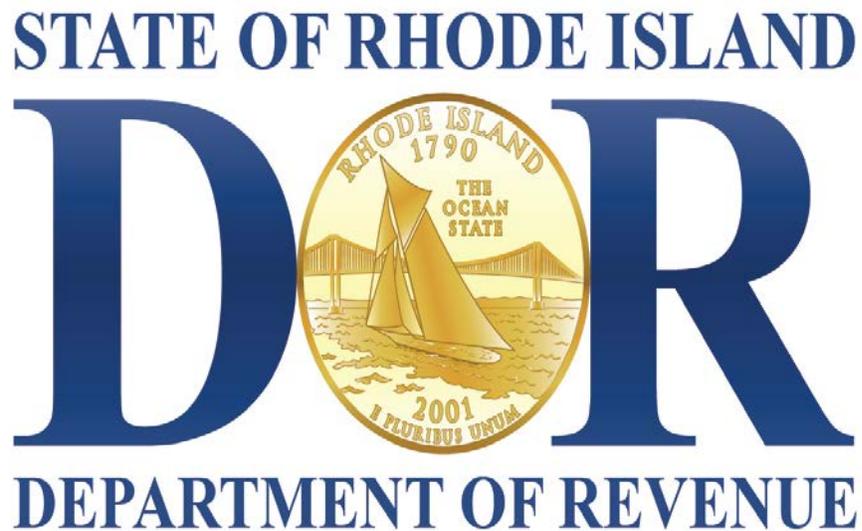


**MUNICIPAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEF**  
**Legislative Introductions as of:**

**August 28, 2015**



**Governor Gina M. Raimondo**

**State of Rhode Island – Department of Revenue**

**Division of Municipal Finance**

# Legislative Reference Service

2015 Edition

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## **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

**H-5318**      **COMPREHENSIVE FIRE SAFETY ACT** (Morin & Others) This act would change various dates pertaining to safety code editions and would make word substitutions such as alarm for detector and would require delivery nozzles to comply with the Rhode Island Fire Code. Municipal Government

**H-5550**      **CONSTRUCTION PERMITS-FEES** (Shekarchi & Others) This act would provide that fees paid for construction permits shall be assessed by all municipalities using a formula established and/or approved by the Rhode Island building code commission which has multipliers that decrease as construction costs increase in value. Finance

**H-5900Aaa**    **2016 APPROPRIATIONS ACT**  
**ARTICLE 19: RELATING TO COMMERCE CORPORATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
(Gallison) This act would make various changes to Section 42-64-13 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64 entitled "Rhode Island Commerce Corporation". Finance

**H-6146**      **ABANDONED PROPERTY DEFINED** (Diaz & Others) This act would amend and clarify the definition of the word "building" for purposes of chapter 44 of title 34 relating to abandoned property. Municipal Government

**S-0207**      **OUTDOOR HYDRONIC HEATERS** (Walaska) This act would regulate the sale, installation, and fuel of outdoor wood-fired hydronic heaters. This act would also provide municipalities the ability to enact and enforce local ordinances with respect to zoning, emission limits, required testing, monitoring, certification, and specify the types of fuels allowed. Environment & Agriculture

**S-0560**      **CONSTRUCTION PERMITS-FEES** (McCaffrey & Others) This act would provide that fees paid for construction permits shall be assessed by all municipalities using a formula established and/or approved by the Rhode Island building code commission which has multipliers that decrease as construction costs increase in value. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-0718**      **COMPREHENSIVE FIRE SAFETY ACT** (Goodwin) This act would change various dates pertaining to safety code editions and would make word substitutions such as alarm for detector and would require delivery nozzles to comply with the Rhode Island Fire Code. Judiciary

**S-0845**      **ABANDONED PROPERTY DEFINED** (Jabour & Others) This act would amend and clarify the definition of the word "building" for purposes of chapter 44 of title 34 relating to abandoned property. Judiciary

## **EDUCATION & SCHOOLS**

**H-5011**      **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING** (Lombardi) *This act would provide for professional development opportunities relating to reading disabilities and would require two (2) hours of professional development instruction pertaining to reading disabilities for certain general education teachers. H.E.W*

**H-5012**      **SCREENING FOR READING DISABILITIES** (Lombardi) *This act would require school districts to conduct screening for dyslexia and other reading disabilities of school children who have exhibited one or more potential indicators using certain screening methods selected by the commissioner of education. H.E.W*

**H-5013**      **TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS** (Lombardi) *This act would require school committees to provide transportation for any student who resides two (2) or more miles from school. H.E.W*

**H-5136**      **LITERACY PROGRAMS** (O'Brien & Others) *This act would add dyslexia-targeted assistance as a required aspect of the literacy program for students at the elementary grade level. H.E.W*

**H-5047A**      **TREATMENT OF OPIOID OVERDOSE** (Bennett & Others) *This act would require middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools to maintain opioid antagonists on the school premises for administration by school personnel in an emergency to pupils or staff suspected of having an opioid-related drug overdose. School physicians would prepare standing orders for the procedures to be followed in dealing with a suspected opioid overdose in a school setting. This act would also provide immunity to school personnel for the administration of an opioid antagonist in a school setting. H.E.W*

**H-5160**      **MAYORAL ACADEMIES** (Serpa & Others) *This act would provide that a mayoral academy charter school's application would not be approved by the board of education unless the school committee and the city or town council of each included municipality also supported the application. H.E.W*

**H-5275**      **STATE AID-KINDERGARTENS** (Ucci & Others) *This act would provide that funding for kindergartens that have been converted from part-time to full-time beginning with the 2015-2016 school year would be fully funded beginning in fiscal year 2016. Finance*

**H-5322**      **JOINT RESOLUTION-COMMISSION TO STUDY THE PURCHASE AND USE OF TEXTBOOKS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS** (Hearn) *This resolution would rename the Special Legislative Commission to Study the Purchase and Use of Textbooks in Public Schools as "The Special Commission on Blended Learning" and would reinstate and extend the reporting date of the commission from December 31, 2014, to April 1, 2016, and said commission would expire on June 30, 2016. H.E.W*

**H-5385**      **UNHEALTHY FOOD AND BEVERAGES-ADVERTISING PROHIBITED** (McNamara & Others) *This act would prohibit on any school campus the advertising of any food or beverage that may not be sold on the school campus during the school day or of any corporate brand, unless every food and beverage product manufactured, sold, or distributed under the corporate brand name can be served or sold on the school campus during the school day. H.E.W*

**H-5385**      **PARENTAL ACCESS TO INFORMATION-STATE ASSESSMENTS** (Keable & Others) This act would ensure parental access to information, materials or results relating to state assessments of students including instructions, answer sheets and assessment booklets. The act would also prevent the collection and storage of personally identifiable data/personal data. H.E.W

**H-5410**      **FIRE DRILLS** (MacBeth & Others) This act would permit school building principals to delay holding fire and emergency egress evacuation drills in the months of December, January, and February. H.E.W

**H-5434**      **HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORP** (Regunberg & Others) This act would expand the powers of the Health and Educational Building Corporation in regard to the financing and granting of approval for school facility projects. The corporation would have transferred to it those powers and duties in regard to school housing aid formerly administered by the state department of elementary and secondary education. Finance

**H-5435**      **EDUCATION AID CALCULATION- STUDENTS IN GROUP HOMES** (Tanzi & Others) This act would require the state to pay for the education of students placed in group homes outside of their municipality. Finance

**H-5436**      **EDUCATION AID-LEVEL FUNDING** (Tanzi & Others) This act would freeze the amount of education aid for local school agencies that are scheduled to receive less aid under the funding formula. The education aid would be frozen at the rate provided in fiscal year 2015 for a period of three (3) years. Finance

**H-5495**      **STAFFING-SOCIAL WORKERS** (Kazarian & Others) This act would require all public schools, grades kindergarten through twelve (12), have at least one full-time certified school social worker for every four hundred (400) students. H.E.W

**H-5496**      **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS-ASSESSMENTS** (Tanzi & Others) This act would establish a mandatory reporting requirement for all students in grades K-12 for any assessments administered along with specifics which must be included in the report. It also requires annual reports from schools commencing on July 1, 2016 as to all assessments administered by September 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, a collection of the data in the reports by the department of education, in a searchable format on the department of education website. H.E.W

**H-5499**      **CLEANING SUPPLIES** (O'Grady & Others) This act would require the use of environmentally preferable cleaning supplies in all elementary and secondary schools. The state department of elementary and secondary education would be placed in charge of implementation. H.E.W

**H-5511**      **SUMMER SCHOOL-FEES** (Filippi & Others) This act would allow children to attend summer school to complete high school graduation requirements at no charge. Finance

**H-5532**      **JOINT RESOLUTION-CONSOLIDATION OF MUNICIPAL AND PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNCTIONS** (Costantino & Others) This resolution would create a seventeen (17) member special legislative commission whose purpose it would be to make a comprehensive study of all aspects of consolidating municipal government and public education functions in order to determine if any services can be consolidated on a county and/or statewide basis, and who would report back to the general assembly no later than March 2, 2016 and whose life would expire on June 2, 2016. Municipal Government

**H-5551**      **JASON STEM LEARNING INITIATIVE** (Serpa) This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$500,000 for the JASON Project and STEM programs and resources. Finance

**H-5555**      **CHARTER SCHOOLS** (O'Grady & Others) This act would require the board of education, prior to granting approval for either a new charter school or the expansion of an existing charter school, to first make an affirmative finding that the proposed school or the proposed expansion would not have a detrimental effect on the finances and/or the academic performance of the sending districts affected by the new school or the expansion. Finance

**H-5558**      **BUDGET COMMISSIONS-COSTS ASSOCIATED** (Maldonado & Others) This act would provide that a city or town in receivership or bankruptcy may have the costs associated with the receivership or bankruptcy that are owed to the state reduced by twenty percent (20%) for each year that the municipality is in conformity with the bankruptcy plan. Finance

**H-5561**      **TEACHER RETIREMENT BENEFITS** (Amore & Others) This act would increase the monthly minimum benefits of spouses and domestic partners of retired teachers, and would authorize additional yearly non-compounded adjustments. Finance

**H-5563**      **INTER-DISTRICT SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAMS** (Nardolillo & Others) This act would implement inter-district school choice programs among public school districts in Rhode Island. Finance

**H-5581**      **INTERNET FILTERING MEASURES** (Handy & Others) This act would mandate each school district to adopt a written policy that addresses the use of Internet filtering measures for computer access in schools. H.E.W

**H-5582**      **DYSLEXIA-DEFINITIONS & FINDINGS** (Lombardi & Others) This act would make certain findings about dyslexia and would establish a definition of "dyslexia". This act would also direct the council on elementary and secondary education to promulgate rules and regulations to incorporate this definition and findings. H.E.W

**H-5688**      **MAYORAL ACADEMIES-ELIGIBILITY** (Tanzi & Others) This act would require mayoral academies to use a random selection process to select eligible public school students who would be invited to attend the mayoral academy. H.E.W

**H-5696**      **504/INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLANS-REPORTING** (Handy & Others) This act would require each city and town school administration to file an annual report commencing September 30, 2015, providing the names of persons responsible for 504 and individualized education plans along with information regarding those plans with the Rhode Island department of education. H.E.W

**H-5697**      **INSTRUCTION FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING STUDENTS-ASSESSMENTS** (Handy & Others) This act would mandate that the department of education in conjunction with the department of human services develop programs to assess and monitor developmental language benchmarks for deaf and hard-of-hearing children and would require that Individual Education Plans and Individual Family Service Plans include recommendations and plans to assist the child in becoming linguistically age-appropriate and kindergarten ready. Language experts would be part of the IEP and IFSP teams. H.E.W

**H-5699**      **EPINEPHRINE AUTO INJECTORS** (MacBeth) This act would require public schools to maintain and have available on school grounds emergency epinephrine auto-injectors. H.E.W

**H-5721**      **CPR TRAINING** (Naughton & Others) This act would appropriate seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) for the fiscal year 2016 for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) mannequins and CPR training. Finance

**H-5776**      **INSTRUCTION IN MUSICAL PERFORMING ARTS** (Morin & Others) This act would mandate that public secondary schools, managed or controlled by the state, provide courses in musical performing arts as part of their curriculum effective July 1, 2 2015. Finance

**H-5790**      **SCHOOL CHOICE/VOUCHER PROGRAMS** (Hull & Others) This act would provide parents of K-12 students in Rhode Island with an opportunity to enroll their child in an educational program of their choosing, either via open enrollment in a traditional public school in their own district or any other public school district, or by receiving a scholarship, with designated public monies to follow the student to a participating private school or private curriculum program selected by the parent. The program combines aspects of what are sometimes referred to as "school choice" and "school voucher" programs. The program would begin August 1, 2015. Finance

**H-5794**      **CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING** (Barros & Others) This act would remove a city or town's financial obligation to contribute to their resident students who enroll in charter schools, William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical High School or the Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center. Finance

**H-5795**      **APPROVAL OF CHARTER SCHOOLS-MORATORIUM** (Barros & Others) This act would establish a moratorium on approval of any new charter public schools and on the expansion of any existing charter public schools on and after May 1, 2015. Finance

**H-5814**      **JOINT RESOLUTION- MINIMUM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS** (Phillips & Others) This act requests that the Rhode Island Department of Education to require all Rhode Island school districts to submit each district's minimum high school graduation requirements on or before January 5, 2016, and to submit a consolidated report to the General Assembly on or before March 1, 2016 H.E.W

**H-5834**      **CHARTER SCHOOLS-SCHOOL HOUSING COSTS** (Malik & Others) This act would amend the provisions by which charter public schools apply for state aid for reimbursement of school housing costs and would further amend the calculation method of housing costs under this section. Finance

**H-5894**      **CURRICULUM-FINANCIAL LITERACY** (Trillo & Others) This act would require the department of elementary and secondary education, pursuant to rules promulgated by the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, to develop curricular material on financial literacy. H.E.W

**H-5895**      **CAREER AND TECHNICAL INTERNSHIPS** (McNamara & Others) This act would permit children under eighteen (18) years of age who are attending career and technical education schools, to participate in career and technical internships or teacher supervised job site training program at or through said education center provided that they are deemed to have the necessary educational background, experience and maturity. H.E.W

**H-5900Aaa 2016 APPROPRIATIONS ACT**

**ARTICLE 6: FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN** (Gallison) This act would require that, beginning in August 2016, all districts offer full day kindergarten programs as a condition of receiving state education aid. This act further requires that the Rhode Island department of elementary and secondary education provide funding to support transition expenses for all districts that do not offer universal full-day kindergarten programs in the 2015-2016 school year. Finance

**H-5900Aaa 2016 APPROPRIATIONS ACT**

**ARTICLE 9: SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY** (Gallison) This act would establish the school building authority capital fund to support capital improvements to public school facilities of a city, town, or local education authority (LEA), which are consistent with project evaluation criteria. The act further provides that said fund would be administered by the Rhode Island health and educational Building Corporation. Finance

**H-6022 CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES** (Azzinaro & Others) This act would make clear that a disabled child would have all statutory rights available to them until their twenty-first birthday or until completion of the program or school year in which they were enrolled before their twenty-first birthday, whichever occurs later. H.E.W

**H-6023 LICENSES-NOTIFICATION OF ACTION** (Newberry & Others) This act would require the department of elementary and secondary education to provide e-mail notice to teachers and other licensed public school personnel when any action of recertification, revocation, or repeal of their license is proposed and pending. H.E.W

**H-6049 TEACHER DISMISSAL** (Ruggiero & Others) This act would eliminate the requirement that the full board convene for the purpose of dismissal appeal hearings as requested by a teacher. Any decision arising therefrom must be approved by majority of the full board. Labor

**H-6123 EDUCATION AID** (Morin & Others) This act would provide for increases in the amount of foundation level school support that a community would receive, based upon a community's ability to meet and surpass its minimum low and moderate income housing requirements. Finance

**H-6217 TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS-SAFETY BELTS** (Nardolillo & Others) This act would require that effective August 1, 2015, all school buses purchased for use in the state be equipped with seat belt assemblies for each passenger and operator seat, and would further require mandatory safety belt use by the school bus operator and each passenger. H.E.W

**H-6285 STATE ASSESSMENT PROGRAMS** (McNamara & Others) This act would amend the implementation of state assessments in Rhode Island public schools. The act would direct the department of elementary and secondary education to develop its own state assessment for use in public schools beginning in the 2017-2018 school year. School districts would also be given the option to develop their own assessments to use in lieu of the department's assessment, but such assessments would need to be approved by the council on elementary and secondary education. PARCC testing would be phased out of use for grades 11 and 12, and instead other assessments such as the SAT would be used. The department of elementary and secondary education would be directed to apply for any waivers necessary as a result of the provisions of this chapter. H.E.W

**H-6353**      **EPINEPHRINE INJECTORS** (McKiernan & Others) This act would allow the storage of epinephrine injections by school departments for the purpose of administration on an emergency basis to students that will be administered in accordance with the school department's conditions and procedures. H.E.W

**H-6354**      **HEALTHY FOOD AND BEVERAGES** (Palangio & Others) This act would modify the types of healthy foods and beverages that could be sold to students in schools during the school day by referencing the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. Career and technical schools with culinary arts or food service programs would be permitted to request an exemption that would allow the sale of non-compliant snacks and beverages to students in school if such food was prepared by culinary students as part of their curriculum. The act would also repeal the current definitions of healthier beverages and snacks. H.E.W

