
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**H--8179 HAS BEEN POSTPONED AT THE SPONSOR'S REQUEST
S-2858 & S-2859 HAVE BEEN POSTPONED AND WILL BE CONSIDERED ON THURSDAY, MAY 9TH**

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, May 7, 2024
TIME: Rise of the House
PLACE: Room 35 - State House

SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION

Senate Bill No. [2862](#)

BY de la Cruz

ENTITLED, AN ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS § 16-7-44, APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF \$6,400,000 BONDS BY THE TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, LANDSCAPING, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE TOWN, AND ALL ATTENDANT EXPENSES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURAL COSTS {LC5649/1} (Enabling act required by § 16-7-44 in order for the principal of, and interest on bonds issued by the Town of Burrillville in support of school housing projects to be eligible for state housing aid reimbursement.)

03/22/2024 Introduced, referred to Senate Finance

03/29/2024 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

04/04/2024 Committee recommends passage

04/05/2024 Placed on Senate Calendar

04/11/2024 Senate read and passed

04/18/2024 Referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for consideration

Senate Bill No. [2859](#)

~~BY Bissaillon, Ruggerio, Quezada, Zurier, Mack, Ciccone, Miller, Kallman, Bell~~

~~ENTITLED,~~ AN ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS SECTION 16-7-44 APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF \$125,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, LANDSCAPING, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND ALL COSTS RELATED THERETO {LC5053/1} (This act serves as the enabling act required by § 16-7-44 of the general laws in order for the principal and interest on bonds issued in support of school housing projects to be eligible for state housing aid reimbursement.)

03/22/2024 Introduced, referred to Senate Finance

*** Senate Bill No. 2859 Continued on Next Page**

*** Senate Bill No. 2859 Continued from Previous Page**

~~03/29/2024 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration~~

~~04/04/2024 Committee recommends passage~~

~~04/05/2024 Placed on Senate Calendar~~

~~04/11/2024 Senate read and passed~~

~~04/18/2024 Referred to House Finance~~

~~05/03/2024 Scheduled for consideration~~

Senate Bill No. [2858](#)

~~BY Bissailon, Ruggerio, Quezada, Zurier, Mack, Ciccone, Miller, Kallman, Bell~~

~~ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$400,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, RELATED DEMOLITION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, LANDSCAPING, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND ALL COSTS RELATED THERETO, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF STATE HOUSING AID AT A REIMBURSEMENT RATE OR STATE SHARE RATIO OF NOT LESS THAN 75% AT THE TIME OF ISSUANCE AND PROVIDED THAT THE AUTHORIZATION SHALL BE REDUCED BY THE AMOUNT OF CERTAIN GRANTS RECEIVED FROM STATE BOND PROCEEDS, FROM THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OR FROM THE RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY {LC5055/1} (Authorizes Providence to issue not more than \$400,000,000 general obligation bonds & notes to finance the construction, related demolition, renovation, improvement, alteration, repair, landscaping, furnishing and equipping of schools throughout the city.)~~

~~03/22/2024 Introduced, referred to Senate Finance~~

~~03/29/2024 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration~~

~~04/04/2024 Committee recommends passage~~

~~04/05/2024 Placed on Senate Calendar~~

~~04/11/2024 Senate read and passed~~

~~04/18/2024 Referred to House Finance~~

~~05/03/2024 Scheduled for consideration~~

SCHEDULED FOR HEARING

House Bill No. [7032](#)

BY Edwards, Newberry, Kennedy, Diaz, Bennett, Baginski, Potter, Shanley, Abney, Corvese

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- AWARD OF MUNICIPAL CONTRACTS {LC3769/1} (Increases the maximum state and municipal small purchase limits from \$10,000 to \$25,000 for construction projects and from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for all other state and municipal purchases.)

01/05/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [7253](#)

BY Cortvriend, Carson, Bennett, Spears, Knight, Kislak, Speakman, Caldwell, Handy, McNamara

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES {LC3761/1} (Establishes the Higher Education Opportunities for Students with Disabilities Act.)

01/19/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Resolution No. [7259](#)

BY Donovan, Speakman, Noret, Potter, Cotter, Fogarty, Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$1,000,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND TRAINING TO ENCOURAGE MEMBERS OF THE STATE, CITY, AND TOWN POLICE DEPARTMENTS TO SEEK A COLLEGE DEGREE {LC3837/1} (This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$1,000,000 to the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training.)

01/19/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [7337](#)

BY Sanchez, Morales, Stewart, Hull, Henries, Handy, Slater

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FEDERAL AID {LC4223/1} (Requires free breakfast and lunches to be provided for all elementary and secondary students attending public schools.)

01/26/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [7498](#)

BY Chippendale, Hull, Noret, Costantino, J. Lombardi, Roberts, Quattrocchi, Rea, Newberry, Nardone

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES {LC3580/1} (Allows any peace officer working in a Rhode Island school as a full or part-time resource officer to work in excess of the seventy-five (75) working days in a calendar year, and not have an interruption in their benefits.)

02/02/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [7595](#)

(by request)

BY Azzinaro

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS -- NATIONAL GUARD {LC4963/1} (Raises the amount of life insurance the state would provide at no charge to Rhode Island National Guard members called up for federal duty to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).)

