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# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

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**H-5645 HAS BEEN POSTPONED AT THE REQUEST OF THE SPONSOR  
PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE A HAS BEEN ADDED FOR 5185**

## NOTICE OF MEETING

**DATE:** Tuesday, March 11, 2025  
**TIME:** Rise of the House  
**PLACE:** House Lounge - State House

## SCHEDULED FOR RECONSIDERATION

**House Bill No. [5185](#)**

**BY Donovan, Potter, Carson, Fogarty, Spears, McGaw, Speakman, Shallcross Smith, Ajello, Handy**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- PROHIBITION OF UNFAIR SERVICE AGREEMENTS {LC749/1} (Prohibits the use of service agreements that are unfair to an owner of residential real estate who enters into such an agreement or to persons who may become owners of that real estate in the future.)

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

01/31/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/04/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

02/21/2025 Scheduled for consideration

02/25/2025 Committee recommends passage

03/07/2025 Scheduled for reconsideration

## PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE

**House Bill No. [5185 SUB A](#)**

{LC749/A/1}

## SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION

**House Bill No. [5438](#)**

(Dept. of Public Safety)

**BY Hull, Fascia, Azzinaro, Abney, Roberts, Biah, Lima, Place, Slater, Diaz**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- SEARCH WARRANTS {LC1345/1} (Dictates the length a search warrant involving a tracking device would be valid and provide a process to extend the time frame of the tracking device for good cause.)

02/12/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

02/21/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/25/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

03/07/2025 Scheduled for consideration

**House Bill No. [5442](#)**

**BY Fogarty, Carson, Cotter, Noret, Hull, Tanzi, Bennett, Dawson, Cortvriend, Shallcross Smith**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- PUBLIC UTILITIES**

{LC1560/1} (Expands meaning of bomb threats and false reports to include any warning or threat of the existence of an explosive device and allows judge to impose conditions of bail to include extreme risk protection orders, no trespass orders and counseling.)

02/12/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

02/21/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/25/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

03/07/2025 Scheduled for consideration

**SCHEDULED FOR HEARING AND/OR CONSIDERATION**

**House Bill No. [5300](#)**

(Secretary of State)

**BY Dawson, Shanley, Kazarian, Furtado, Boylan**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- THREATS AND**

**EXTORTION {LC1107/1} (Considers election officials and poll workers "public officials" for purposes of the prohibition on making threats to public officials.)**

02/05/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5638](#)**

(Attorney General)

**BY Serpa, Noret, Fellela**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- ACCIDENTS**

**AND ACCIDENT REPORTS {LC2192/1} (Provides for a single, increased range of penalties for all driving offenses which result in serious bodily injury or death.)**

02/26/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5641](#)**

(Judiciary)

**BY Donovan, Fogarty, McEntee**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE-- PROCEDURE**

**IN PARTICULAR ACTION -- SMALL CLAIMS AND CONSUMER CLAIMS {LC1495/1}**

(Simplifies the assessment of filing fees required to appeal from small claims and consumer matters adjudicated by the district court.)

02/26/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5642](#)**

(Judiciary)

**BY Dawson**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- DISTRICT COURT PRACTICE {LC1487/1} (Provides amendments to the assessment of filing fees required to appeal from certain matters adjudicated by the district court.)

02/26/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5645](#)**

(General Treasurer)

**BY Dawson**

~~**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- LEVY AND SALE ON EXECUTION {LC1698/1} (Exempts qualified tuition savings programs of any state authorized under 26 U.S.C. § 529 from judicial attachment.)~~

~~02/26/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary~~

~~03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration~~

**House Bill No. [5646](#)**

**BY Knight, Newberry, Solomon, Potter, Dawson, Speakman, Boylan, Cortvriend, Kazarian, Caldwell**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- JURY LISTS {LC1842/1} (Makes persons seventy (70) years of age or older eligible for exemption from jury service.)

02/26/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5892](#)**

(Judiciary)

**BY McEntee, Caldwell, Dawson, Fogarty, Knight, Bennett, Alzate**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- COURT ADMINISTRATION {LC1481/1} (Protect the personal information of judicial officers and their immediate family members who serve or have served the RI unified judicial system, as well as judicial officers who reside in RI and who serve or have served in the federal courts.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5896](#)**

(Judiciary)

**BY Hull, Corvese, Shallcross Smith, Fascia, Santucci, Solomon, Bennett, Noret**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES {LC1491/1} (Provides that a hearing required before a judge or magistrate may adjudge a motorist in contempt for failure to comply with the court's orders regarding a conditional hardship license, and defines penalties for violation of a hardship/interlock order.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5897](#)**

(Judiciary)

**BY Noret, Read, Corvese, Hull, Dawson, McEntee**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSES--VIOLATIONS {LC1489/1} (Amends the section of law relative to violations for driving after denial, revocation or suspension of a license and expands the list of offenses for which an unlicensed motorist would be in violation.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5899](#)**

(Judiciary)

**BY Noret, Read, Corvese, Hull, Casimiro, Dawson, O'Brien**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- AGGRESSIVE DRIVING {LC1499/1} (Adds five (5) driving violations to the statute that defines aggressive driving.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5900](#)**