**H-6356**      **SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS-ANNUAL TRAINING** (Canario & Others) This act would require that school bus drivers' annual training include the national highway traffic safety administration's school bus driver in-service training series. H.E.W

**S-0007**      **JOINT RESOLUTION-RIGHT TO AN ADEQUATE EDUCATION** (Picard & Pearson) This amendment to the state constitution would provide a paramount duty of the general assembly, department of education and other governmental agencies to provide Rhode Island residents equal opportunities to receive adequate high levels of education. Education

**S-0008**      **COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE** (Picard) This act would require an eighty percent (80%) school attendance rate for children in families receiving cash and medical assistance from the state as a condition of eligibility. It would also require the parent/legal guardian of the child or children to execute an affidavit confirming the child's attendance at school and would require the department of human services to verify the attendance rate. Education

**S-0009**      **CURRICULUM-PERFORMING ARTS INSTRUCTION** (Picard & Pearson) This act would encourage all public secondary schools managed or controlled by the state to provide instruction in performing arts education as part of its curriculum. Education

**S-0010**      **COMPETENCY/PROFICIENCY BASED LEARNING POLICY** (Picard & Pearson) This act would require that the board of education adopt a competency-based/proficiency based learning policy whereby students can earn credits through demonstration of competency. Education

**S-0070**      **JOINT RESOLUTION-COMMISSION TO STUDY THE PURCHASE AND USE OF TEXTBOOKS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS** (O'Neill & Others) This resolution would rename the Special Legislative Commission to Study the Purchase and Use of Textbooks in Public Schools as "The Special Commission on Blended Learning" and would reinstate and extend the reporting date of the commission from December 31, 2014, to April 1, 2016, and said commission would expire on June 30, 2016. Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

**S-0084**      **EPINEPHRINE INJECTIONS** (Felag & Others) This act would allow the storage of epinephrine injections by school departments for the purposes of administration on an emergency basis to students who do not have prior written authorization of a parent. Education

**S-0085**      **BUS MONITORS** (Picard) This act would give the school committee discretion to utilize, authorize, or employ school bus monitors. It would also remove the requirement that bus monitors be on certain school buses in addition to the driver. Education

**S-0086**      **TOY FIREARMS** (Walaska) *This act would prevent the disciplining of a school child for possession of a toy gun unless a reasonable person could mistake the toy for a real gun. Education*

**S-0087**      **MAYORAL ACADEMIES** (Satchell & Others) *This act would provide that a mayoral academy charter school's application would not be approved by the board of education unless the school committee and the city or town council of each included municipality also supported the application. Education*

**S-0100**      **HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORP** (Pearson & Others) *This act would expand the powers of the Health and Educational Building Corporation in regard to the financing and granting of approval for school facility projects. The corporation would have transferred to it those powers and duties in regard to school housing aid formerly administered by the state department of elementary and secondary education. Finance*

**S-0144A**      **STATE AID-KINDERGARTENS** (Gallo & Others) *This act would provide that funding for kindergartens that have been converted from part-time to full-time beginning with the 2015-2016 school year would be fully funded beginning in fiscal year 2016. Education*

**S-0154**      **TREATMENT OF OPIOID OVERDOSE** (Goldin & Others) *This act would require schools educating pupils in grades six (6) through twelve (12) to maintain opioid antagonists on the school premises for administration, in an emergency, to pupils suspected of having an opioid-related drug overdose by school personnel. This act would also provide immunity to school personnel for the administration of an opioid antagonist in a school setting. Education*

**S-0155**      **CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS-NOTIFICATION** *This act would require the department of elementary and secondary education to provide e-mail notice to teachers and other licensed public school personnel when any action of recertification, revocation, or repeal of their license is proposed and pending. Education*

**S-0201**      **TEACHER DISMISSAL HEARINGS** (DiPalma & Others) *This act would provide that teacher dismissal cases may be heard by less than an entire school board. Education*

**S-0202**      **CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING-PER PUPIL SHARE** (Gallo & Others) *This act would change the method in determining the local share of the per pupil amount for each student attending the charter public school by allowing deductions for allocations not born by the charter school based on uniform chart of accounts data. Local district payments to charter public schools would be made at the end of the district's school quarter for those students enrolled in the charter school during the quarter. Education*

**S-0299**      **STUDENT DISCIPLINE/SUSPENSION** (Pichardo & Others) *This act would direct all school superintendents to review discipline data for their school district, to decide whether there is an unequal impact on students based on race, ethnicity, or disability status, and to respond to any disparity. Every school district would submit a report to the council on elementary and secondary education describing any action taken on the disparity. All such reports shall be public records. Also, student suspensions will not be served out of school unless the student's conduct meets certain standards. Education*

**S-0314**      **CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING-CALCULATION** (Doyle & Others) This act would amend the provisions by which charter public schools apply for state aid for reimbursement of school housing costs and would further amend the calculation method of housing costs under this section. Finance

**S-0366**      **VIRTUAL EDUCATION PLAN** (Picard) This act would provide for the establishment of a virtual education plan by school districts for use during inclement weather, with the approval and consent of the commissioner of elementary and secondary education. Education

**S-0367**      **FOOD AND BEVERAGE ADVERTISING** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would prohibit the advertising of unhealthy food and beverages in schools not sold on the school campus during the school day and certain corporate incentive or promotional programs. Education

**S-0381**      **IMMUNIZATIONS** (Miller & Goldin) This act would remove the religious beliefs exemption from the requirement that all pupils in a public or private school in this state be immunized and/or tested for communicable diseases. Health & Human Services

**S-0401**      **FINANCIAL LITERACY CURRICULUM** (O'Neill & Others) This act would require the department of elementary and secondary education, pursuant to rules promulgated by the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, develop curricular material on financial literacy. Education

**S-0402**      **STUDENT PRIVACY** (Satchell & Others) This act would establish certain student privacy rights in regard to take-home technology devices from school. The act would limit the ability of school officials to monitor and search a student's take-home technology device and would establish the process and criteria which school officials must follow to access a student's take-home technology device. Education

**S-0403**      **SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS** (Pichardo & Others) This act would allow individuals with two (2) or more years of a college education to serve as substitute teachers in their field of concentration or a closely related field for no more than forty (40) teaching days in any one assignment during a school year, whether the teaching days are consecutive or non-consecutive. The commissioner of elementary and secondary education would be authorized to extend this forty (40) day limitation for appropriate training. Education

**S-0404**      **RESOLUTION –IMPACT OF SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA ON LANGUAGE LEARNERS** (Pichardo & Others) This resolution would create a nineteen (19) member special legislative commission to be known as "The Ocean State World Language Learning Commission" whose purpose it would be to study the impact of the state's school funding formula on language learners, and who would report back to the General Assembly no later than January 28, 2016, and whose life shall expire 4 on March 25, 2016. Education

**S-0458**      **BUDGET COMMISSIONS-MEMBERSHIP** (Picard) This act would require the selection of one member of a budget commission by the Rhode Island department of education whenever a school system is involved and would exempt from removal the school superintendent and certain responsibilities of the school committee and superintendent from the commission's powers with a requirement that the commission defer educational decisions not directly related to the budget to the school committee. Education

**S-0459**      **INSTRUCTION IN MUSICAL PERFORMING ARTS** (Picard) This act would require public schools to offer courses in musical performing arts. Education

**S-0460**      **INTERNET FILTERING** (Satchell & Others) This act would mandate each school district to adopt a written policy that addresses the use of Internet filtering measures for computer access in schools. Education

**S-0479**      **DENTAL SCREENINGS** (Nesslebusch & Others) This act would require that health examinations and dental screenings for school children be performed by a licensed dentist or a licensed public health dental hygienist. Health & Human Services

**S-0493**      **AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would mandate that all high schools and middle schools, whether public or private, and all athletic fields or other locations where high school or middle schools compete in sporting events, have a functional Automated External Defibrillator (AED) on site at all times. Health & Human Services

**S-0607**      **SCHOOL CHOICE/VOUCHER PROGRAMS** (Cote & Others) This act would provide parents of K-12 students in Rhode Island with an opportunity to enroll their child in an educational program of their choosing, either via open enrollment in a traditional public school in their own district or any other public school district, or by receiving a scholarship, with designated public monies to follow the student to a participating private school or private curriculum program selected by the parent.. The program would begin August 1, 2015. Education

**S-0667**      **EVALUATIONS** (Gallo & Others) This act would exclude as public records any individually identifiable evaluations, made pursuant to state or federal law or regulation, of public school superintendents, administrators, principals, teachers and all other school employees. Judiciary

**S-0735**      **STAFFING-SOCIAL WORKERS** (Satchell & Others) This act would require all public schools, grades kindergarten through twelve (12), have at least one full-time certified school social worker for every four hundred (400) students. Education

**S-0736**      **COLLEGE READINESS ASSESSMENTS** (Satchell & Others) This act would allow parents and legal guardians to elect to have their child opt out of Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for Colleges and Careers or "PARCC" assessment, or similar assessments. Education

**S-0739**      **MAYORAL ACADEMIES** (Pearson & Others) This act would limit the total funding for charter schools in 2016 to the amount funded in 2015 and would require school committees and town or city council approval for the creation of charter schools in their jurisdiction. Education

**S-0811**      **BOARD OF EDUCATION-APPOINTMENTS** (Goldin) This act would require the advice and consent of the senate, in addition to approvals by the board of education and the council on elementary and secondary education, for the appointment of the commissioner of elementary and secondary education. Education

**S-0975**      **HEALTHY FOOD AND BEVERAGES** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would modify the types of healthy foods and beverages that could be sold to students in schools during the school day by referencing the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. Career and technical schools with culinary arts or food service programs would be permitted to request an exemption that would allow the sale of non-compliant snacks and beverages to students in school if such food was prepared by culinary students as part of their curriculum. The act would also repeal the current definitions of healthier beverages and snacks. Health and Human Services

**S-1010**        **CHARTER SCHOOLS-STUDY COMMISSION** (Pearson & Others) This act would create a nine (9) member commission to study and issue recommendations regarding charter school strategy and funding, including, but not limited to, the local share calculation related to the fixed and variable costs incurred by school districts, but not by independent charter schools and mayoral academies, with a written report to the general assembly on or before January 6, 2016. Finance

**S-1023**        **CHARTER SCHOOLS** (Gallo & Others) This act would require the board of education, prior to granting approval for either a new charter school or the expansion of an existing charter school, to first make an affirmative finding that the proposed school or the proposed expansion would not have a detrimental effect on the finances and/or the academic performance of the sending districts affected by the new school or the expansion. Finance

**S-1028**        **SPECIAL EDUCATION-EXTENSION OF RIGHTS** (Gallo & Goodwin) This act would make clear that a disabled child would have all statutory rights available to them until their twenty-first birthday or until completion of the program or school year in which they were enrolled before their twenty-first birthday, whichever occurs later. Senate Calendar

## **ELECTIONS**

**H-5154**      **ELIGIBILITY** (Williams) *This act would make a public record of a list sent by the department of corrections to the secretary of state containing information about formerly incarcerated inmates who have been eligible to vote. Judiciary*

**H-5155**      **RESIDENCY OF THOSE IN GOVERNMENT CUSTODY** (Williams) *This act would require that persons in government custody use their actual residence for census and redistricting purposes. Such information would be determined by the department of corrections and the secretary of state, and forwarded to the United States census bureau. Judiciary*

**H-5251**      **ELECTIVE SERVICE-CANDIDACY OF CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES** (Diaz & Others) *This act would allow a classified employee, whose position is not fully funded through federal loans and/or grants to seek the nomination of or to be a candidate for elective state office. This act would also provide that if the employee is elected, he or she must resign his or her position prior to assuming or holding elective office. Judiciary*

**H-5261**      **CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS-BAKE SALES** (Ucci & Others) *This act would allow bake sales to be held on election days at polling places. Judiciary*

**H-5304**      **BUFFER ZONES** (Marcello & Others) *This act would add the secretary of state to the board of elections as a nonvoting ex-officio member. It would also require the board of canvassers to clearly mark the fifty foot (50') buffer zone at each polling place where political campaigning is prohibited. Judiciary*

**H-5372**      **CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS** (Ajello & Others) *This act would make extensive changes to the elections laws, including the definition of what a vote is and how to store ballots in cases of disputed results, and would allow a voter to take or use election paraphernalia into a polling place. It would also make the board of elections subject to the Administrative Procedures Act. This act would also direct the state board of elections to establish a risk-limiting audit pilot program and to report to the general assembly on the effectiveness of such audits. Judiciary*

**H-5622**      **ELECTRONIC VOTER REGISTRATION** (Marcello & Others) *This act would authorize the state secretary of state to create and administer an electronic voter registration system. Judiciary*

**H-5930**      **INACTIVE VOTERS-AFFIRMATION** (Tobon & Others) *This act would allow mail ballot applications and emergency mail ballot applications to also serve as an affirmation form for inactive voters, as long as the voter's application address is where the voter is currently registered. Judiciary*

**H-5931**      **INACTIVE VOTERS-AFFIRMATION** (Coughlin & Others) *This act would change the mail ballot application allowing the application to serve as an affirmation form for inactive voters who request a mail ballot from the address from which the voter is currently registered. Judiciary*

**H-5934**      **COUNTING OF BALLOTS** (O'Grady & Canario) *This act would make changes to the procedure for counting mail ballots. These changes include the notice of ballot counting sessions shall be put on certain state websites, and removes a requirement for the preservation of outer ballot envelopes during the counting of such mail ballots. Judiciary*

**H-5948**      **PRIMARY OFFICERS** (Blazejewski & Others) This act would allow federal and state officials or employees to serve as primary officials. Judiciary

**H-5950**      **MAIL BALLOTS-CERTIFIED ENVELOPES** (Keable & Others) This act would eliminate the need for the certified envelope containing the mail ballot to be placed in the outer envelope, would require that the certified envelope must be delivered to the board of elections by closing time of the polling place on Election Day, and would allow a voter who has applied for a mail ballot to cast a provisional ballot. Judiciary

**H-5951**      **MAIL BALLOTS-RETENTION** (Craven & Morin) This act would change the period of time that the board of elections must keep mail ballots from the first day of September in the second year after they were cast to a period of twenty-two (22) months after the election. Judiciary

**H-5952**      **PROVISIONAL BALLOTS** (Tanzi & Others) This act would allow a voter to vote a provisional ballot without obtaining a temporary registration certificate. Judiciary

**S-0058**      **CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS-BAKE SALES** (Lombardi & Others) This act would allow bake sales to be held on election days at polling places. Judiciary

**S-0066**      **INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PROCESS** (Cote & Others) This act would provide a detailed process by which a proponent of a voter initiative and referendum proposal would present the proposal to the secretary of state, the general assembly and the governor. Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

**S-0067**      **JOINT RESOLUTION-INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PROCESS** (Cote & Others) This joint resolution would propose an amendment to the state constitution, by establishing a voter initiative process to allow voters to initiate proposed legislation which would, upon a majority vote of the electorate, become law. Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

**S-0239**      **RESIDENCY OF THOSE IN GOVERNMENT CUSTODY** (Metts & Others) This act would require that persons in government custody use their actual residence for census and redistricting purposes. Such information would be determined by the department of corrections and the secretary of state, and forwarded to the United States census bureau. Judiciary

**S-0245**      **ELECTIVE SERVICE-CANDIDACY OF CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES** (Jabour & Others) This act would allow a classified employee, whose position is not fully funded through federal loans and/or grants to seek the nomination of or to be a candidate for elective state office. This act would also provide that if the employee is elected, he or she must resign his or her position prior to assuming or holding elective office. Finally, that any state elected officer must resign their position before they can be appointed as a classified employee. Judiciary

**S-0256**      **CHANGE OF PARTY DESIGNATION** (Raptakis & Others) This act would allow a voter to change their party affiliation on or before the twenty-ninth (29th) day preceding any primary election for which the voter is eligible. Judiciary

**S-0343**      **VOTER IDENTIFICATION** (Goldin & Others) This act would repeal the voter identification law. Judiciary

**S-0579**      **PUBLIC RECORDS-ELIGIBILITY** (Nesslebush & Others) This act would make a public record of a list sent by the department of corrections to the secretary of state containing information about formerly incarcerated inmates who have been eligible to vote. Judiciary

**S-0626**      **IN-PERSON EARLY VOTING** (Lynch & Others) This act would create a process for in-person early voting before the actual Election Day. Judiciary

**S-0631**      **MAIL BALLOTS-RETENTION** (McCaffrey & Lombardi) This act would change the period of time that the board of elections must keep mail ballots from the first day of September in the second year after they were cast to a period of twenty-two (22) months after the election. Judiciary

**S-0632**      **MAIL BALLOTS –RETURN ENVELOPES** (McCaffrey & Lombardi) This act would delete the specification of the address of the board of elections from the return envelopes provided for mail ballots and would require only that the address of the board of elections be on the return envelope. Judiciary

**S-0634**      **MAIL BALLOTS-APPLICATION** (McCaffrey & Lombardi) This act would change the mail ballot application allowing the application to serve as an affirmation form for inactive voters who request a mail ballot from the address from which the voter is currently registered. Judiciary