02/09/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [7670](#)

BY Messier, Giraldo, Diaz, Fellela, Baginski, Biah, Slater, McNamara

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE COLLEGE CRUSADE

SCHOLARSHIP {LC5046/1} (Changes the name of The College Crusade Scholarship to the Onward We Learn Scholarship and provide that those scholarships would not be considered federal or financial aid with regard to the Promise Scholarship or Hope Scholarship Pilot Program.)

02/15/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [7676](#)

BY Sanchez, Stewart, J. Lombardi, Nardone, Tanzi, Solomon, Cruz, Casimiro, Giraldo, Potter

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- ANNUAL FUNDING FOR RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY ACT {LC4620/1}

(Provides a mechanism for funding the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority through the use of an interest-free loan to advance certain federal funds.)

02/15/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Resolution No. [7692](#)

BY Messier, Giraldo, Diaz, Fellela, Baginski, Biah, Slater, McNamara

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$6,000,000 TO

ONWARD WE LEARN IN RI {LC5045/1} (Authorizes the appropriation of the sum of \$6,000,000 to Onward We Learn in RI.)

02/15/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Resolution No. [7773](#)

BY Noret, Hull, Casimiro, Edwards, Casey, Kazarian, Corvese, Speakman, Azzinaro, J. Brien

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$1,380,000 TO THE

RHODE ISLAND STATE POLICE FOR THE OPERATION OF A STATE POLICE RECRUIT

TRAINING ACADEMY {LC5286/1} (This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the

sum of \$1,380,000 to the Rhode Island State Police for the operation of a State Police recruit training academy.)

02/28/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [7915](#)

BY Noret

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICES AND EMPLOYEES --

RETIREMENT SYSTEM -- CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS {LC5178/1} (Amends the

definition of "domestic partner" for purposes of the retirement system -- contributions and benefits chapter.)

03/04/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [7916](#)

BY Casey, O'Brien, Casimiro, Craven, Corvese

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES -- RELIEF OF INJURED AND DECEASED FIRE FIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS {LC5183/1} (Adds department of corrections' correctional officers to the list of public safety employees that are entitled to their full salary if they are injured and become disabled as a result of performance of their job duties.)

03/04/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

04/19/2024 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

04/19/2024 Committee postponed at request of sponsor

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [7917](#)

BY Roberts

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES {LC5325/1} (Increases the number of days a retired municipal employee could work in a calendar year without interruption of pension benefits to ninety (90) days.)

03/04/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Resolution No. [8005](#)

BY Noret, Casimiro, Casey, Edwards, Azzinaro, Shanley, Spears, Corvese, Chippendale, Fogarty

ENTITLED, JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$60,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND FIRE ACADEMY {LC5595/1} (This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$60,000 to the Rhode Island Fire Academy for training to extinguish small to large lithium battery fires.)

03/05/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [8048](#)

BY Shallcross Smith, Casimiro, Diaz, Alzate, Ackerman, McNamara, Fogarty, Kazarian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM {LC5223/1} (Creates the Rhode Island Student Loan Authority which would allow eligible individual to discharge student loan debt.)

03/08/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [8149](#)

BY Edwards, Messier, Ackerman, Cortvriend, Kennedy, Serpa, Shanley, Solomon, Diaz, Potter

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM -- ADMINISTRATION {LC5899/1} (Reduces the number of years from five (5) to three (3), when calculating for retirement purposes, the average of the highest consecutive years of compensation, for state and municipal employees.)

04/05/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [8179](#)

BY ~~Dawson, O'Brien, Kazarian, Boylan~~

~~ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES {LC5935/1} (Relieves East Providence from providing any educational/financial resources to children in the CRAFT program or other Bradley Hospital programs. Requires the school district of origin where the student was last registered to bear this responsibility.)~~

~~04/12/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance~~

~~05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing~~

House Bill No. [8180](#)

BY Baginski, Finkelman, J. Brien, Solomon

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION TAX CREDITS {LC5942/1} (Clarifies that all costs of goods used and services performed in Rhode Island shall qualify as state-certified production costs.)

04/12/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [8193](#)

BY Serpa, Fellela, J. Brien, Messier, Biah, McNamara, Corvese, Lima, Costantino, Phillips

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM--CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS {LC5978/1} (Provides a 3% pension increase and annual COLAs.)

04/24/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

House Bill No. [8194](#)

BY Serpa, McNamara, Fellela, J. Brien, Messier, Biah, Corvese, Lima, Phillips, Costantino

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM--CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS {LC5975/1} (Requires that present and former employees, active and retired members, and beneficiaries receiving any retirement, disability or death allowance receive a \$2,000 increase per year.)

04/24/2024 Introduced, referred to House Finance

05/03/2024 Scheduled for hearing

FOR INFORMATION ON TESTIMONY IN HOUSE COMMITTEES [CLICK HERE](#)

FOR HOUSE COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS [CLICK HERE](#)

TELEVISION AND LIVESTREAM INFORMATION

The meeting will be televised by Capitol Television on: Cox Communications, channels 15 and 61 for high definition; i3Broadband (Formerly Full Channel) on 15; and Verizon, on channel 34.

Livestreaming is available at <https://capitoltvri.cablecast.tv>

ACCOMMODATIONS

The General Assembly strives to make the legislative process accessible to all. Anyone needing an accommodation to attend or testify at a legislative hearing, please contact Stacy Custer at scuster@rilegislature.gov or 401-222-7904, at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.

Christopher O'Brien

Committee Clerk

222-6916

HouseFinance@rilegislature.gov

POSTED: FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024, 4:44 PM

LAST REVISED: MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024, 6:27 PM