8162](#) Property Tax Exemption – Sandra Feinstein–Gamm Theatre  
[H-8224](#) Property Tax Exemption – Banda Nova Alianca de Santo Antonio
- [S-2096](#) Issuance of Tax Anticipation Notes  
(Enacted as [Public Law 3](#) effective 1/27/12)
- [S-2359](#) Fund to Compensate Qualified Businesses for Traffic Disruptions  
[S-2364](#) Structural Study of Division Street Bridge by Dept. of Transportation  
[S-2460](#) Sales and Income Tax Exemptions in Arts and Entertainment District  
[S-2484aa](#) Increased Membership for Pawtucket Housing Authority  
(Enacted as [Public Law 30](#) effective 4/13/12)
- [S-2502](#) Pawtucket Housing Court – Expanded Jurisdiction  
[S-2722](#) Licenses Granted by the Pawtucket Board of License Commissioners  
(Enacted as [Public Law 29](#) effective 4/13/12)
- [S-2723](#) Authority to Close Unlicensed Taverns, etc.  
(Enacted as [Public Law 58](#) effective 5/8/12)
- [S-2808](#) Pawtucket Housing Court – Expanded Jurisdiction  
(Enacted as [Public Law 57](#) effective 5/8/12)
- [S-2925](#) Bonds - \$600,000 – Public Recreation Facilities  
[S-2927](#) Bonds - \$700,000 – Renovation of Public Buildings  
[S-2929](#) Bonds - \$200,000 - Traffic Control Devices  
[S-2930](#) Bonds - \$1,000,000 – Streets and Sidewalks  
[S-2931](#) Bonds - \$200,000 – Reconstruction of Bridges

- [S-2932](#) Bonds - \$300,000 – Sewer and Sanitation System
- [S-3003](#) Property Tax Exemption – Sandra Feinstein–Gamm Theatre
- [S-3004](#) Pawtucket Boys and Girls Club – Increased Holdings Exempt from Taxes
- [S-3013](#) Bonds - \$5,000,000 – Renovation of Public School Buildings

### PORTSMOUTH

- [H-7054](#) Bonds - \$700,000 – Improvements to School Buildings  
(Enacted as [Public Law 40](#) effective 4/27/12)
- [H-7351](#) Tax Exemption for Historic Preservation Sites / Prudence Island
- [H-7433](#) Prohibition on Hunting Waterfowl in Designated Area
- [H-8216](#) Exemption from Proximity Provision for Certain Class B License Holder
- [H-8229](#) Check-off on Tax Bill for Portsmouth Community Scholarship Fund
  
- [S-2046](#) Bonds - \$700,000 – Improvements to School Buildings  
(Enacted as [Public Law 23](#) effective 4/9/12)
- [S-2394](#) Prohibition on Hunting Waterfowl in Designated Area
- [S-3037](#) Exemption from Proximity Provision for Certain Class B License Holder
- [S-3043](#) Check-off on Tax Bill for Portsmouth Community Scholarship Fund

### PROVIDENCE

- [H-7231](#) Calibration of Scales by Hospitals and Treatment Centers
- [H-7591](#) Johnson & Wales Univ. – Charter Amended / Property Tax Exemption
- [H-7765](#) Nonowner Occupied Dwelling–Increased Fines/Sanctions for Violations
- [H-7768](#) Exemption from Proximity Provision – Legal Description Revised
- [H-7981](#) SPCA – Asset Limitation Increased to \$12,000,000 / Future Exemptions
- [H-8109A](#) Narragansett Bay Comm. - Lateral Systems Responsibility Feasibility
- [H-8192](#) Sales and Income Tax Exemptions in Arts and Entertainment District
  
- [S-2391](#) Johnson & Wales Univ. – Charter Amended / Property Tax Exemption
- [S-2721Aaa](#) 25 India Street Property Owned by State – Leased for 40 Years  
(Enacted as [Public Law 94](#) effective 5/22/12)
- [S-2990](#) Exemption from Proximity Provision for Certain Class B License Holder
- [S-3056](#) Sales and Income Tax Exemptions in Arts and Entertainment District

### RICHMOND

- [H-8031](#) Alton Village Water District – Voter Ratification Date for Articles
- [H-8165](#) Rural Preservation Land Trust – Articles of Incorporation Amended
  
- [S-2879](#) Rural Preservation Land Trust – Articles of Incorporation Amended
- [S-2975](#) Alton Village Water District – Voter Ratification Date for Articles