**S-0635**      **PROVISIONAL BALLOTS** (McCaffrey & Lombardi) This act would allow a voter to vote a provisional ballot without obtaining a temporary registration certificate. Judiciary

**S-0636**      **MAIL BALLOTS-CERTIFIED ENVELOPES** (McCaffrey & Lombardi) This act would eliminate the need for the certified envelope containing the mail ballot to be placed in the outer envelope. The certified envelope must be delivered to the board of elections by closing time of the polling place on Election Day. Judiciary

**S-0637**      **PRIMARY OFFICERS** (McCaffrey & Lombardi) This act would allow federal and state officials or employees to serve as primary officials. Judiciary

**S-0639**      **PROVISIONAL BALLOTS** (McCaffrey & Lombardi) This act would allow a voter who has applied for a mail ballot to cast a provisional ballot. Judiciary

**S-0641**      **BALLOT COUNTING** (McCaffery & Lombardi) This act would make changes to the procedure for counting mail ballots. These changes include the notice of ballot counting sessions shall be put on certain state websites and removes a requirement for the preservation of outer ballot envelopes during the counting of such mail ballots. Judiciary

**S-0661**      **CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS** (Crowley & Others) This act would make extensive changes to the elections laws, including the definition of what a vote is and how to store ballots in cases of disputed results, and would allow a voter to take or use election paraphernalia into a polling place. The act would also direct the state board of elections to establish a risk limiting audit pilot program and to report to the general assembly on the effectiveness of such audits. Judiciary

**S-0668**      **MAIL BALLOTS-ENVELOPES** (McCaffrey & Jabour) *This act would eliminate the requirement that the 50 Branch Avenue be printed on the self-addressed envelopes accompanying mail ballots provided by the secretary of state, and would require that the envelope contain the address of the board. Judiciary*

**S-0821**      **REGISTRATION OF VOTERS/IN PERSON EARLY VOTING** (Lynch & Others) *This act would establish in-person early voting, electronic registration of voters, prohibit the casting of emergency mail ballots at the local boards of canvassers, define "family member", and specify methods of delivery to state board. Judiciary*

**S-0999A**      **VOTING EQUIPMENT** (Coyne & Others) *This act would make the secretary of state solely responsible for designing the specifications for the purchase and oversight of the new voting equipment by the department of administration. The act would also allow for the purchase of state of the art voting equipment. Finance*

## ENVIRONMENT

**H-5255**      **SEWER SYSTEMS-SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE** (Ucci) This act would authorize municipal sewer systems to service and maintain sewer lines in bordering municipalities with no legal liability attaching thereto and with no agreement requirement. Municipal Government

**H-5273**      **DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE-INCINERATION** (Ucci & Others) This act would allow the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation to consider the use of incineration as a method to dispose of solid waste. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-5339**      **WATER RESOURCES BOARD-LAND ACQUISITION** (Filippi) This act would require consent by a municipality of any land acquisition therein by the water resources board. Finance

**H-5401**      **COMMERCIAL WASTE HAULERS** (Carson & Others) This act would require all commercial haulers desiring to transport solid waste within the state be licensed by the director of the department of business regulation. Licenses would be renewable every five (5) years. The act would also provide penalties for violations of the act. Corporations

**H-5407**      **WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT-CONNECTIONS** (Shekarchi & Others) This act would authorize connection to existing sanitary sewer lines from facilities across city and town lines under certain circumstances. Municipal Government

**H-5409**      **EMERGENCY REFUSE TRANSFER LICENSES** (Morin & Others) This act would grant the director of the department of environmental management the authority to issue emergency temporary refuse transfer licenses to existing collection stations or recycle centers. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-5476**      **DISPOSAL OF RECYCLABLE MATERIAL** (Costantino & Others) This act would prohibit the disposal of any recyclable materials and/or recyclable waste in the central landfill per any rules or regulations promulgated by the Rhode Island resource recovery corporation. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-5479**      **PERMANENT AIR QUALITY MONITORING ACT** (Naughton & Others) This act would extend the sunset provision of the permanent air quality monitoring act until July 31, 2017. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-5510**      **RESOURCE RECOVERY CORPORATION-TIPPING FEES** (Fellela & Others) This act would increase the Resource Recovery Corporation tipping fee from three dollars (\$3.00) to five dollars (\$5.00) per vehicle to be paid to the town of Johnston on a biannual basis. Finance

**H-5668**      **CESSPOOLS** (Tanzi & Others) This act would amend the Rhode Island cesspool act of 2007 including replacing individual sewage disposal systems with onsite wastewater treatment systems and would require cesspool removal or replacement upon the transfer of the property where the cesspool is located under certain circumstances. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-5671**      **RECYCLING-MERCURY-CONTAINING LAMPS** (Handy & Others) This act would require manufacturers of mercury-containing lamps to establish and implement a statewide collection for the recycling of mercury-containing lamps. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-5672**      **WOOD BURNING STOVES** (Handy & Others) This act would regulate the phase-out of wood stoves without EPA certification in densely populated residential areas. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-5900Aaa**      **2016 APPROPRIATIONS ACT**

**ARTICLE 14: R.I. INFRASTRUCTURE BANK** (Gallison) This act would create the Brownfields Revolving Loan fund the purpose of which is to aid in the remediation expansion redevelopment or reuse of former industrial or commercial sites which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants. Finance

**H-5900Aaa**      **2016 APPROPRIATIONS ACT**

**ARTICLE 16: BAYS, RIVERS, AND WATERSHEDS** (Gallison) This act would repeal in its entirety Chapter 46-31 of the General Laws entitled “The Rhode Island Bays, Rivers and Watersheds Coordination Team”. Finance

**H-5963**      **UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS-PETROLEUM** (Malik & Hull) This act would make the underground storage tank review board an advisory board reducing membership from nine (9) to seven (7) members, removing fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in grants for removal/replacement of underground storage tanks, and making other technical changes to the hearing and claim procedures. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-5969**      **WATER QUALITY PROTECTION FUNDS** (Messier & Others) This act would classify the two (2) types of water quality protection funds and provide for the administration of the funds deposited therein. Finance

**H-5970**      **WATER CHARGES/WATER RESOURCES BOARD** (Messier & Others) This act would make a number of changes in the procedure for the remittance and disbursement of water charges. This act would also provide that upon dissolution of the water resources board (corporate), charges previously remitted to the board would be maintained and retained by each supplier to support water quality protection programs. Finance

**H-6224**      **ZERO PROCESS WASTEWATER DISCHARGE PERMITS** (MacBeth & Others) This act would prohibit the Narragansett Bay commission and/or the department of environmental management from charging fees, including annual permit fees, to any business that is utilizing a recycling process which does not discharge wastewater into publicly owned sewage treatment facilities or into the waters of this state. Finance

**S-0088**      **DISPOSAL OF RECYCLABLE MATERIAL** (Lombardo & Others) This act would prohibit the disposal of any recyclable materials and/or recyclable waste in the central landfill per any rules or regulations promulgated by the Rhode Island resource recovery corporation. Environment & Agriculture

**S-0118**      **RESOURCE RECOVERY CORPORATION-TIPPING FEES** (Lombardo & Others) This act would increase the Resource Recovery Corporation tipping fee from three dollars (\$3.00) to five dollars (\$5.00) per vehicle to be paid to the town of Johnston on a biannual basis. Environment & Agriculture

**S-0208**      **PERMANENT AIR QUALITY MONITORING ACT** (McCaffrey & Others) This act would extend the sunset provision of The Permanent Air Quality Monitoring Act from July 31, 2015 to July 31, 2017. Environment & Agriculture

**S-0266**      **WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY OPERATING PERMITS-PUBLIC HEARINGS** (Walaska) This act would require a notice and opportunity for the public to be heard with regard to the permitting of wastewater treatment facilities. Judiciary

**S-0332**      **WATER RESOURCES BOARD-LAND ACQUISITION** (Morgan & Algieri) This act would require consent by a municipality of any land acquisition therein by the water resources board. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-0368**      **PUBLIC DRINKING WATER –WATER CHARGES** (Sosnowski) This act would make a number of changes in the procedure for the remittance and disbursement of water charges. This act would also provide that upon dissolution of the water resources board (corporate), charges previously remitted to the board would be maintained and retained by each supplier to support water quality protection programs. Environment & Agriculture

**S-0701**      **UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS-PETROLEUM** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would make the underground storage tank review board an advisory board reducing membership from nine (9) to seven (7) members, removing fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in grants for removal/replacement of underground storage tanks, and making other technical changes to the hearing and claim procedures. Environment & Agriculture

**S-0737B**      **FRESHWATER WETLANDS** (Lynch & Others) This act would amend certain provisions of the general laws relative to the regulation of freshwater wetlands, by establishing state standards for freshwater buffers and setbacks to be promulgated by the department of environmental management and the coastal resources management council. Environment & Agriculture

**S-0369**      **CESSPOOLS** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would amend the Rhode Island cesspool act of 2007 including replacing individual sewage disposal systems with onsite wastewater treatment systems and would require cesspool removal or replacement upon the transfer of the property where the cesspool is located under certain circumstances. Environment & Agriculture

**S-0408**      **WATER QUALITY PROTECTION FUNDS** (Sosnowski) This act would classify the two (2) types of water quality protection funds and provide for the administration of the funds deposited therein. Environment & Agriculture

**S-0424**      **LEAD HAZARD MITIGATION** (Ottiano & Others) This act would make a change in the definition of housing presumed to be in compliance with lead-safe laws. Health & Human Services

**S-0537**      **WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT-CONNECTIONS** (McCaffrey & Others) This act would authorize connection to existing sanitary sewer lines from facilities across city and town lines under certain circumstances. Environment & Agriculture

**S-0608**      **RECYCLING-MERCURY-CONTAINING LAMPS** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would require manufacturers of mercury-containing lamps to establish and implement a statewide collection for the recycling of mercury-containing lamps. Environment & Agriculture

## **FINANCE & TAXATION**

**H-5044**      **TAX EXEMPTIONS-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT** (Edwards & Others) This act would create an exemption from taxation for certain residential property developments which have not been completed or, if completed, have not been sold and occupied. The exemption would not affect taxes on common areas and facilities for residential condominiums. The exemption would expire on December 31, 2021. Municipal Government

**H-5083**      **STATE AID-SUSPENSION OF MANDATE IMPLEMENTATION** (Edwards & Others) This act would provide that if during any fiscal year the state reimbursement to cities and 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 fifty percent (50%) of the value of the reimbursement shortfall. Finance

**H-5111**      **TAX EXEMPTIONS** (Keable & Others) This act would eliminate the exemption from taxation on the properties owned by the estates, persons, and families of the president and professors of Brown University. Finance

**H-5112**      **MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX** (McNamara & Others) This act would amend car tax statutes so that the assessment of used motor vehicles would be reduced to ninety-five percent (95%) of clean retail value for the first year after passage, then ninety percent (90%) of the clean retail value for the subsequent year and thereafter would be assessed at one hundred percent (100%) of the average trade-in value. Finance

**H-5128**      **VETERANS' EXEMPTIONS-NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS** (Nunes & Others) This act would provide veterans' exemption status for the property of persons who served in the National Guard for not less than five (5) consecutive years, and persons serving in the National Guard whose unit was called to active duty status by the President of the United States. Municipal Government

**H-5140**      **STATE FUNDS-SURPLUS DISTRIBUTION** (Shekarchi & Others) This act would direct fifty percent (50%) of any state surplus to be distributed to the general fund and the remaining fifty percent (50%) to the cities and towns in accordance with the state aid formula. The distribution based on the state aid formula shall be limited to the payment of unfunded liabilities, bond indebtedness, or pension obligations. Finance

**H-5165**      **PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ELIGIBILITY** (Shekarchi) This act would exempt the amount of any original contributions to a pension or annuity, including the Railroad Retirement Act (see 45 U.S.C. 231 et seq.) benefits, from income for the purpose of determining eligibility for property tax relief. Finance

**H-5171**      **VETERANS' EXEMPTIONS** (Casey & Others) This act would give cities and towns the option of entirely exempting the homestead of a disabled veteran or his or her surviving spouse from taxation provided the veteran has been deemed by the Veterans Administration to have a service connected disability of one hundred percent (100%). Finance

**H-5172**      **MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS** (Hull & Others) This act would require municipalities that fail to make required contributions to their locally administered pension funds, to use any budget surplus they may have to make up for their delinquent contributions. Municipal Government

**H-5173**      **TAX EXEMPTIONS-COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY** (Shekarchi & Others) *This act would establish an exemption from taxation improvements for new construction on commercial development property. This act would only apply to property owners who apply for or receive a construction permit after July 1, 2015 and the designation as development property extend beyond two (2) tax years. Additionally, the exemption provided for under the act would not apply to land. Municipal Government*

**H-5200**      **BUDGET COMMISSIONS** (Phillips & Others) *This act would eliminate personnel decisions from the enumerated powers of the budget commissions. Finance*

**H-5206**      **STATE AID** (Regunberg & Others) *This act would impose tax increases on personal income, with the revenue collected therefrom to be deposited into restricted receipt accounts for the purposes of state aid to municipalities and reimbursement of public school construction. Finance*

**H-5227**      **MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX** (Shekarchi & Others) *This act would amend the provisions of the general laws relating to the state car tax in order that the assessment of used motor vehicles would be based on the average trade-in price, rather than retail price. Finance*

**H-5259**      **BUDGET COMMISSIONS-OPEN MEETINGS** (Morin & Others) *This act would subject budget commissions to chapter 46 of title 42 of the general laws, "Open Meetings" in its entirety. This act would take effect upon passage and would apply to all budget commissions in existence on the date of passage. Finance*

**H-5296**      **TAX EXEMPTIONS-DISABLED VETERANS** (Gallison) *This act would give cities and towns the option of entirely exempting the homestead of a disabled veteran or his or her surviving spouse from taxation provided that he or she has been determined by the Veterans' Administration to have a service connected disability of one hundred percent (100%). Municipal Government*

**H-5317**      **TAX CLASSIFICATIONS-EFFECTIVE TAX RATE DIFFERENTIAL** (Morgan & Others) *This act would reduce the permitted differential between various classes of taxable property from fifty percent (50%) to twenty-five percent (25%). Municipal Government*

**H-5328**      **QUALIFYING LOW INCOME HOUSING** (Reilly & Others) *This act would increase the maximum tax from eight percent (8%) to twelve percent (12%) of gross scheduled rental income to be eligible for low-income housing. Finance*

**H-5331**      **EDUCATION AID-REGIONALIZATION BONUSES** (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 two percent (2%) of the state's share of the foundation education aid formula, and by removing the provision that the bonus would cease in the third fiscal year after regionalization. Finance*

**H-5332**      **REIMBURSEMENT FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICES** (Carnevale & Others) *This act would permit municipalities to seek reimbursement for essential services provided to certain tax exempt properties based on pro rata basis according to the assessed value of the property serviced. Finance*

**H-5336**      **ECONOMIC ZONE EXPANSION-MUNICIPAL GROWTH CENTERS** (Messier & Others) *This act would expand the West Warwick municipal economic zone to the entire state in all municipally designated and state approved "growth centers" as defined by the Land-Use 2025 element of the state guide plan. Finance*

**H-5343**      ***FIRE DISTRICT FISCAL STABILITY*** (Morgan & Others) This act would establish fiscal stability guidelines for fire districts including the placement of restrictions on the approval of capital expenditures, issuance of supplemental tax bills, and the adoption of tax classification plans. This act would also restrict fire districts to a four percent (4%) tax cap. Finance

**H-5393**      ***SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS- MORATORIUM*** (McLaughlin & Others) This act would eliminate the moratorium on new school building projects effective upon passage of the act or May 1, 2015, whichever were to occur first. Finance

**H-5394**      ***EDUCATION AID-TRANSITION PLAN ACCELERATION*** (Ackerman & Others) This act would accelerate the transition plan for calculating state aid to education. The act would specifically accelerate the amounts paid to those local educational agencies which receive more than the education aid the LEA was receiving as of the effective date of the school funding formula, but keeps the transition plan in place for those districts receiving less education aid. Finance

**H-5406**      ***REVALUATION CYCLE*** (Hearn) This act would increase from three (3) to five (5) years the interval of time within which a city or town must conduct an update of its last real property revaluation. The five (5) year update of real property would not commence prior to the completion of all previously scheduled revaluations. Municipal Government

**H-5431**      ***PAYMENT TO FIRE COMPANIES-REIMBURSEMENT*** (Kennedy & Others) This act would require reimbursement payments from the general fund to volunteer fire departments responding to emergencies on or along Route 95. Finance

**H-5441**      ***REIMBURSEMENT FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICES*** (Carnevale & Others) This act would permit municipalities to seek reimbursement for essential services provided to certain tax exempt properties based on pro rata basis according to the assessed value of the property serviced. Finance

**H-5518**      ***ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT FEES-MORATORIUM*** (Shekarchi & Others) This act would impose a moratorium on the assessment and collection of impact fees on cities and towns for the construction of public facilities for a period of thirty-six (36) months or until new statewide single family permit activity exceeds one thousand five hundred (1,500) units. Finance

