
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT & HOUSING

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Thursday, March 5, 2026

TIME: Rise of the House

PLACE: Room 101 - State House

SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION

House Bill No. [7661](#)

BY McGaw, Cortvriend

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES {LC5089/1} (Enables the town of Portsmouth to adopt, repeal, or modify their tax classification plan for any tax year on and after December 31, 2026.)

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/19/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/26/2026 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

02/27/2026 Scheduled for consideration

SCHEDULED FOR HEARING AND/OR CONSIDERATION

House Bill No. [8000](#)

BY Shekarchi, Speakman, Spears, Voas, DeSimone, Biah, Noret, O'Brien

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS {LC5661/1} (Provides certain procedures that must be followed before an encampment can be removed or relocated.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/27/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [8001](#)

BY Shekarchi, Voas, DeSimone, Biah, Noret, O'Brien

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE -- ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT {LC5591/1} (Authorizes municipalities to make an emergency declaration under limited circumstances to allow for the construction and use of SAFE Units on a temporary basis which have specialized requirements and exemptions from the state fire and building codes.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/27/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [8002](#)

BY Speakman, Cortvriend, Diaz, Giraldo, Voas

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE {LC5911/1} (Permits the construction of residential buildings that are up to four (4) stories and sixteen (16) dwelling units with a single staircase under certain conditions.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/27/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [8003](#)

BY Noret, Read

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RHODE ISLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND LAND USE ACT {LC5726/1} (Amends various provisions relative to adaptive reuse projects on state-owned property and certain conditions applied thereto.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/27/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [8005](#)

BY Giraldo, Voas, Cruz, Morales

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES {LC5899/1} (Amends the standards and limitations on permitted parking requirements for dwelling units.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/27/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [8006](#)

BY Slater, Baginski, Casey, Speakman, Corvese

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES {LC5578/1} (Provides cities and towns with the authority to tax properties considered qualifying affordable housing at a rate higher than otherwise permitted.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/27/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [8007](#)

BY Casey, J. Brien, O'Brien, Dawson, Caldwell, McEntee, Read, Corvese, Biah, Azzinaro

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- SUBDIVISION OF LAND {LC5909/1} (Provides that minor subdivisions include single family infill subdivisions and establishes procedures for single family infill subdivisions within the subdivision of land chapter of the general laws.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/27/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [8010](#)

BY Tanzi, Spears

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES {LC5830/1} (Allows for the issuance of a Class B or Class B-H liquor license for the property located at 349 Main Street in the town of South Kingstown.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/27/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [8022](#)

BY Slater

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY EXEMPT {LC5825/1} (Exempts the real and tangible personal property of Higher Ground International, located at 7 Ninigret Avenue, within the city of Providence.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/27/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [8024](#)

BY Noret, Serpa, Read

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION {LC5882/1} (Exempts from taxation the real and tangible personal property of Project Hand Up, located in the town of West Warwick.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/27/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [8028](#)

BY Place, Newberry

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- DAM MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS {LC4797/1} (Exempts property that consists of the lake bed and Wilson's Reservoir in the town of Burrillville from taxes.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/27/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [8030](#)

BY McEntee, Spears, O'Brien, Casey

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS {LC5747/1} (Require criminal background checks for applicants for employment or volunteering for the South Kingstown fire department or fire district.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

02/27/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

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

FOR HOUSE COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS [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 or 401-222-7904, at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.

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>

Dawn Huntley

Committee Clerk

401-222-2587

HouseMunicipalGovernmentandHousing@rilegislature.gov

POSTED: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026, 5:51 PM