## SCITUATE

- [H-8205Aaa](#) Resource Recovery Corp. – Composition of Citizens Advisory Board
- [S-2300](#) Elimination of Binding Arbitration for Police and Firefighters  
[S-3075](#) Resource Recovery Corp. – Composition of Citizens Advisory Board

## SMITHFIELD

- [H-7145](#) Restriction on Transportation of Jet Fuel on Limerock Road  
[H-7398](#) Real and Personal Tax Treaties with Nonprofit Corporations  
[H-7471](#) Exemption from Proximity Provision for Certain License Holder  
(Enacted as [Public Law 55](#) effective 5/4/12)
- [H-8115](#) Business Registration Fees – Amendments / Increase in Annual Fee  
[H-8149](#) R.I. Special Olympics, Inc. – Property Exempt from Taxation  
[H-8195](#) Bryant University – Real/Personal Property Tax Exemptions Repealed
- [S-2051](#) Restriction on Transportation of Jet Fuel on Limerock Road  
[S-2118](#) Property Tax Exemption – Special Olympics Rhode Island, Inc.  
[S-2379](#) Exemption from Proximity Provision for Certain License Holder  
(Enacted as [Public Law 56](#) effective 5/3/12)
- [S-2385](#) Exemption from Proximity Provision for Certain License Holder – Repeal  
[S-2936](#) Business Registration Fees – Amendments / Increase in Annual Fee  
[S-3018](#) Smithfield Land Trust – Appointment of Alternate Trustees

## SOUTH KINGSTOWN

- [S-2922A](#) Coastal Resources Management Council – Matunuck Beach Protection

## TIVERTON

- [H-7031](#) School Housing Aid Ratio – Prospective Reimbursement  
[H-7044](#) Charter Amendments – Validation / Ratification  
(Enacted as [Local Act 44](#) effective 3/28/12)
- [H-8191](#) Sales and Income Tax Exemptions in Arts and Entertainment District
- [S-2120](#) Sales and Income Tax Exemptions in Arts and Entertainment District  
[S-2211](#) Charter Amendments – Validation / Ratification  
(Enacted as [Local Act 43](#) effective 3/28/12)

## WARREN

- [H-7273](#) Town Solicitor to Temporarily Serve as Probate Judge  
(Enacted as [Public Law 76](#) effective 5/14/12)
- [H-7294](#) Weight Restrictions on Route 114
- [S-2254](#) Town Solicitor to Temporarily Serve as Probate Judge  
(Enacted as [Public Law 51](#) effective 5/1/12)
- [S-2328Aaa](#) Weight Restrictions on Route 114

## WARWICK

- [H-7641](#) Enterprise Zone Designation – Pontiac Mills Site
- [H-7936](#) Warwick Sewer Authority – Connection to Sewage System
- [H-7965](#) Property Tax Exemption – Clouds Hill Victorian House Museum
- [H-8232](#) Publication Requirement of Safe Drinking Water Act
- [S-2086](#) Warwick Sewer Authority – Connection to Sewage System
- [S-2102](#) Enterprise Zone Designation – Pontiac Mills Site
- [S-2278](#) Publication Requirement of Safe Drinking Water Act
- [S-2623](#) Property Tax Exemption – Clouds Hill Victorian House Museum
- [S-2972](#) Enterprise Zone Designation – Additional Census Tracts

## WEST GREENWICH

- [H-7183](#) Exemption or Stabilization of Tax on Qualified Property
- [S-2089](#) Exemption or Stabilization of Tax on Qualified Property

## WEST WARWICK

- [H-8135](#) Annual Financial Town Meeting Date Changed to June 11, 2012
- [S-2954](#) Annual Financial Town Meeting Date Chnaged to June 11, 2012

## WESTERLY

- [H-7004](#) Replacement of On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems
- [H-7014](#) Exemption of Chief of Police from Mandatory Retirement  
(Enacted as [Public Law 21](#) effective 4/9/12)
- [H-8021](#) Memorial and Library Association – Increase in Authorized Holdings
- [S-2020](#) Replacement of On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems
- [S-2095](#) Exemption of Chief of Police from Mandatory Retirement  
(Enacted as [Public Law 12](#) effective 3/28/12)
- [S-2834](#) Memorial and Library Association – Increase in Authorized Holdings

## WOONSOCKET

- [H-7049](#)      **Creation of Waste-to-Energy Facility Located in the City**  
[H-7966A](#)      **Nutrient Waste Water Treatment Standards**  
[H-8040](#)      **Special Legislative Commission – Circumstances for State Intervention**
- [S-2860](#)      **Full-Day Kindergarten Program – Accelerated Funding**  
[S-2872A](#)      **Authority to Impose a Supplemental Tax**

Website: 07/20/12