**H-5539**      ***BUDGET COMMISSIONS-REIMBURSEMENT*** (McLaughlin & Others) This act would require the state to reimburse cities, towns and fire districts for twenty percent (20%) of the costs incurred in connection with the appointment of a receiver for such city, town or fire district. The act would be applied retroactively to costs incurred on or after July 1, 2010 and would be applied retroactively to July 1, 2010. Finance

**H-5540**      ***EDUCATION AID*** (Reilly & Others) This act would restore the amount of education aid given to the towns of Middletown and Portsmouth to those amounts and levels in effect for the fiscal year prior to the implementation of the permanent foundation education aid formula. Finance

**H-5541**      ***MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX-EXEMPTIONS*** (Fellela & Others) This act would include leased motor vehicles and trailers as exempt from the excise tax when real estate and tangible personal property are insufficient to exhaust the exemption amount provided by law. Finance

**H-5545**      **TAXES AND FEES- BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION** (Jacquard) This act would create temporary reductions on certain fees and taxes relating to building and construction, including permit fees, placing a moratorium on the assessment of impact fees, and sales tax on lumber and other building materials. Finance

**H-5569**      **MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX-CALCULATION** (Reilly & Others) This act would determine the amount of the motor vehicle excise tax due on any particular vehicle or trailer in any registration year, providing for a new calculation using a depreciation schedule based on NADA MSRP with a fixed rate of \$25 per thousand. Finance

**H-5616**      **TAX SALES-NOTICE** (Keable) This act would require the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation to notify those mortgagees and mortgage assignees of record within thirty (30) days that the property tax has been paid and a tax lien has been acquired by said corporation. Judiciary

**H-5716**      **SCHOOL HOUSING PROJECTS-BOND ISSUANCE** (Keable & Newberry) This act would provide that if a municipality or local educational agency (LEA) has an A rating or better with any of the primary rating agencies, the municipality or LEA shall be able to issue and sell their bonds on the open market, without the need for general assembly approval or for the bonds to be issued through the Rhode Island health and educational building corporation. Finance

**H-5723**      **VETERANS' EXEMPTIONS** (MacBeth & Others) This act would extend property tax exemptions given to veterans, gold star parents, and blind persons, to include, and be applicable to leased vehicles. Finance

**H-5725**      **MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX EXEMPTION** (Kazarian & Others) This act would exempt from the excise tax any vehicle or trailer with a valuation of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or less. Finance

**H-5836**      **LIBRARY AID-DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES** (Maldonado & Others) This act would increase the state's share to support local public library services in distressed communities, by an amount equal to the amount paid by the distressed city or town into the ocean state libraries (OSL) annual assessment charges. Finance

**H-5849**      **LOCALLY ADMINISTERED PENSION PLANS-REPORTING** (McNamara) This act would require municipalities to include a twenty (20) year amortization schedule once every three (3) years in their annual valuation studies, and would provide the general treasurer, the director of revenue and the auditor general within one hundred eighty (180) days a reasonable alternative funding improvement plan to emerge from critical status. Finance

**H-5900Aaa** **2016 APPROPRIATIONS ACT**

**ARTICLE 8: COLLECTIONS OF TOLLS AND CHARGES** (Gallison) This act would require personnel of police, fire, and ambulance services for the city of Newport and the town of Jamestown be reimbursed if they are required to pay a toll for use of the Newport Bridge during the course of their duty. Upon presentment of receipts for the payment of the toll to the town of Jamestown or the city of Newport, such personnel would be reimbursed for all charges on an annual basis by the respective municipality, who in turn shall be reimbursed for all payments made by the state. Finance

**ARTICLE 11: HOTEL TAX DISTRIBUTION RATES/REAL ESTATE CONVEYANCE TAX** (Gallison) *This act would make certain changes to the rate of distribution of the hotel tax for certain municipalities. Additionally, this act would also make changes to 44-25-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-25 entitled "Real Estate Conveyance Tax" with respect to fees imposed on certain grants, transfers, assignment of or vesting of interests in real estate and acquired real estate companies. Finance*

**H-5928 EDUCATION AID-SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS** (O'Brien & Others) *This act would amend the definition of the term "extraordinary costs" for the purposes of excess costs associated with special education students. The new definition of extraordinary costs would be educational costs that are over three (3) times the average statewide special education cost. Finance*

**H-5955 RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS** (Handy & Others) *This act would establish methodologies to assess and tax commercial and residential renewable energy systems. Finance*

**H-5982 CLASSIFICATION OF TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY** (Slater) *This act would make changes in the classification of taxable property for local taxation purposes. Municipal Government*

**H-6102 BOND REFINANCING-SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS** (Slater & Others) *This act would extend to December 31, 2017, the sunset provision reducing the rate of return on the refinancing of bonds issued by the Rhode Island health and educational building corporation, in support of school housing projects for local communities. Finance*

**H-6106 EDUCATION AID-DISTRIBUTION** (Gallison & Tanzi) *This act would require that foundation education aid be distributed to the school district and not to individual municipalities. Finance*

**H-6107 QUALIFYING LOW INCOME HOUSING-ASSESSMENT** (Gallison & Others) *This act would remove the requirement that qualifying low-income housing be subject to the language "substantial rehabilitation" as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Finance*

**H-6138 MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX** (McKiernan & Others) *This act would provide that the excise tax assessed against vehicles and trailers may be determined by a non-binding recommendation of the vehicle value commission, or by the assessor's combination of the published retail and trade-in values. Finance*

**H-6188 PROPERTY TAX RELIEF/CREDITS** (Melo) *This act would make the property relief tax credit of an elderly and/or disabled claimant available to another member of the household on a pro-rata basis as of the date of a claimant's death. Finance*

**S-0023 MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX-VALUATION** (Walaska & Others) *This act would amend car tax statutes so that the assessment of used motor vehicles would be based on the average trade-in price, rather than retail price and modifies the existing appeal procedure to allow for an appeal based on the presentation of a certified appraisal from a licensed motor vehicle dealer to the tax assessor. Finance*

**S-0027 EDUCATION AID-REGIONALIZATION BONUSES** (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 two percent (2%) of the state's share of the foundation education aid formula, and by removing the provision that the bonus would cease in the third fiscal year after regionalization. Finance*

**S-0032**      **QUALIFYING LOW INCOME HOUSING** (Picard & Others) This act would increase the maximum tax on qualifying low income property from eight percent (8%) to ten percent (10%) of prospective gross scheduled rental income. Finance

**S-0033**      **QUALIFYING LOW INCOME HOUSING** (Picard & Goodwin) This act would increase the maximum tax from eight percent (8%) to ten percent (10%) of the property's previous year's gross scheduled rental income for qualifying low income housing. Finance

**S-0035**      **TAX EXEMPTIONS-COMMERCE CORPORATION** (Walaska) This act would eliminate the requirement that a construction, reconstruction or rehabilitation project be approved prior to July 1, 2011 to receive sales tax benefits provided pursuant to the sales tax expenses in this section which apply to certain construction materials and fixtures necessary to complete projects approved by the commerce corporation. Finance

**S-0043**      **MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX** (Crowley & Others) This act would provide a six thousand dollar (\$6,000) exemption to the motor vehicle excise tax for residents of distressed communities beginning in fiscal year 2016. Finance

**S-0102**      **EDUCATION AID** (Picard) This act would amend the calculation of the permanent foundation education aid to school districts. The act would make an adjustment based upon students residing in qualified low income housing. Finance

**S-0104**      **BUDGET COMMISSIONS** (Picard & Cote) This act would prohibit a budget commission from selecting, hiring and/or firing specific city, town, educational, police and/or fire district employees. Finance

**S-0105**      **EDUCATION AID** (Picard) This act would delete the provisions of § 16-7-34.3 regarding reimbursement by the state for conventional public housing students and would add similar language to § 16-7.2-6 to provide permanent foundation education aid funding for services and instructional services for students residing in conventional public housing units. Finance

**S-0112**      **QUALIFYING LOW INCOME HOUSING** (Picard) This act would permit a municipality, where there is a budget commission, to charge a tax of up to fifteen percent (15%) of the qualified low-income housing's current year's gross scheduled rent. Finance

**S-0116**      **BUDGET COMMISSIONS** (Picard) This act would provide that a budget commission shall be appointed for a period of no longer than twenty-four (24) months, and would further require that the director of revenue seek general assembly approval for the reappointment of a budget commission. Finance

**S-0159**      **MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX-ELECTRIC VEHICLES** (Miller & Others) This act would exempt qualified electric plug-in drive vehicles from excise taxes. Finance

**S-0161**      **PAYMENT TO FIRE COMPANIES-REIMBURSEMENT** (Raptakis & Others) This act would require reimbursement payments from the general fund to volunteer fire departments responding to emergencies on or along Route 95. Finance

**S-0178**      **REAL ESTATE CONVEYANCE TAX** (Goldin & Others) This act would provide that a real estate conveyance tax shall be imposed on the transfer of a controlling interest in an entity possessing real property. Judiciary

**S-0219**      **PROPERTY TAX RELIEF-DISABLED VETERANS** (DaPonte & Others) This act would add to the definition of "disabled," to include those persons receiving veterans' affairs disability benefits paid by the federal government for purposes of property tax relief. Finance

**S-0227**      **MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX EXEMPTION** (Crowley & Others) This act would provide a six thousand dollar (\$6,000) state funded exemption to the motor vehicle excise tax for residents of distressed communities beginning in fiscal year 2017. Finance

**S-0238**      **REVALUATION CYCLE** (Walaska & Others) This act would increase from three (3) to five (5) years the interval of time within which a city or town must conduct an update of its last real property revaluation. The five (5) year update of real property would not commence prior to the completion of all previously scheduled revaluations. It would also increase the time interval between revaluations from nine (9) years to ten (10) years and would require the department of revenue to publish annually, a ten (10) year schedule of updates and revaluations to assist the cities and towns with compliance of these requirements. Finance

**S-0313**      **MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX** (O'Neill & Others) This act would amend the provisions of the general laws relating to the state car tax in order that the assessment of used motor vehicles would be based on the average trade-in price, rather than retail price. Finance

**S-0315**      **REIMBURSEMENT FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICES** (Ciccione & Others) This act would permit municipalities to seek reimbursement for essential services provided to certain tax exempt properties based on pro rata basis according to the assessed value of the property serviced. Finance

**S-0383**      **LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF TAXES-STATISTICAL UPDATE SCHEDULE** (Fogarty & Others) This act would increase from three (3) to six (6) years the interval of time within which a city or town must conduct an update of its last real property revaluation. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-0468**      **REVENUE SHARING** (Satchell) This act would provide for revenue sharing with municipalities commencing in fiscal year 2016, based upon three percent (3%) of total state tax revenues. It would also impose a two percent (2%) tax increase on personal income over two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) commencing January 1, 2016. Finance

**S-0472**      **STATE AID** (Satchell) This act would impose tax increases on personal income, with the revenue collected therefrom to be deposited into restricted receipt accounts for the purposes of state aid to municipalities and reimbursement of public school construction. Finance

**S-0473**      **STATE AID-PUBLIC SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION** (Satchell) This act would impose a two percent (2%) tax increase on personal income over two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) beginning January 1, 2016. The revenue collected therefrom would be deposited into a restricted account to pay for public school construction and maintenance. Finance

**S-0474**      **BUDGET COMMISSIONS-ASSOCIATED COSTS** (Crowley) *This act would provide that a city or town in receivership or bankruptcy may have the costs associated with the receivership or bankruptcy that are owed to the state reduced by twenty percent (20%) for each year that the municipality is in conformity with the bankruptcy plan. Finance*

**S-0540**      **STATE/MUNICIPAL PURCHASES** (McCaffrey & Walaska) *This act would require the state and municipalities to award bids for purchases of goods or services to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder whose bid is the lowest price. Finance*

**S-0545**      **LOCALLY ADMINISTERED PENSION PLANS-REPORTING** (McCaffrey) *This act would require municipalities to include a twenty (20) year amortization schedule once every three (3) years in their annual valuation studies, and would provide the general treasurer, the director of revenue and the auditor general within one hundred eighty (180) days a reasonable alternative funding improvement plan to emerge from critical status. Finance*

**S-0558**      **ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT FEES-MORATORIUM** (McCaffrey & Others) *This act would impose a moratorium on the assessment and collection of impact fees on cities and towns for the construction of public facilities for a period of thirty-six (36) months or until new statewide single family permit activity exceeds one thousand five hundred (1,500) units. Housing & Municipal Government*

**S-0559**      **TAX EXEMPTIONS-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY DEVELOPMENTS** (McCaffrey & Others) *This act would create an exemption from taxation, on or after December 31, 2014, for certain residential property developments which have not been completed or, if completed, have not been sold and occupied. The exemption would not affect taxes on common areas and facilities for residential condominiums. The exemption would expire on December 31, 2021. Housing & Municipal Government*

**S-0562**      **QUALIFYING LOW INCOME HOUSING** (Picard) *This act would permit a municipality, where twelve percent (12%) of the housing in a municipality qualifies for low-income housing, to charge ten percent (10%) based on the current year's gross scheduled rent. Housing & Municipal Government*

**S-0648**      **EDUCATION AID CALCULATION** (Pearson & Others) *This act would accelerate the transition plan for the calculation of state aid to education. The act specifically accelerates the amounts paid to those local educational agencies which receive more than the education aid the LEA was receiving as of the effective date of the school funding formula, but keeps the transition plan in place for those districts receiving less education aid. Finance*

**S-0699**      **CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING** (Gallo) *This act would provide that the costs for special education services for students attending a charter public school that is in partnership with a public school system would be paid by the district where the student resides. Education*

**S-0705**      **STATE AID-LIBRARIES** (Crowley & Others) *This act would increase the state's share to support local public library services in distressed communities, by an amount equal to the amount paid by the distressed city or town into the ocean state libraries (OSL) annual assessment charges. Finance*

**S-0707**      **RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS** (Sosnowski & Others) *This act would establish methodologies to assess and tax commercial and residential renewable energy systems. Finance*

**S-0841**      **BOND REFINANCING-SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS** (Metts & Others) This act would extend to December 31, 2017, the sunset provision reducing the rate of return on the refinancing of bonds issued by the Rhode Island health and educational building corporation, in support of school housing projects for local communities. Finance

**S-0846A**      **MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX** (Ciccone & Others) This act would provide that the excise tax assessed against vehicles and trailers may be determined by a non-binding recommendation of the vehicle value commission, or by the assessor's combination of the published retail and trade-in values. Judiciary

**S-0568**      **TAX SALES-NOTICE** (McCaffrey & Ciccone) This act would require the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation to notify those mortgagees and mortgage assignees of record within thirty (30) days that the property tax has been paid and a tax lien has been acquired by said corporation. Judiciary

**S-0921**      **OVERSIGHT COMMISSION-PROPERTY TAXATION** (Jabour & Others) This act would change the name and composition of the legislative commission established to study and evaluate property tax related issues, including tax classification systems and the process of valuation appeals by making it a permanent commission. Finance

**S-0943**      **EDUCATION AID-GROUP HOME RESIDENTS** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would require the state to pay for the education of students placed in group homes outside of their municipality. Finance

**S-0944**      **EDUCATION AID-RATE FREEZE** (Algiere & Gee) This act would freeze the amount of education aid for local school agencies that are scheduled to receive less aid under the funding formula. The education aid would be frozen at the rate provided in fiscal year 2015 for a period of three (3) years. Finance

**S-0946**      **REAL ESTATE TAX LIENS** (Archambault & Others) This act would expedite the foreclosure procedure on vacant property, and would amend the provisions of the general laws on tax sales in order to, among other things, establish priorities of tax liens, clarify the effect of late recordings and simplify procedures in the event of a void sale. Judiciary

**S-0952A**      **ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE-I-195 REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would establish a tax assessment schedule and conditions for development of land located within the I-195 Redevelopment District and would provide for the transfer of exempt or stabilized property. The act would also provide for a twelve (12) month payment plan for delinquent tax payments, and would require that projects costing ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) or more to enter into community workforce agreements with the I-195 redevelopment commission. Finance

## **FIRE DISTRICTS**

**H-5307**      **FIRE DISTRICTS-OPEN MEETINGS** (*Gallison & Others*) This act would exempt fire companies with no tax and/or policy making authority from certain posting requirements of the open meetings act. Judiciary

**H-5343**      **FIRE DISTRICT FISCAL STABILITY** (*Morgan & Others*) This act would establish fiscal stability guidelines for fire districts including the placement of restrictions on the approval of capital expenditures, issuance of supplemental tax bills, and the adoption of tax classification plans. This act would also restrict fire districts to a four percent (4%) tax cap. Finance

**H-5344**      **FIRE DISTRICTS-FINANCIAL MEETINGS** (*Morgan & Others*) This act would require that a quorum for all local fire district financial meetings be at least two percent (2%) of the total registered and qualified voting members of the fire district. Finance

**H-5345**      **FIRE DISTRICTS-MEETING NOTICES** (*Morgan & Others*) This act would establish additional ways by which local fire districts would be required to notify their members. The act would also provide new requirements as to the time for giving notice. Finance

**H-5537**      **BUDGET COMMISSIONS-FIRE DISTRICTS EXEMPT** (*Morgan & Others*) This act would exempt fire districts from the provisions of the budget commission chapter. Finance