(Judiciary)

**BY Noret, Hull, Read, Casimiro, Paplauskas, Casey, Dawson, Costantino**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES {LC1485/1} (Distinguishes, in two separate subsections, a first offense for reckless driving, which is a misdemeanor, and a second or subsequent offense for reckless driving, which is a felony.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5903](#)**

(by request)

**BY Craven**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- EVIDENCE {LC2299/1} (Repeals the collateral source rule in medical malpractice actions.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5904](#)**

(by request)

**BY Kazarian, Potter, Batista, Kislak, Dawson, O'Brien, Caldwell, McEntee, Stewart, Corvese**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- EVIDENCE {LC49/1} (Provides that evidence of life or work expectancy shall be based on statistical data using blended statistics and shall not be based on race, ethnicity or sex.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5905](#)**

(by request)

**BY Craven**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO PARKS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS -- PUBLIC USE OF PRIVATE LANDS-LIABILITY LIMITATIONS {LC2293/1} (Changes the definition of owner to exclude the state and municipalities for the purposes of liability limitations relating to public use of private lands.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5907](#)**

**BY Potter, Baginski, Batista, Shanley, Dawson**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- LITIGATION LENDING AGREEMENTS {LC2294/1} (Makes litigation loan agreements subject to state usury laws.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5908](#)**

**BY Shanley, Potter, Dawson**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- CAUSES OF ACTION {LC2290/1} (Provides for punitive damages in civil actions where there is willful or wanton conduct or a reckless disregard for health, safety and welfare.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5910](#)**

**BY Dawson**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- DECISIONS, SPECIAL FINDINGS AND ASSESSMENT OF DAMAGES {LC2291/1} (Adds the doctrine of assumption of risk to the current comparative negligence statute.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5911](#)**

**BY Felix, Kazarian, Morales, Fogarty, Quattrocchi, Alzate, Tanzi, Hull**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY {LC1961/1} (Caps damages at \$100,000 in tort actions against Rhode Island, cities, towns, or fire districts, except for willful misconduct or extreme recklessness. It also exempts them from § 9-21-10.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5912](#)**

**BY Baginski, Kazarian, Furtado**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- EVIDENCE {LC2298/1} (Provides for fair and reasonable charges for certain medical and health care services in civil actions.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5913](#)**

**BY Furtado, Solomon, McGaw, Dawson, Read, Boylan, Kislak, Alzate, Stewart, Kazarian**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PRESERVING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE DRUGS {LC1823/1} (Provides that an agreement resolving a patent infringement claim, in connection with the sale of a pharmaceutical product, is to be presumed to have anticompetitive effects if a nonreference drug filer receives anything of value.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5914](#)**

**BY Felix, Kazarian, Morales, Fogarty, Alzate, Tanzi, Hull**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ACTIONS BY AND AGAINST TOWNS {LC1959/1} (Limits the recovery for personal injuries actions against any town to \$3,000 retroactive to all causes of action arising after January 1, 2025, and prohibits the use of subsequent remedial measures in roadway/highway defect cases.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5915](#)**

**BY Felix, Kazarian, Morales, Batista, Handy, Fogarty, Quattrocchi, Corvese, Noret, Alzate**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ACTIONS BY AND AGAINST TOWNS {LC1960/1} (Exempts recovery claims for damages due to a town's neglect in maintaining highways or bridges from the provisions of chapter 31 of title 9 on governmental tort liability.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5930](#)**

**BY Kislak, Speakman, Fogarty, Slater, Potter, Edwards**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- AUTOMATED SCHOOL-ZONE-SPEED-ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM ACT OF 2016 {LC624/1} (Extends the range of a school zone for purposes of school-zone-speed-enforcement systems from one-quarter (1/4) mile to three-quarters (3/4) of a mile.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5931](#)**

**BY Potter, Batista, Ajello, Cruz, Stewart, Morales, Felix, Dawson, Casimiro**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSES -- VIOLATIONS {LC1932/1} (Repeals the section of law relating to suspension of operator licenses for failure to pay fines.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5932](#)**

**BY Dawson, Solomon, Hull**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE -- MANDATORY ARBITRATION PROVISION {LC2289/1} (Increases the minimum claim amount necessary to require a matter involving motor vehicle liability be submitted to mandatory arbitration.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5937](#)**

**BY McEntee, Spears, Caldwell, Bennett, Kazarian**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- UNIFORM PARTITION OF HEIRS' PROPERTY ACT {LC1947/1} (Adopts the uniform partition of heirs property act.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [6040](#)**

**BY Dawson**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- JUDICIAL SELECTION {LC2224/1} (Requires individuals seeking a judicial nomination to reapply to JNC every 3 years and make those individuals selected as finalists, eligible only for the court in which they applied and were chosen during the five years following their selection.)

03/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

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

### **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](mailto:scuster@rilegislature.gov) or 401-222-7904, at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.

**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://capitolvri.cablecast.tv>

Roberta DiMezza

Committee Clerk

401-222-2258

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**PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE: FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2025, 4:00 PM**