**H-5961**      **CUMBERLAND FIRE DISTRICT-FIRE COMMITTEE** (*Ackerman & Others*) This act would establish that membership on the Cumberland Fire District Fire Committee constitutes holding a public office and that the elections of the Fire Committee are governed by state election laws. Members would not be allowed to hold other public office, except that members elected prior to November 5, 2014, would be eligible to serve on the committee and the local town council until the next succeeding election. Judiciary

**H-5971**      **CERTIFICATION OF TAX ROLLS/ADOPTION OF BUDGETS** (*Gallison*) This act would amend the time period in which fire districts must certify tax rolls from not later than thirty (30) business days prior to a fire district's annual meeting to not later than ten (10) business days after mailing of the first property tax bill, and would amend the time period in which fire districts must provide adopted budgets from thirty (30) to forty-five (45) days of final action. This act would also require that quarterly reports and semi-annual budgets be submitted to the fire district clerk. Finance

**S-0108**      **FIRE DISTRICTS-MAXIMUM LEVY** (*Raptakis & Kettle*) This act would make any tax increases in any of the four (4) fire districts located within the town of Coventry subject to the maximum levy sections of the general laws, after a gradual six (6) year phase-in within exception for capital expenditures. Finance

**S-0054**      **FIRE DISTRICTS-OPEN MEETINGS** (*Pearson & Others*) This act would exempt fire companies with no tax and/or policy making authority from certain posting requirements of the open meetings act. Judiciary

**S-0710**      **CERTIFICATION OF TAX ROLLS/ADOPTION OF BUDGETS** (Ruggerio & Others) *This act would amend the time period in which fire districts must certify tax rolls from not later than thirty (30) business days prior to a fire district's annual meeting to not later than ten (10) business days after mailing of the first property tax bill, and would amend the time period in which fire districts must provide adopted budgets from thirty (30) to forty-five (45) days of final action. This act would also require that quarterly reports and semi-annual budgets be submitted to the fire district clerk. Finance*

**S-1018**      **INDEPENDENT COVENTRY FIRE DISTRICT-STUDY COMMISSION** (Raptakis & Kettle) *This resolution would create a twenty-three (23) member special legislative study commission whose purpose it would be to make a comprehensive study of creating and establishing one independent or municipal fire district in Coventry, and who would report back to the General Assembly no later than March 1, 2016, and whose life would expire on June 1, 2016. Housing & Municipal Government*

**S-1019**      **COVENTRY/CENTRAL COVENTRY CONSOLIDATED FIRE DISTRICT-STUDY COMMISSION** (Raptakis & Kettle) *This resolution would create a thirteen (13) member special legislative commission whose purpose it would be to make a comprehensive study of the potential consolidation of the Coventry fire district and the Central Coventry fire district and provide recommendations, and who would report back to the General Assembly on or before January 5, 2016, and said commission would expire on April 5, 2016. Housing & Municipal Government*

## HOUSING

**H-5256**      **PUBLIC HOUSING-SMOKING PROHIBITED** (Phillips & Others) This act would prohibit smoking in any area including dwelling units of any building owned or operated by a city or town housing authority. Municipal Government

**H-5512**      **EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSISTANCE FUND** (Slater & Others) This act would establish an emergency housing assistance fund to be administered by the department of human services in conjunction with community action program agencies. Finance

**H-5514**      **RHODE ISLAND HOUSING RESOURCES ACT –APPROPRIATIONS** (Slater & Others) This act would create a specific appropriation for twelve million five hundred thousand dollars (\$12,500,000) to be used by the housing resources commission in addition to the revenue generated from the current tax. This act would also appropriate approximately two million one hundred and seventy thousand dollars (\$2,170,000) in fiscal year 2016 to carry out its assigned purposes. Finance

**H-5593**      **DISCRIMINATION-MILITARY STATUS** (Malik & Others) This act would add military status discrimination as an unlawful housing practice protecting veterans who have an honorable or administrative discharge or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States and the Rhode Island National Guard. Veterans' Affairs

**H-5917**      **RENTAL SUBSIDIES/RETENTION ASSISTANCE-VETERAN PREFERENCE** (Malik & Others) This act would give veterans priority for housing rental subsidy and housing retention assistance under the Rhode Island housing resource act. Finance

**H-6357**      **LEAD-SAFE COMPLIANCE** (Edwards) This act would make a change in the definition of housing presumed to be in compliance with lead-safe laws. Municipal Government

**S-0241A**      **DISCRIMINATION-MILITARY STATUS** (Felag & Others) This act would add military status discrimination as an unlawful housing practice protecting veterans who have an honorable or general administrative discharge or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States and the Rhode Island National Guard. Judiciary

**S-0306**      **RHODE ISLAND HOUSING RESOURCES ACT –APPROPRIATIONS** (Crowley) This act would create a specific appropriation for twelve million five hundred thousand dollars (\$12,500,000) to be used by the housing resources commission in addition to the revenue generated from the current tax. This act would also appropriate approximately two million one hundred and seventy thousand dollars (\$2,170,000) in fiscal year 2016 to carry out its assigned purposes. Finance

**S-0307**      **EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSISTANCE FUND** (Lombardi & Others) This act would establish an emergency housing assistance fund to be administered by the department of human services in conjunction with community action program agencies. Finance

[S-0435](#)      ***HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY-BACKGROUND CHECKS (Felag)*** This act would require prospective tenants for housing in every housing authority for the elderly subsidized by the federal government, to undergo a FBI criminal records check. Judiciary

## LABOR RELATIONS

**H-5196**      **DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING** (*Morgan & Others*) This act would permit drug and alcohol testing of employees of state or municipal agencies who operate state or municipally-owned vehicles. Labor

**H-5350**      **BINDING ARBITRATION-MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES** (*Carnevale & Others*) This act would expand compulsory binding arbitration subjects for municipal employees to include money matters with new arbitration factors and allows a collective bargaining agreement to continue while negotiations on a successor agreement takes place. Labor

**H-5473**      **FIREFIGHTERS' ARBITRATION** (*Carnevale & Others*) This act would include platoon structure and/or shift schedule as items covered by collective bargaining for firefighters. Judiciary

**H-6278**      **PUBLIC SAFETY-LENGTH OF WORKWEEK** (*Edwards*) This act would establish a forty-two (42) hour workweek for firefighters and rescue service personnel and a forty (40) hour workweek for municipal police officers unless otherwise agreed upon by the parties with regard to the payment of overtime. Labor

**S-0446**      **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS-TEACHERS/MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES** (*McCaffrey & Others*) This act would require that the contractual provisions contained in a collective bargaining agreement with certified school teachers and municipal employees would continue until a successor agreement has been reached between the parties. Labor

**S-0531**      **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS-POLICE/FIREFIGHTERS** (*Archambault*) This act would extend any existing collective bargaining agreements for firefighters and municipal police until a successor agreement has been reached or an interest arbitration award has been rendered. Labor

**S-0533**      **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS-FIREFIGHTERS** (*Lombardi & Others*) This act would include platoon structure and/or shift schedule as items covered by collective bargaining for firefighters. Labor

**S-0643**      **DISABILITY QUALIFICATIONS** (*Archambault*) This act would redefine the method by which a police officer will be considered "totally and permanently disabled" under this section. Labor

**S-0961A**      **PUBLIC SAFETY-LENGTH OF WORKWEEK** (*Lombardi & Others*) This act would establish a forty-two (42) hour workweek for firefighters and rescue service personnel and a forty (40) hour workweek for municipal police officers unless otherwise agreed upon by the parties with regard to the payment of overtime. Labor

**S-1027**      **STATEWIDE TEACHER CONTRACTS-STUDY COMMISSION** (*Paiva Weed & Others*) This resolution would create an eleven (11) member special legislative commission whose purpose it would be to study the costs, benefits, and implementation of a statewide teacher contract in Rhode Island, and who would report back to the President of the Senate no later than February 1, 2016, and whose life would expire on March 31, 2016. Consent Calendar

## **LIQUOR CONTROL & LICENSES**

**H-5081**      **WINE DIRECT SHIPPERS LICENSE** (Newberry & Others) This act would create a Wine Direct Shipper License for licensed producers in this or any state to directly ship a limited amount of wine to residents age twenty-one (21) or older for personal consumption with oversight by the department of business regulation and/or the division of taxation with any violations punishable as a misdemeanor with a fine of up to one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) and/or imprisonment for a period of up to one year. Corporations

**H-5178**      **WINE SAMPLING** (Carnevale & Others) This act would permit class A liquor retail license holders to elect on four (4) occasions annually to serve unlimited samples of wine products which are available for purchase from the licensee's outlet. Corporations

**H-5189**      **POWDERED ALCOHOL** (Carson & Others) This act would make the possession of powdered alcohol a crime punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment. Judiciary

**H-5424**      **RETAIL LICENSES-NIGHTCLUBS** (Hearn & Others) This act would prohibit any person under twenty-one (21) years of age from a nightclub where alcoholic beverages are served. Corporations

**H-5428**      **FARMER-WINERY SALES** (Nunes & Others) This act would permit the sale of farmer-winery products at farmers' markets statewide. Corporations

**H-5523**      **DISTILLERIES-LICENSING FEES/TAX EXEMPTIONS** (Abney & Canario) This act would provide that a distillery producing more than fifty thousand (50,000) gallons or more of product would pay a licensing fee of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) but one that produces less than fifty thousand (50,000) gallons per year would pay a licensing fee of five hundred dollars (\$500) per year. It would also grant a tax exemption on the first fifty thousand (50,000) gallons of distilled spirits produced and distributed in this state to any distillery that has been owned and operated in this state for at least twelve (12) consecutive months. Finance

**H-5601**      **PROXIMITY TO SCHOOLS/PLACES OF PUBLIC WORSHIP** (Winfield) This act would provide that on and after July 1, 2015, any city or town council would have the authority to exempt said city or town from the prohibition against the issuance of certain alcoholic beverage licenses within two hundred (200') feet of a school or place of public worship. Corporations

**H-6056**      **SALE TO MANUFACTURERS OF FOOD PRODUCTS** (Carnevale & Others) This act would permit the holder of a wholesaler's Class C license to sell alcohol to manufacturers of food products in connection with the manufacture of such products. Corporations

**H-6228A**      **UNDERGROUND UTILITY CONTRACTORS** (Keable & Others) This act would extend the current "grandfathering" exemption for licensing of underground utility contractors without examination to include contractors who obtained a valid underground utility license or onsite wastewater treatment system installer's license within the last five (5) years. Corporations

**S-0139**      **WINE SAMPLING** (Jabour & Others) This act would permit class A liquor retail license holders to elect on four (4) occasions annually to serve unlimited samples of wine products which are available for purchase from the licensee's outlet. Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

**S-0175 aa**      **POWDERED ALCOHOL** (Lombardo & Others) This act would make the possession of powdered alcohol a crime punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment. Judiciary

**S-0255**      **ALCOHOL INHALATION DEVICES** (Crowley & Others) This act would make the possession of an alcohol without liquid device a crime punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment. Judiciary

**S-0284**      **PROXIMITY TO SCHOOLS/PLACES OF PUBLIC WORSHIP** (Fogarty & Others) This act would provide that on and after July 1, 2015, any city or town council would have the authority to exempt said city or town from the prohibition against the issuance of certain alcoholic beverage licenses within two hundred (200') feet of a school or place of public worship. Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

**S-0286**      **DISTILLERIES-LICENSING FEES/TAX EXEMPTIONS** (DiPalma & Others) This act would provide that a distillery producing more than fifty thousand (50,000) gallons or more of product would pay a licensing fee of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) but one that produces less than fifty thousand (50,000) gallons per year would pay a licensing fee of five hundred dollars (\$500) per year. It would also grant a tax exemption on the first fifty thousand (50,000) gallons of distilled spirits produced and distributed in this state to any distillery that has been owned and operated in this state for at least twelve (12) consecutive months. Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

**S-0354**      **FARMERS MARKET WINE/BEER SALES** (Satchell & Others) This act would amend the current law so that a farmer-winery or a farmer-brewery may, under certain conditions, be licensed to sell wine/beer for off-premises consumption at a farmers' market. Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

**S-0356**      **ALCOHOL-SERVER TRAINING** (Raptakis & Others) This act would prohibit individuals from completing alcohol-server training requirements from online or internet sources. Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

**S-0829**      **SALE TO MANUFACTURERS OF FOOD PRODUCTS** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would permit the holder of a wholesaler's Class C license to sell alcohol to manufacturers of food products in connection with the manufacture of such products. Special Legislation & Veterans Affairs

## **PLANNING & ZONING**

**H-5202**      ***ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION-MICRO ZONES*** (Serpa) *This act would create micro zones in distressed areas to stimulate economic revitalization, employment opportunities, and business development through the redevelopment of obsolete, dilapidated, and abandoned industrial and commercial structures. Finance*

**H-5221**      ***ENTERPRISE ZONES-QUALIFIED BUSINESS DEFINED*** (Reilly & Others) *This act would expand the definition of qualified businesses with respect to enterprise zones to include limited liability partnerships and any other form of business corporation. Finance*

**H-5531**      ***ACCESSORY FAMILY DWELLINGS*** (Winfield & Marshall) *This act would allow the owner of an owner-occupied single family home to build an accessory dwelling unit to house a member of the family who is sixty-two (62) years of age or older. Municipal Government*

**H-5643**      ***COMPREHENSIVE PLANS-AFFORDABLE HOUSING REQUIREMENTS*** (Price & Others) *This act would eliminate the mandate requiring cities and towns to include an affordable housing program in their comprehensive plans. Finance*

**H-5644**      ***COMPREHENSIVE PLANS-AFFORDABLE HOUSING REQUIREMENTS*** (Roberts & Others) *This act would remove the mandate requiring cities and towns to include an affordable housing program in their comprehensive plans and would provide an opt-out provision regarding any provision in the state guide plan regarding affordable housing and any related land use provisions. Finance*

**H-5666**      ***HISTORICAL AREAS-SOLAR/WINDPOWER*** (Ajello & Others) *This act would facilitate the use of solar and wind power in historic districts. Environment & Natural Resources*

**H-5680**      ***STONE DUST*** (Kennedy & Others) *This act would regulate the blasting, creation, and storage of stone dust. Municipal Government*

**H-5815**      ***NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS*** (Morin & Others) *This act would provide that notice of a public hearing of a zoning ordinance be sent by the city or town by first class mail to adjoining property owners within two hundred feet (200') of any zoning ordinance change. Municipal Government*

**H-6012**      ***TOLLING OF EXPIRATION PERIODS*** (Shekarchi & Others) *This act would extend the expiration dates pertaining to approvals and permits and would apply to approvals and permits in effect on November 9, 2009 and those issued between November 9, 2009 and June 30, 2016, but would not revive any expired approval or permit. This act would take effect upon passage and shall apply to approvals and permits in effect on November 9, 2009 and those issued between November 9, 2009 and June 30, 2016, but shall not revive any expired approval or permit. Municipal Government*

**S-0106**      ***ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION-MICRO ZONES*** (Metts & Others) *This act would create micro zones in distressed areas to stimulate economic revitalization, employment opportunities, and business development through the redevelopment of obsolete, dilapidated and abandoned industrial and commercial structures. Finance*

**S-0426**      **COMPREHENSIVE PLANS** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would require municipalities to include in their comprehensive plans a process by which accessory agricultural operations may be permitted and to include standards for identifying eligible accessory agricultural operations. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-0496**      **ACCESSORY FAMILY DWELLINGS** (Picard) This act would allow the owner of an owner-occupied single family home to build an accessory dwelling unit to house a member of the family who is sixty-two (62) years of age or older. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-0610**      **MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONES** (Doyle & Others) This act would expand the number of municipal economic zones permitted by law. Finance

**S-0621**      **STONE DUST** (Algiere & Morgan) This act would regulate the blasting, creation, and storage of stone dust. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-0653**      **COMPREHENSIVE PLANS-AFFORDABLE HOUSING REQUIREMENTS** (Cote & Others) This act would eliminate the mandate requiring cities and towns to include an affordable housing program in their comprehensive plans. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-0654**      **COMPREHENSIVE PLANS-AFFORDABLE HOUSING REQUIREMENTS** (Cote & Others) This act would remove the mandate requiring cities and towns to include an affordable housing program in their comprehensive plans and would provide an opt-out provision regarding any provision in the state guide plan regarding affordable housing and any related land use provisions. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-0788**      **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS** (Picard) This act would provide that notice of a public hearing of a zoning ordinance be sent by the city or town by first class mail to adjoining property owners within two hundred feet (200') of any zoning ordinance change. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-0817**      **TOLLING OF EXPIRATION PERIODS** (McCaffrey & Others) This act would extend the expiration dates pertaining to approvals and permits and would apply to approvals and permits in effect on November 9, 2009 and those issued between November 9, 2009 and June 30, 2016, but would not revive any expired approval or permit. This act would take effect upon passage and shall apply to approvals and permits in effect on November 9, 2009 and those issued between November 9, 2009 and June 30, 2016, but shall not revive any expired approval or permit. Municipal Government

**S-0818**      **COMPREHENSIVE PLANS-COMPLIANCE** (Picard & Others) This act would repeal the provisions and references to compliance with the state guide plan relative to local comprehensive planning for land use. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-0820**      **COMPREHENSIVE PLANS-AFFORDABLE HOUSING REQUIREMENTS** (Cote & Others) This act would remove the mandate requiring cities and towns to include an affordable housing program in their comprehensive plans and would provide an opt-out provision regarding any provision in the state guide plan regarding affordable housing and any related land use provisions. Housing & Municipal Government

**PUBLIC SAFETY (POLICE & FIRE)**

**H-5014**      **TRAINING STANDARDS –DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES** (Lombardi) This act would require mandatory training standards for police officers and trainees, in identifying, responding, and handling all incidents involving any person with a developmental disability. H.E.W

**H-5015**      **TRAINING STANDARDS-MENTAL HEALTH LITERACY** (Lombardi) This act would require for Police Officer Commission on Standards and Training to establish mandatory training standards for police officers and trainees in all incidents involving mental health literacy. H.E.W

**H-5034**      **REPORTING OF CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT** (Ackerman & Others) This act would require institutions of higher education to report allegations of sexual assault to law enforcement. Judiciary

**H-5065**      **ASSAULT-POLICE OFFICERS & OTHER OFFICIALS** (Shekarchi & Others) This act would raise the maximum penalties for the crime of assault of police officers and other officials from three (3) to six (6) years imprisonment and from one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) to three thousand dollars (\$3,000). Judiciary

**H-5068**      **COMPUTER CRIME-STUDENT ENDANGERMENT** (Fellela &Others) This act would prohibit the use of a computer, phone, smartphone, tablet, fax machine, social media or any like device to make any statements or threats concerning the endangerment of students at any public or private daycare facility, preschool, school, college or university in the state of Rhode Island. This act would upon conviction be a felony resulting in fines and/or imprisonment and restitution to the state, municipality and/or school. Judiciary

**H-5119**      **POSSESSION OF FIREARMS** (Williams) This act would prohibit persons convicted of certain misdemeanor domestic offenses from purchasing, owning, carrying, transporting, or having in his or her possession any firearm, and would prohibit persons from carrying a rifle or shotgun in any vehicle or conveyance, except upon his or her own property. This act would also provide additional penalties for transferring a firearm to a minor, if that firearm is used in a crime of violence. Judiciary

**H-5122**      **COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS** (Williams) This act would establish a community notification system in which photographic and descriptive information of an individual convicted of certain offenses would be distributed in the community where the offense has occurred. Judiciary

**H-5123**      **MINORS IN POSSESSION OF FIREARMS-SUPERVISION** (Williams) This act would require all minors in possession of a firearm, with or without a permit, be in the presence of a parent, guardian, or supervising adult at all times. Judiciary

**H-5187**      **FIREWORKS AND PYROTECHNICS** (Corvese & Others) This act would amend and repeal certain provisions of the Rhode Island general laws so as to prohibit the sale of consumer fireworks to the general public. Judiciary

**H-5190**      **FIREARM PERMITS** (Fellela & Others) This act would provide for automatic renewal of a gun permit or license subject to a criminal background check. Judiciary

**H-5192**      **UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH TRAFFIC** (Hull & Others) This act would criminalize and set mandatory minimum sentences for the unlawful interference with traffic upon the federal and state highways of this state. Judiciary

**H-5193**      **OBSTRUCTION OF FREEWAYS** (Canario & Others) This act would define the act of obstruction of a freeway as a person who intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly, alone or with others, restricts traffic flow of a freeway. Any person found guilty of obstruction would be guilty of a misdemeanor and would, upon conviction, be imprisoned for a term of not more than one year or fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500). Judiciary

**H-5220**      **IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION ACT** (Ucci & Others) This act would create the Identity Theft Protection Act of 2015, to protect personal information from unauthorized access, use, modification, destruction or disclosure, and to preserve the confidentiality and integrity of such information. Judiciary

**H-5262**      **FIRE INVESTIGATIONS-PUBLIC ADJUSTERS PROHIBITED** (Winfield & Others) This act would authorize state fire marshals to prohibit public adjusters from a physical presence on and solicitation or inspection of the premises under investigation until twenty-four (24) hours after control of the premises is released to its owner or occupant. Judiciary

**H-5225**      **SALE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS** (Tanzi & Others) This act would increase the minimum age to buy and sell tobacco products from eighteen (18) years to twenty-one (21) years. H.E.W

**H-5285**      **LITTERING** (Winfield) This act would add the delivery of unsolicited newspapers to private property to the definition of litter which is prohibited by law and subject to a monetary fine. Judiciary

**H-5315**      **FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES-VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY RESPONDERS** (Garrison & Others) This act would prohibit an employer from terminating an employee for failing to report to regularly scheduled work when the cause for such failure was the employee's official response to an emergency in his or her capacity as a volunteer firefighter or ambulance technician. Labor

**H-5371**      **PEACE OFFICER DEFINED** (Keable & Others) This act would add juvenile program workers and shift coordinators of the department of children, youth, and families to the definition of peace officer. Judiciary

**H-5396**      **AIRPORT FIREFIGHTERS-BENEFITS** (Keable & Others) This act would entitle airport corporation rescue and firefighters to obtain injured in the line of duty benefits, if so qualified and would include injuries sustained while performing services for the executive military staff. Finance

**H-5456**      **SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION** (Craven & Others) This act would implement the federal Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) (Title I of Public Law 109-248). Section 2 would take effect upon passage. Sections 1 and 3 would take effect on July 1, 3 2016, and would apply to all persons who are or have been convicted of a sex offense and are required to register as a sex offender as provided by this act. Judiciary

**H-5457**      **BAIL/PROBATION VIOLATOR NOTIFICATION** (Craven & Others) This act would provide for the transmission of a notice of violation to the arresting agency or place of presentment by the attorney general upon a finding of probable cause that a defendant is a violator of his or her bail or probation in the District Court or Superior Court. Judiciary

**H-5620**      **COMMERCIAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY** (Roberts & Others) This act would include landlords, business owners, and business managers in the category of persons who may be charged with the crime of knowingly allowing prostitution or sharing in the earnings, proceeds, or any money derived from prostitution. Judiciary

**H-5628**      **SEXUAL ASSAULT COLLECTION KITS-REPORTING REQUIREMENTS** (Williams & Others) This act would compel law enforcement agencies to provide to the attorney general a report identifying and describing any untested sexual assault collection kits, and would require the attorney general to submit to the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives a plan for addressing any backlog of such kits. Judiciary

**H-5647**      **FIREARMS/WEAPONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS** (MacBeth) This act would restrict the prohibition against possessing firearms or other weapons on school grounds to students or other persons under eighteen (18) years of age, and would include knives of any length, if capable of cutting or stabbing another person, among the prohibited weapons. It would also exempt students while they are engaged in culinary functions. Judiciary

**H-5655**      **POSSESSION OF FIREARMS** (Tanzi & Others) This act would prohibit any individual convicted of domestic violence or subject to a restraining order from possessing a firearm. Judiciary

**H-5678**      **ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS-CERTIFICATION** (Palangio & Others) This act would require that municipal animal control officers be certified by the National Animal Care & Control Association. Municipal Government

**H-5817A**      **ELECTRONIC TRACKING DEVICES** (Mattiello & Others) This act would restrict the installation, concealment or placement of an electronic tracking device in or on a motor vehicle, and would add electronic tracking devices to the definition of "domestic violence" under the "Domestic Violence Protection Act". Judiciary

**H-5819**      **TRAFFIC STOPS/SEARCHES-REPORTING REQUIREMENTS** (Almeida & Others) This act would require all police departments to submit to the office of highway safety an annual report indicating what action has been taken to address any racial disparities in traffic stops and/or searches, beginning on July 15, 2016 and for four (4) years following the commencement of data collection. This act would also impose certain standards for departments which use audio/video surveillance equipment. Judiciary

**H-5820**      **PEACE OFFICER DEFINED** (Abney) This act would define inspectors of the public utilities commission and division motor carriers as peace officers. Judiciary

**H-5821**      **MANDATORY RELEASE OF INFORMATION** (Trillo & Others) This act would require hotel operators to provide requesting law enforcement agencies with certain identifying information regarding patrons. Judiciary

**H-5847**      **STATE MARINE SAFETY PATROL/REGULATION OF MOORINGS** (Slater & Others) This act would establish an order of priority for persons applying for moorings, create a fee schedule for moorings and establish a marine safety patrol division of law enforcement. Municipal Government

**H-5861**      **FIREARMS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS** (Ajello & Others) This act would repeal the exemption for those issued permits under sections 11-47-11 1 ("license or permit to carry concealed pistol or revolver") and 11-47-18 ("license or permit issued by attorney general on showing of need – issuance to retired police officers" from the prohibition of possession of weapons on school grounds. Judiciary

**H-5868**      **POSSESSION OF FIREARMS BY MINORS** (Diaz & Others) This act would criminalize the mere possession of a firearm by a minor. This act would further provide for limited exceptions while the minor is in the presence of a qualified adult or participating in certain competitive or ceremonial events. Judiciary

**H-5872**      **POSSESSION OF FIREARMS** (Amore & Others) This act would prohibit any person convicted of a misdemeanor offense under § 12-29-2 (a crime involving domestic violence) from purchasing, owning, transporting, carrying, or possessing any firearm. Offenses punishable as petty misdemeanors would be excluded from this prohibition. Further, it would provide that those people who have had their convictions expunged, set aside, or who have had their civil rights restored would not be considered a prohibited person under this chapter. Judiciary

**H-5881**      **PERSONAL WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES** (Johnston) This act would clarify the fine schedule for unauthorized use of personal wireless communications devices on a school bus. The act would also clarify the definition of "use" to prohibit any use of a wireless handset or a personal wireless communication device other than hands-free use, to conform Rhode Island's legislation to federal guidelines. Judiciary

**H-5933**      **PEACE OFFICER DEFINED** (Keable) This act would add probation and parole officer grades 1 and 2 of the department of children, youth, and families and the department of corrections to the definition of peace officer. Judiciary

**H-5972A**      **TOWN CONSTABLES-CERTIFICATION** (Keable) This act would amend the procedure for the certification of constables by removing the licensure procedure from the district court and transferring it to the department of business regulation. This act would also clarify those powers given to certified constables versus town and police constables. Judiciary

**H-6017**      **CONCEALED CARRY PERMITS** (Carnevale & Others) This act would require the forty dollar (\$40.00) fee for a concealed weapon permit be paid once the permit is issued. It would also prohibit illegal aliens from holding a concealed carry permit, and make changes to the application process. It would also provide that the renewal of the permit to carry a concealed weapon could be renewed for up to six (6) years. Judiciary

**H-6025**      **REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS-PROXIMITY TO SCHOOLS** (McNamara & Others) This act would change the prohibition against a person required to register as a sex offender from residing near a school from three hundred feet (300') to thousand feet (1,000'). Judiciary

**H-6074**      **AMMUNITION FEEDING DEVICES** (Ajello & Others) This act would criminalize the manufacture, import, possession, purchase, sale or transfer of any ammunition feeding device capable of accepting more than ten (10) rounds. Judiciary

**H-6239**      **EMERGENCY POLICE POWERS** (Regunberg & Others) This act would amend the emergency police power rules to include other municipal police officers as being subject to the authority of the requesting police chief and would permit campus police officers and municipal police departments to enter into mutual aid agreements which would allow campus police to respond to requests for assistance within the city or town in which they are located. Any mutual aid agreements would be approved by the city or town council prior to being executed. Judiciary

**H-6299**      **VERBAL WARNINGS** (Slater & Others) This act would authorize police officers to provide a verbal warning to a person who is smoking in a vehicle containing a child who is restrained or required to be restrained. Judiciary

**S-0053**      **DRIVING PRIVILEGE LICENSES** (Ciccone & Others) This act would allow the department of motor vehicles to issue driving privilege licenses and driving privilege permits to applicants unable to establish lawful presence in the United States. The driving privilege licenses and driving privilege permits are not valid for identification purposes. Judiciary

**S-0129**      **UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH TRAFFIC** (Raptakis & Others) This act would criminalize and set mandatory minimum sentences for the unlawful interference with traffic upon the federal and state highways of this state. Judiciary

**S-0134**      **IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION ACT** (DiPalma & Others) This act would create the Identity Theft Protection Act of 2015, to protect personal information from unauthorized access, use, modification, destruction or disclosure, and to preserve the confidentiality and integrity of such information. Judiciary

**S-0180**      **SEXUAL ASSAULT COLLECTION KITS-REPORTING REQUIREMENTS** (Crowley & Others) This act would compel law enforcement agencies to provide to the attorney general a report identifying and describing any untested sexual assault collection kits, and would require the attorney general to submit to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a plan for addressing any backlog of such kits. Judiciary

**S-0240**      **CONFISCATION OF LICENSE PLATES** (Raptakis & Others) This act would require that the license plates of a vehicle be confiscated by a law enforcement officer if the owner was arrested for driving while their license was suspended, revoked, or cancelled for refusing to submit to a chemical test or for operating under the influence of a narcotic drug or intoxicating liquor. Judiciary

**S-0253**      **ANIMAL ABUSER REGISTRY** (Walaska & Others) This act would create an animal abuser registry and would provide for penalties for failure to register. Judiciary

**S-0256**      **VERBAL WARNINGS-SMOKING** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would authorize police officers to provide a verbal warning to a person who is smoking in a vehicle containing a child who is restrained or required to be restrained. Judiciary

**S-0258**      **ANIMAL CONFINEMENT-AUTHORIZATION TO HOLD** (Archambault & Others) This act would authorize a law enforcement or animal control officer to hold an animal confined in a motor vehicle up to seventy-two (72) hours pending a district court hearing as to medical costs, fees, charges, and/or surrender of physical possession and ownership. Judiciary

**S-0260**      **ILLEGAL LEFT TURNS-PENALTIES** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would increase the penalties for illegal left turns that occur on Route in the towns of North Kingstown and South Kingstown. Violators would be required to appear in court for violations, and would not be allowed the benefits of the good driving record law. Judiciary

**S-0267**      **MOBILE PHONE USE-MOTOR VEHICLES** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would prohibit the use of a non-hands-free personal wireless communication device while operating a motor vehicle, except for public safety personnel or in an emergency situation, and would provide for monetary fines for violations. Judiciary

**S-0269**      **TRAFFIC STOPS/SEARCHES-REPORTING REQUIREMENTS** (Metts & Others) This act would require all police departments to submit to the office of highway safety an annual report indicating what action has been taken to address any racial disparities in traffic stops and/or searches, beginning on July 15, 2016 and for four (4) years following the commencement of data collection. This act would also impose certain standards for departments which use audio/video surveillance equipment. Judiciary

**S-0275**      **AIRPORT FIREFIGHTERS-BENEFITS** (Fogarty & Others) This act would entitle the Rhode Island airport corporation rescue, firefighter, and the executive military staff to obtain injured in the line of duty benefits. Labor

**S-0344**      **SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION/NOTIFICATION** (Raptakis & Others) This act would include persons who have been convicted of murder as defined in § 11-23-1 within the class of persons which would be subject to the sexual offender registration and community notification provisions of the general laws. Judiciary

**S-0377**      **FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION EXCISE TAX** (Goldin & Others) This act would levy and impose a ten percent (10%) supplemental firearms and ammunition excise tax upon the purchase and/or sale of any firearm and/or ammunition in this state with the funds collected to be distributed to the police departments of the cities and towns or to the highest ranking municipal official if there is no municipal police department, for allocation to nonprofit organizations whose mission includes a commitment to the reduction of crime and violence. Tax exemptions would be provided to certain veterans' organizations and law enforcement officers. Finance

**S-0385**      **CONFISCATED PROPERTY** (Fogarty) 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 community or law enforcement purposes. Judiciary

**S-0386**      **PEACE OFFICER DEFINED** (Fogarty) This act would add juvenile program workers and shift coordinators of the department of children, youth, and families to the definition of peace officer. Judiciary

**S-0387**      **IMMIGRATION STATUS-INQUIRIES** (Pichardo & Others) This act would prohibit law enforcement or other state or local agency from inquiring into a complainant's or witness's immigration status if such person is the complaining party or witness to a violation of state or local law. Judiciary

**S-0390**      **SEALING OF RECORDS-WRONGFUL ARREST/MISTAKEN IDENTITY** (Pichardo & Others) This act would require the sealing and destruction of all arrest records and indices of arrest for those persons who are wrongfully arrested or detained by any law enforcement agency. It would also provide that the arrest need not be disclosed for any purpose and would mandate that the arresting agency notify the arrestee of the determination that the arrest was wrongful and/or a case of mistaken identity. Judiciary

**S-0391**      **DRIVING PRIVILEGE LICENSES** (Ciccone & Others) This act would allow the department of motor vehicles to issue driving privilege licenses and driving privilege permits to applicants unable to establish lawful presence in the United States. The driving privilege licenses and driving privilege permits are not valid for identification purposes. Judiciary

**S-0431**      **FIREWORKS AND PYROTECHNICS** (Nesslebusch & Ciccone) This act would amend and repeal certain provisions of the Rhode Island general laws so as to prohibit the sale of consumer fireworks to the general public. Judiciary

**S-0434**      **SPECIAL DRIVERS LICENSE** (Pichardo & Others) This act would allow the Division of Motor Vehicles to issue a driver's license to a person who is unable to provide a social security number and/or is unable to submit satisfactory proof that the applicant's presence in the United States is authorized under federal law, provided, he or she meets all other qualifications for licensure and provides satisfactory proof to the division of his or her identity and Rhode Island residency. Judiciary

**S-0445**      **AIRPORT FIREFIGHTERS-BENEFITS** (Fogarty & Others) This act would entitle airport corporation rescue and firefighters to obtain injured in the line of duty benefits, if so qualified and would include injuries sustained while performing services for the executive military staff. Labor

**S-0511**      **SALE AND POSSESSION OF FIREARMS** (Miller) This act would make a number of changes to the statutes relating to the sale and possession of weapons and to the penalties for violating the same. This act would also provide for mandatory sentences. Judiciary

**S-0517**      **SEMI-AUTOMATIC ASSAULT WEAPONS** (Miller & Goldin) This act would impose restrictions on the manufacture, transfer and possession of certain semiautomatic assault weapons. It would ban large capacity ammunition feed devices. Judiciary

**S-0518**      **STRIP/BODY CAVITY SEARCHES** (Goldin & Others) This act would promulgate standards of probable cause and/or reasonable suspicion before a detainee, arrestee, or any individual in the custody and control of law enforcement can be subjected to a strip search or a body cavity search, and would establish procedures to be followed before any strip search or body cavity search can be conducted. This act would not apply to those individuals in the custody, care, or control of the adult correctional institution or the Wyatt detention center. Judiciary

**S-0520**      **POSSESSION OF FIREARMS** (Goodwin) This act would preclude those persons convicted of a misdemeanor offense involving domestic violence from possessing a weapon or firearm. This act would also exclude those individuals whose records have been properly expunged. Judiciary

**S-0528**      **CONCEALED CARRY PERMITS** (Miller & Goldin) This act would provide the licensing authorities (the attorney general or police departments) for permits to carry concealed weapons, discretion in deciding whether to issue such permit and would require that the applicant exhibit a "proper showing of need" for such permit. This act would also establish a procedure for appeals to a review board if an application for a concealed permit is denied and would provide further appeal under the administrative procedures act thereafter. Judiciary

**S-0529**      **CONCEALED CARRY PERMITS- APPEALS** (Miller & Goldin) This act would create a board within the executive department to hear appeals of the denial of applications to carry a concealed fire arm. Judiciary

**S-0580**      **POSSESSION OF FIREARMS BY MINORS** (Metts) This act would criminalize the mere possession of a firearm by a minor. This act would further provide for limited exceptions while the minor is in the presence of a qualified adult or participating in certain competitive or ceremonial events. Judiciary

**S-0659**      **CELL PHONE LOCATION-WARRANT REQUIRED** (Nesslebusch & Others) This act would require the issuance of a warrant to obtain cell phone location information subject to emergency situation exceptions. Judiciary

**S-0662**      **CONCEALED CARRY PERMITS** (Lombardo & Others) This act would require the forty dollar (\$40.00) fee for a concealed weapon permit be paid once the permit is issued. It would also prohibit illegal aliens from holding a concealed carry permit, and make changes to the application process. It would also provide that the renewal of the permit to carry a concealed weapon could be renewed for up to six (6) years. Judiciary

**S-0669**      **RACIAL PROFILING PREVENTION** (Metts & Others) This act would repeal provisions prohibiting law enforcement from requesting consent to search of pedestrians; would require each search whether resulting in arrest or not, to be documented in a computer-aided dispatch (CAD); would enact guidelines and regulations relative to any motor vehicle stop that is recorded including the initiation, maintenance and availability of the recording for use by the person or his/her attorney. It would also require the continued collection of data and the completion of reports to determine whether there are disparities in traffic stops with race as a factor, require to police departments to report disparities and to implement recommendations to address those disparities or impermissible profiling. It would also amend the complaint procedure and would prohibit police from requesting consent to search from juveniles unless there is reasonable suspicion or probable cause to do so. Judiciary

**S-0670**      **FIREARMS-ALTERATION** (Goodwin & Others) This act would include orange or otherwise brightly colored plugs, or tips inserted into the barrel of any firearm within the definition of "mark of identification" for those persons who change, alter, remove, or obliterate any mark of identification on a firearm. Judiciary

**S-0673**      **EMERGENCY POLICE POWERS** (Goldin & Metts) This act would amend the emergency police power rules to include other municipal police officers as being subject to the authority of the requesting police chief and would permit campus police officers and municipal police departments to enter into mutual aid agreements which would allow campus police to respond to requests for assistance within the city or town in which they are located. Any mutual aid agreements would be approved by the city or town council prior to being executed. Judiciary

**S-0674**      **SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS-JURISDICTION** (Goldin & Metts) This act would set forth the jurisdiction of special police officers on public streets and highway corridors between land areas and/or buildings owned by educational institutions. Judiciary

**S-0715**      **PERSONAL WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES** (Archambault) This act would clarify the fine schedule for unauthorized use of personal wireless communications devices on a school bus. The act would also clarify the definition of "use" to prohibit any use of a wireless handset or a personal wireless communication device other than hands-free use, to conform Rhode Island's legislation to federal guidelines. Judiciary

**S-0716**      **PEACE OFFICER DEFINED** (DiPalma) This act would define inspectors of the public utilities commission and division of motor carriers as peace officers. Judiciary

**S-0723**      **CAMPUS POLICE OFFICERS-BENEFITS** (Archambault & Others) This act would include campus police officers appointed by the Rhode Island Board of Education in the definition of "police officer" for purposes of injured on duty benefits and in the definition of "law enforcement officer" for purposes of the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights. Labor

**S-0728**      **POSSESSION OF FIREARMS** (Miller & Others) This act would make it unlawful for a person to carry a rifle or shotgun in any vehicle or conveyance or on or about his or her person whether visible or concealed subject to certain exceptions including his or her dwelling, place of business, or land. Judiciary

**S-0743**      **FIREARMS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS** (Metts) This act would repeal the exemption for those issued permits under sections 11-47-11 ("license or permit to carry concealed pistol or revolver") and 11-47-18 ("license or permit issued by attorney general on showing of need – issuance to retired police officers" from the prohibition of possession of weapons on school grounds. Judiciary

**S-0746**      **FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES-VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY RESPONDERS** (Sosnowski) This act would prohibit an employer from terminating an employee for failing to report to regularly scheduled work when the cause for such failure was the employee's official response to an emergency in his or her capacity as a volunteer firefighter or ambulance technician. Labor

**S-0825Aa**      **TOWN CONSTABLES-CERTIFICATION** (McCaffrey) This act would amend the procedure for the certification of constables by removing the licensure procedure from the district court and transferring it to the department of business regulation. This act would also clarify those powers given to certified constables versus town and police constables. Judiciary

**S-0972**      **ELECTRONIC TRACKING DEVICES** (Goodwin) This act would restrict the installation, concealment or placement of an electronic tracking device in or on a motor vehicle, and would add electronic tracking devices to the definition of "domestic violence" under the "Domestic Violence Protection Act". Judiciary

## **RETIREMENT**

**H-5000**      ***INCOME TAX-RETIREMENT INCOME*** (Craven & Others) This act would exempt retirement income from state personal income tax. Finance

**H-5055**      ***INCOME TAX-RETIREMENT INCOME*** (Giarrusso & Others) This act would exempt retirement income from state personal income tax. Finance

**H-5056**      ***INCOME TAX-SOCIAL SECURITY INCOME*** (Morgan & Others) This act would exempt retirement and social security income from the state income tax. Finance

**H-5057**      ***INCOME TAX-SOCIAL SECURITY INCOME*** (Costa & Others) This act would exempt social security income from state personal income tax. Finance

**H-5090**      ***POST RETIREMENT SERVICE*** (Shekarchi) This act would permit retired teachers to perform service as a juror or an election polling place worker and receive payment for such service. Finance

**H-5139**      ***INCOME TAX-RETIREMENT INCOME*** (Williams) This act would exempt military retirement pay from the Rhode Island personal income tax. Finance

**H-5203**      ***INCOME TAX –RETIREMENT INCOME*** (Serpa & Others) This act would exempt retirement income from state personal income tax. Finance

**H-5204**      ***MAYORAL ACADEMIES- RETIREMENT*** (Fellela & Others) This act would change mayoral academy teachers' and administrators' participation in the state retirement system from voluntary to mandatory. Finance

**H-5208**      ***POST RETIREMENT EMPLOYMENT*** (O'Grady) This act would allow retired members of the state retirement system who are certified as substitute teachers to substitute teach not more than ninety (90) days a year without reduction in retirement benefits. Finance

**H-5325**      ***INCOME TAX-MILITARY PENSIONS*** (Reilly & Others) This act would exempt the amount of military pension which is included in federal adjusted gross income from the state income tax. Finance

**H-5346**      ***INCOME TAX-MILITARY PENSIONS*** (Roberts & Others) This act would exempt the amount of military pension which is included in federal adjusted gross income from the state income tax. Finance

**H-5391**      ***INCOME TAX-MILITARY PENSIONS*** (Lancia & Others) This act would exempt the amount of military pension which is included in federal adjusted gross income from the state income tax. Finance

**H-5446**      ***INCOME TAX-PENSION BENEFITS*** (Casey & Others) This act would exempt from state taxation certain pension benefits that originate from another state. Finance

**H-5447**      ***INCOME TAX-SOCIAL SECURITY INCOME*** (Lancia & Others) This act would exempt social security income from state personal income tax. Finance

**H-5520**      **INCOME TAX-VETERAN DISABILITY PENSIONS** (Ucci & Others) This act would exclude from the state income tax the amount resulting from the receipt of a veterans' disability pension from the United States government for a service-connected disability. Finance

**H-5900Aaa**      **2016 APPROPRIATIONS ACT**

**ARTICLE 21: PENSIONS** (Gallison) This act makes certain changes to Section 36-8-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 36-8 entitled "Retirement System - Administration" including compensation and contribution rates, eligibility, adjustments, and funding ratios. Finance

**H-5916**      **MILITARY RETIREMENT INCOME** (Malik & Others) This act would exclude, for the purposes of Rhode Island state income taxes, the first twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) of military retirement income, paid by the state or federal government, to persons sixty-five (65) years of older. Finance

**H-6181**      **PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM** (Gallison) This act would make various revisions to the retirement provisions for many state and municipal employees. Finance

**S-0014**      **INCOME TAX-PENSION BENEFITS** (Lombardi & Others) This act would exclude from Rhode Island state taxation pension benefits that originate in and were subject to taxation in another state. Finance

**S-0020**      **INCOME TAX-SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS** (O'Neill & Others) This act would exempt social security benefits from the state income tax. Finance

**S-0029**      **INCOME TAX-SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS** (Walaska & Others) This act would exempt social security benefits from the state income tax. Finance

**S-0101**      **INCOME TAX-RETIREMENT PLAN INCOME** (Kettle & Others) This act would exempt from taxation the first fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) of personal income from a retirement plan qualified as such under federal law. Finance

**S-0111**      **INCOME TAX-MILITARY PENSIONS** (Kettle & Others) This act would exempt the amount of military pension which is included in federal adjusted gross income from the state income tax. Finance

**S-0210**      **INCOME TAX-SOCIAL SECURITY & PENSION BENEFITS/RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS** (Fogarty & Others) This act would exempt from personal income tax social security benefits plus the first twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) received from pensions, interest income, 401K plans and individual retirement accounts. Finance

**S-0310**      **INCOME TAX-MILITARY PENSIONS** (Felag & Others) This act would exempt the amount of military pension which is included in federal adjusted gross income from the state income tax. Finance

**S-0644**      **POST RETIREMENT EMPLOYMENT** (Nesslebusch & Others) This act would allow retired members of the state retirement system who are certified as substitute teachers to substitute teach not more than ninety (90) days a year without reduction in retirement benefits.

**S-0700**      **MAYORAL ACADEMIES-RETIREMENT** (Jabour & Others) This act would change mayoral academy teachers' and administrators' participation in the state retirement system from voluntary to mandatory. Education

S-0876      **MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT** (DaPonte & Others) *This act would make various revisions to the retirement provisions for many state and municipal employees. Finance*

## **TOWN & CITY CLERKS**

**H-5067**      **NOTICE-MORTGAGE AND FORECLOSURE SALES** (Edwards) This act would require mortgagees, upon filing notice of intent to foreclose against a mortgagor, to file a copy of that notice with the city or town municipal clerk, and appoint an agent for service of process within the state. Further, the act would require a mortgagee who initiates a foreclosure proceeding against a residential property located in the municipality, to maintain the property in accordance with state and local housing codes if the property becomes vacant during the foreclosure proceeding. Judiciary

**H-5071**      **OPEN MEETINGS** (Costa) This act would amend the statute relating to compliance with the open meetings law by referring to electronic filing rather than newspaper publication. Judiciary

**H-5156**      **PUBLIC RECORDS** (Solomon & Others) This act would make public entity budgets available in digital form through the secretary of state. Judiciary

**H-5191**      **MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE** (Morin & Others) This act would impose a penalty upon financial institutions failing to promptly record foreclosure deeds and pay outstanding taxes. Judiciary

**H-5295**      **RECORDING OF INSTRUMENTS-COLLECTOR'S DEED** (Gallison) This act would provide that a collector's deed is not valid against intervening interests unless recorded within sixty (60) days after the sale unless the collector's return was recorded in a timely manner. This act would take effect upon passage, and would apply to all tax sales held following the effective date of the most recent amendment to § 44-9-13 [July 17, 2003]. Municipal Government

**H-5465**      **FILING OF FORECLOSURE NOTICES; VACANT/ABANDONED PROPERTY** (Edwards & Others) This act would reduce the number of days within which a foreclosure deed must be filed from forty-five (45) to fifteen (15). The act would also require mortgagees, upon giving notice of intent to foreclose a mortgage, to file a copy of that notice with the city or town clerk and appoint an agent for service of process within the state. The act would also require holders of vacant and abandoned property to provide for the maintenance, security, and upkeep such property. Judiciary

**H-5490**      **RECORDING OF INSTRUMENTS-MORTGAGES** (O'Grady & Others) This act would provide that all transfers of an interest in a mortgage be recorded. This act would prohibit the recording of mortgages and assignments in the name of a party other than the holder of the note secured by the mortgage. This act would also render certain prior recorded mortgages and assignments invalid unless certain steps were taken to bring the document into compliance with the act. Corporations

**H-5612**      **VALIDITY OF INSTRUMENTS-MINOR DEFECTS** (Ackerman & Others) This act would validate the conveyance of real estate interests where the instrument of conveyance contains a minor defect. Judiciary

**H-5625A**      **DISCHARGE OF ANCIENT MORTGAGES** (Ackerman & Others) This act would clarify and reduce the time after which a recorded mortgage would be unenforceable against real estate securing the mortgage. The act would make an exception for non-amortizing mortgages made by the Rhode Island housing and mortgage finance corporation. Judiciary

**H-5767**      **“SPECIAL WARRANTY” DEEDS** (Lally) This act would allow for the use of the terms "special warranty deed" and "special warranty covenants" in any deed of conveyance, whereby the grantor will warrant and defend the granted premises to the grantee forever against lawful claims. Judiciary

**H-5863**      **VITAL RECORDS-EXAMINATION** (Ackerman & Others) This act would provide that title examiners, attorneys, and members of legally incorporated genealogical society would be allowed to examine death certificates which have been filed with the department of health and/or municipalities. Fees could be charged to such persons for the copying of said records, but not for searching for said records. Judiciary

**H-5954**      **REAL ESTATE CONVEYANCE TAX** (Barros & Others) This act would prohibit a land trust or municipality from imposing a transfer tax or fee upon real estate acquisitions by the state or any of its political subdivisions. Finance

**H-6034A**      **UNIFORM ADULT GUARDIAN/PROTECTIVE PROCEEDINGS ACT** (Craven & Morin) This act would adopt the "Uniform Adult Guardianship and Protective Proceedings 2 Jurisdiction Act" in Rhode Island. Judiciary

**H-6062**      **COLLECTOR’S DEEDS-RECORDING FEES** (Messier) This act would require the purchaser, instead of the redeeming party, of a tax sale property, to pay the recording fee for the collector's deed, with reimbursement by the redeeming party, if any. Judiciary

**S-0443**      **“SPECIAL WARRANTY” DEEDS** (Jabour & Others) This act would allow for the use of the terms "special warranty deed" and "special warranty covenants" in any deed of conveyance, whereby the grantor will warrant and defend the granted premises to the grantee forever against lawful claims. Judiciary

**S-0444**      **VALIDITY OF INSTRUMENTS-MINOR DEFECTS** (Jabour & Others) This act would validate the conveyance of real estate interests where the instrument of conveyance contains a minor defect. Judiciary

**S-502A**      **DISCHARGE OF ANCIENT MORTGAGES** (Lombardi & Others) This act would clarify and reduce the time after which a recorded mortgage would be unenforceable against real estate securing the mortgage. The act would make an exception for non-amortizing mortgages made by the Rhode Island housing and mortgage finance corporation. Judiciary

**S-0525Aaa**      **UNIFORM ADULT GUARDIAN/PROTECTIVE PROCEEDINGS ACT** (Lombardi & Others) This act would adopt the "Uniform Adult Guardianship and Protective Proceedings 2 Jurisdiction Act" in Rhode Island. Judiciary

**S-0587**      **FILING OF FORECLOSURE NOTICES; VACANT/ABANDONED PROPERTY** (Metts) This act would reduce the number of days within which a foreclosure deed must be filed from forty-five (45) to fifteen (15). The act would also require mortgagees, upon giving notice of intent to foreclose a mortgage, to file a copy of that notice with the city or town clerk and appoint an agent for service of process within the state. The act would also require holders of vacant and abandoned property to provide for the maintenance, security, and upkeep such property. Judiciary

**S-0642**      **RECORDING OF INSTRUMENTS-MORTGAGES** (Conley & Others) This act would provide that all transfers of an interest in a mortgage be recorded. This act would prohibit the recording of mortgages and assignments in the name of a party other than the holder of the note secured by the mortgage. This act would also render certain prior recorded mortgages and assignments invalid unless certain steps were taken to bring the document into compliance with the act. Judiciary

**S-0706**      **REAL ESTATE CONVEYANCE TAX** (Felag) This act would prohibit a land trust or municipality from imposing a transfer tax or fee upon real estate acquisitions by the state or any of its political subdivisions. Finance

## MISCELLANEOUS

**H-5144**      **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION** (Chippendale & Others) This act would mandate the Rhode Island public transit authority provide basic public transit services to all cities and towns except for the town of New Shoreham. Finance

**H-5150**      **PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS-SUBCONTRACTORS** (Williams) This act would require, prior to the award of authority, that all bidders for public works contracts provide a list of the subcontractors to be utilized. Labor

**H-5162**      **DOGS-SHELTER AND NOURISHMENT** (Solomon & Others) This act would require that the sheltering and nourishment of dogs conform to the industry standards established by the Tufts Animal Care and Conditions Scale regarding outside sheltering, proper nourishment, sanitary conditions and physical condition. H.E.W

**H-5164**      **OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL** (Blazejewski & 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-5257**      **REGULATION OF MOORINGS-PRIORITY** (Slater & Trillo) This act would establish an order of priority for persons applying for moorings, and would create a fee schedule for moorings. Municipal Government

**H-5306**      **CODE OF CONDUCT** (McLaughlin & Messier) This act would establish a code of conduct for elected public offices, state and municipal employees, and candidates for state and local office enforced by the Rhode Island ethics commission. Judiciary

**H-5326**      **OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL** (Reilly & Others) This act would establish an office of inspector general as an independent administrative agency charged with preventing and detecting fraud, waste and abuse, and mismanagement in the expenditure of public funds. Finance

**H-5375**      **MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGGREGATION PLANS-SPECIAL ELECTIONS** (Carnevale & Others) This act would eliminate the need for a special election to create an opt-out municipal energy aggregation plan initiated by any city or town subject to public utility commission approval. Corporations

**H-5418**      **TORT LIABILITY** (Marcello & Others) This act would restrict the tort liability of city, town or fire district employees or officials to those acts or omissions not performed within the scope of their employment or if actual fraud, malice or willful misconduct is involved. Judiciary

**H-5427**      **MUNICIPAL INSURANCE CORPORATIONS** (Morin & Others) This act would provide that municipal insurance corporations be regulated by the Rhode Island department of business regulation. Corporations

**H-5469**      **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 theft of honest services. It would set a ten (10) year criminal statute of limitations and provide for possible pension revocation or reduction for any job-related felony. Judiciary

**H-5509**      **RECREATION FEES-VETERANS’ EXEMPTION** (Price & Others) This act would exempt Purple Heart recipients and honorably discharged veterans who were engaged in active combat or fighting in any war or armed conflict from paying user fees at any state beaches, parks, and recreational areas. Finance

**H-5529**      **SNOW REMOVAL PRIORITY PLANS** (Williams & Others) This act would require cities or towns to implement a snow removal priority plan to place a degree of importance when removing snow from certain roads and facilities and would require private parties maintaining state-owned areas to keep areas clear within twenty-four (24) hours of the area becoming obstructed or face fines. Municipal Government

**H-5534**      **POTHOLE HOTLINE** (Costantino & Others) This act would direct the department of transportation to set up a pothole report toll-free telephone line. Finance

**H-5567**      **MUNICIPAL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM** (Morgan & Others) This act would establish the Rhode Island municipal performance management program which would be funded by the department of administration with the goal of improving the delivery of services in the government sector. The act would also require the funding of a performance management roundtable, a scholarship program and an awards program to accomplish the goals set forth in the act. Finance

**H-5585**      **DOG FIGHTING-SEIZURE & PLACEMENT** (Shekarchi & Others) This act would require that any dog lawfully seized as a result of dog fighting or trained, tormented, badgered, baited, or used for the purpose of unprovoked attacks upon human beings or domestic animals be placed in the care of the society for the prevention of cruelty to animals for the dog's physical care and suitability for transfer to an appropriate rescue organization or adoptive home. H.E.W

**H-5594**      **MUNICIPAL STREETLIGHT INVESTMENT ACT** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would amend the provisions of the general laws related to conversion charges for municipality service, from a subject tariff rate to an alternative tariff rate, for delivery service of electric energy. Corporations

**H-5627**      **PUBLIC BEACHES-SMOKING PROHIBITED** (Carson & Others) This act would prohibit smoking on public beaches in the state of Rhode Island. Judiciary

**H-5630**      **PRACTICE OF LAW** (Lally & Others) This act would expand the definition of the practice of law to include activities relating to conducting real estate closings and the rendering of advice in connection with those activities. It would provide certain exceptions to those licensed real estate brokers. It would also prohibit municipalities from imposing licensing requirements on attorneys licensed in the state of Rhode Island. Judiciary

**H-5638**      **FORECLOSED PROPERTY UPKEEP ACT** (Lima & Others) This act would establish the Rhode Island foreclosed property upkeep act and would require a purchaser of foreclosed property to maintain the property in accordance with the Rhode Island housing and maintenance and occupancy code and also to identify an agent in Rhode Island for service of process. Judiciary

**H-5646**      **MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTANTS-DISCLOSURE** (Nunes & Hearn) This act would require that the names and compensation of those providing professional services to any agency of a municipality or fire district be made public. It would also require municipalities and fire districts to provide digital/electronic copies of all reports, budgets, audit reports and accounting results to the budget office. Judiciary

**H-5677**      **CARE OF DOMESTICATED ANIMALS** (Palangio & Others) This act would prohibit a city or town from enacting any rule, regulation, or ordinance restricting an individual or organization from providing food or shelter to a domesticated animal. Municipal Government

**H-5703**      **WATER CARRIERS-PARTIES TO PROCEEDINGS/STANDING** (Filippi) This act would grant the right to a city or town to appear before the division of public utilities and the public utilities commission as a party to the proceedings relating to water carriers picking up or discharging passengers at facilities in that city or town. Corporations

**H-5705**      **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION-WATER CARRIERS** (Filippi) This act would require that matters or petitions involving common carriers of persons and/or property upon water between termini within this state on a year-round basis be heard by two (2) commissioners and the designee of the city or town council most dependent upon the service provided. Corporations

**H-5800**      **REGULATION OF SPECIFIC BREEDS** (Barros & Others) This act would make all municipal breed-specific animal regulating ordinances enacted before July 15, 2013, binding and enforceable until repealed by the appropriate officials of the city or town. Municipal Government

**H-5801**      **SNOW/ICE REMOVAL-PRIORITY PLANS** (Williams & Others) This act would require cities and towns to implement a snow removal priority plan to place a degree of importance when removing snow from certain roads and facilities and would require private parties maintaining state-owned areas to keep areas clear within twenty-four (24) hours of the area becoming obstructed, or face fines for failure to do so. Municipal Government

**H-5860**      **PUBLIC OFFICE** (Costantino & Others) This act would prohibit members of the general assembly from holding other offices under municipal government. Judiciary

**H-5900Aaa** **2016 APPROPRIATIONS ACT** (Gallison)

**ARTICLE 27: MODERNIZATION OF LEGAL NOTICES/ADVERTISEMENTS** This act would require state, municipal agencies, and departments to transition the posting of legal notices and advertisements to “authorized websites,” as defined in the rules and regulations promulgated in accordance with section 42-11.4-7. Finance

**H-5914**      **TOURISM FUNDING** (Carson & Morin) This act would provide additional four million dollars (\$4,000,000) to promote tourism in Rhode Island. Finance

**H-6063**      **SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENTS** (Phillips & Others) This act would allow cities, towns, fire districts, school districts, and other taxing authorities to enter into agreements to provide shared services, activities, and facilities which any governmental unit is authorized by law to perform. Municipal Government

**H-6075**      ***AUTOMATED SPEED ENFORCEMENT SYSTEMS-SCHOOL ZONES*** (Craven) This act would authorize the department of transportation as well as municipalities to operate automated school zone speed enforcement systems. These systems would use vehicle detectors in combination with photography to identify vehicles which are exceeding the posted speed limit within a given school zone. A school zone would be defined as anywhere within a one-quarter (1/4) mile radius of a school. Judiciary

**H-6144**      ***ORDINANCES-FINES AND PENALTIES*** (Almeida & Carnevale) This act would authorize city and town councils to impose a penalty not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for municipal/environmental ordinance violations causing a substantial nuisance to the community. Municipal Government

**H-6145**      ***REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS*** (Almeida & Others) This act would allow a redevelopment agency of any city or town with more than one hundred thousand (100,000) residents to construct new buildings for commercial or industrial uses contemplated by its redevelopment plan and intended to benefit a redevelopment area. Municipal Government

**H-6178**      ***LOBBYING REFORM ACT*** (Jacquard & Others) This act simplifies and clarifies the rules governing lobbying, maximizes transparency, creates a more user friendly registration and reporting system, and strengthens the investigation and enforcement scheme. Judiciary

**H-6210**      ***DOGS -OUTDOOR DINING*** (Lima & Others) This act would permit dogs in outdoor dining of restaurants under certain circumstances. The act would not affect the right of an individual to use a service animal. H.E.W.

**S-0051**      ***OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL*** (Raptakis & Others) This act would establish an office of inspector general as an independent administrative agency charged with preventing and detecting fraud, waste and abuse, and mismanagement in the expenditure of public funds, regardless of whether funds are from the state, federal or local governments. The inspector general would oversee all state programs and operations as well as the procurement of supplies by state agencies. Finance

**S-0083**      ***LAUNDRIES*** (Picard & Pearson) This act would require dry cleaners to post a list containing the retail price charged for each type of garment except for garments requiring special handling, or to display a printed leaflet or flyer listing these prices in a conspicuous location. Commerce

**S-0124**      ***PUBLIC BEACHES-SMOKING PROHIBITED*** (Lynch & Others) This act would prohibit smoking on public beaches in the state of Rhode Island. Judiciary

**S-0200A**      ***SEALERS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES –FEES*** (Kettle & Morgan) This act would require that sealers appointed by the state and city or town sealers receive the same fees as charged by state sealers who perform the same inspecting/testing services. Commerce

**S-0226**      ***BEACH PARKING FEES*** (Sheehan & Others) This act would increase the percentage of state beach fees payable to the city or town where the facility is located from sixteen percent (16%) to twenty percent (20%). Finance

**S-0347aa**      **DOG FIGHTING- SEIZURE & PLACEMENT** (Walaska & Others) This act would require that any dog lawfully seized as a result of dog fighting or trained, tormented, badgered, baited, or used for the purpose of unprovoked attacks upon human beings or domestic animals be placed in the care of the society for the prevention of cruelty to animals for the dog's physical care and suitability for transfer to an appropriate rescue organization or adoptive home. Judiciary

**S-0365**      **RELOCATION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES** (Fogarty) This act would provide all costs incurred by municipal corporations associated with the temporary or permanent relocation of utility infrastructure such as public utility poles during public works projects within municipal rights-of-way would be borne by the public utility. Commerce

**S-0418**      **RECREATION FEES-VETERANS' EXEMPTION** (Ottiano & Others) This act would exempt Purple Heart recipients and honorably discharged veterans who were engaged in active combat or fighting in any war or armed conflict from paying user fees at any state beaches, parks, and recreational areas. Finance

**S-0566**      **CRIMES AGAINST THE PUBLIC TRUST** (Lombardi & Others) This act would establish crimes against the public trust and criminal penalties and civil damages for illegal trust offenses. It would set a ten (10) year criminal statute of limitations and provide for possible pension revocation or reduction for any job-related felony. Judiciary

**S-0575**      **PUBLIC USE OF PRIVATE LANDS-LIABILITY LIMITATIONS** (McCaffrey & Others) This act would change the definition of "owner" to exclude the state and municipalities for the purposes of liability limitations relating to public use of private lands. Judiciary

**S-0645**      **CONTRACT LABOR REQUIREMENTS** (Lombardo & Cote) This act would prohibit the state, cities, and towns and their agencies or authorities from requiring, in contract specifications for public work projects, labor union workers in a responsible bidder's bid unless voluntary, or use labor union workers in the selection process and would provide civil remedies for any such violations. Labor

**S-0724**      **PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS-SUBCONTRACTORS** (Nesslebusch & Others) This act would require, prior to the award of authority, all bidders for public works contracts provide a list of the subcontractors to be utilized. Labor

**S-0741**      **MUNICIPAL STREETLIGHT INVESTMENT ACT** (Sosnowski & Miller) This act would amend the provisions of the general laws related to conversion charges for municipality service, from a subject tariff rate to an alternative tariff rate, for delivery service of electric energy. Housing & Municipal Government

**S-0812**      **SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENTS** (DiPalma & Others) This act would allow cities, towns, fire districts, school districts, and other taxing authorities to enter into agreements to provide shared services, activities, and facilities which any governmental unit is authorized by law to perform. Finance

**S-0844**      **ORDINANCES-FINES AND PENALTIES** (Goodwin & Others) This act would authorize city and town councils to impose a penalty not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for municipal/environmental ordinance violations causing a substantial nuisance to the community. Judiciary

**S-0867**      **MUNICIPAL COURTS-HOUSING MATTERS** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would grant municipal courts created by § 8-8-3(a)(4), the power to issue restraining orders and permanent injunctions in housing matters, and would include the power to order a building into receivership. Judiciary

**S-0904**      **LOBBYING REFORM ACT** (Lynch & Goodwin) This act simplifies and clarifies the rules governing lobbying, maximizes transparency, creates a more user friendly registration and reporting system, and strengthens the investigation and enforcement scheme. Judiciary

**S-0917**      **MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGGREGATION PLANS-SPECIAL ELECTIONS** (Lynch) This act would eliminate the need for a special election to create an opt-out municipal energy aggregation plan initiated by any city or town subject to public utility commission approval. Commerce

**S-0922**      **ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY ALLOWANCE** (DaPonte & Others) This act would reduce a disabled municipal employee's disability allowance for any application submitted on or after July 1, 2015, when the employee is permanently and totally disabled from state service, but not from all employment. Finance

**S-0993**      **AUTOMATED SPEED ENFORCEMENT SYSTEMS-SCHOOL ZONES** (McCaffrey) This act would authorize the department of transportation as well as municipalities to operate automated school zone speed enforcement systems. These systems would use vehicle detectors in combination with photography to identify vehicles which are exceeding the posted speed limit within a given school zone. A school zone would be defined as anywhere within a one-quarter (1/4) mile radius of a school. Judiciary

**SPECIAL ACTS for CITIES & TOWNS**

**BARRINGTON**

[H-5252](#) *Levy and Assessment of Taxes-Exemptions-St. Andrews School*  
[H-5253](#) *Alcoholic Beverages-Class A Licenses-Removal of Prohibition*  
[H-5254](#) *Charter Amendments- Validation/Ratification (2014)*

[S-0164](#) *Levy and Assessment of Taxes-Exemptions-St. Andrews School*  
[S-0171](#) *Charter Amendments- Validation/Ratification (2014)*  
[S-0189](#) *Alcoholic Beverages-Class A Licenses-Removal of Prohibition*

**BRISTOL**

[H-5076](#) *Levy and Assessment of Taxes-Revaluation –Extension of Deadline*

**BRISTOL-WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

[H-6143](#) *Allocation of Expenses for Education*  
[H-6151](#) *Dissolution by Referendum*

**BURRILLVILLE**

[H-5892](#) *Tax Exemptions-Industrial Foundation of Burrillville*  
[H-5923](#) *Pascoag Utility District-Retail Access-Non-Regulated Entities*

[S-0282A](#) *Naming of Bridges- PFC Allan B. McCutcheon & PFC James A. Blanchard Memorial Bridge*  
[S-0863](#) *Tax Exemptions-Industrial Foundation of Burrillville*

**CENTRAL FALLS**

[H-5312](#) *Alcoholic Beverages-Retail Licenses-Proximity Restriction Exemptions*

[S-0068](#) *Alcoholic Beverages-Retail Licenses-Proximity Restriction Exemptions*

**CHARLESTOWN**

[H-5321](#) *Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Act- Moratorium*  
[H-5676](#) *Regulation of Excavating-Licensing & Permitting*

[S-0170](#) *Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Act- Moratorium*  
[S-0425](#) *Regulation of Excavating-Licensing & Permitting*

**COVENTRY**

- [H-5041](#) *Charter Amendments- Validation/Ratification (2014)*  
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**WEST GREENWICH**

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