
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING & MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Thursday, March 12, 2026

TIME: Rise of the Senate

PLACE: Room 212 - State House

SCHEDULED FOR HEARING AND/OR CONSIDERATION

Senate Bill No. [2576](#)

(Tiverton)

BY Felag, DiPalma

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES {LC5242/1} (Allows the town of Tiverton to apply different tax rates to all classes of property.)

02/13/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Senate Bill No. [2577](#)

(by request)

BY Ujifusa

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES {LC4951/1} (Enables the town of Portsmouth to adopt, repeal, or modify their tax classification plan for any tax year on and after December 31, 2026.)

02/13/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Senate Bill No. [3051](#)

BY de la Cruz, Rogers

ENTITLED, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT EMBRACING THE TOWNS OF FOSTER AND GLOCESTER {LC6004/1} (Changes the date of the regional school district financial meeting for the Foster-Glocester regional school district to March 24, 2026.)

03/06/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Senate Bill No. [2042](#)

BY Rogers, de la Cruz, Raptakis, Paolino, Ciccone, Burke, McKenney, Tikoian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- SIDEWALKS {LC3276/1} (Requires that all maintenance of sidewalks along state highways, with the exception of snow and ice removal, be the responsibility of the state.)

01/09/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Senate Bill No. [2261](#)

BY Appollonio, Murray, Thompson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- FIRE INSURANCE POLICIES AND RESERVES {LC3903/1} (Amends Rhode Island's standard fire insurance policy by codifying uniform, transparent appraisal procedures and payment obligations that reflect contemporary claim-handling practices while preserving long-standing consumer protections.)

01/23/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Senate Bill No. [2263](#)

BY Patalano, Ciccone, Thompson, LaMountain, Dimitri, E Morgan, Appollonio, Burke, Famiglietti, Urso

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- FARMLAND PRESERVATION ACT {LC4304/1} (Prohibits any city, town, quasi-municipal corporation or public corporation from assessing any existing agricultural operation or agricultural land for the extension of any water utilities past the property and from imposing any connection fee.)

01/23/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Senate Bill No. [2276](#)

BY Burke, Ciccone, Thompson, Appollonio, Pearson, Tikoian, Raptakis

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- UNREASONABLE NOISE LEVELS {LC3977/1} (Repeals the provisions of chapter 45.1 of title 11, regarding unreasonable noise levels.)

01/23/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Senate Bill No. [2425](#)

BY Vargas, Urso, DiMario, Bell, Valverde, Britto, Murray, Thompson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF STATE ROADS {LC3422/1} (Authorizes and empower the department of transportation to plant pollinator friendly native species of trees, shrubs, grasses and plants within limits of a roadway, including state highways.)

01/30/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Senate Bill No. [2471](#)

BY McKenney, LaMountain, Appollonio

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF STATE ROADS {LC4699/1} (Permits municipalities to enter into contracts with the department of transportation for the municipality to perform minor and routine maintenance work on state highways, roadways, and shoulders located within the municipality.)

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Senate Bill No. [2575](#)

BY Bissailon, Murray, Burke, Britto

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES {LC4987/1} (Prohibits any city or town from enacting any zoning ordinance that would place restrictions on residential recovery houses that are not applicable to other residential homes.)

02/13/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Senate Bill No. [2698](#)

BY DiPalma, Euer, Gu

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- NON-OWNER OCCUPIED PROPERTY TAX ACT {LC5664/1} (Defines a seasonably-habitable non-owner occupied residence, which is not the primary residence of the taxpayer, and which would be exempt from the non-owner occupied property tax.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Senate Bill No. [2913](#)

BY Vargas, Famiglietti, Patalano, Urso, Thompson, Murray

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- OPERATION OF RAILROADS GENERALLY {LC5885/1} (Provides that no train or light engine used in connection with the movement of freight be operated unless it had a crew consisting of at least 2 persons and includes the imposition of fines upon a company, individual or business for violations.)

03/04/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Senate Bill No. [2916](#)

BY Thompson, Patalano

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION {LC5829/1} (Increases the minimum veterans' exemption from one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to six thousand dollars (\$6,000) with respect to municipal taxes.)

03/04/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Senate Bill No. [3034](#)

(Dept. of Transportation)

BY Dimitri, Tikoian, Thompson

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL CODE PROVISIONS {LC5134/1} (Clarifies when mobile equipment can travel on a public highway as an incidentally permitted practice limited to the active participation in an active work zone.)

03/05/2026 Introduced, referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [7005](#)

BY Boylan, Knight

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION {LC3126/1} (Authorizes the town of Barrington to provide a tax dollar credit reduction for legally blind persons by ordinance.)

01/07/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

01/16/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

01/20/2026 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

01/23/2026 Scheduled for consideration

01/27/2026 Committee recommends passage

01/30/2026 Placed on House Calendar

02/03/2026 House read and passed

02/06/2026 Referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [7045](#)

BY Donovan, Speakman

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES {LC3159/1} (Authorizes the town of Bristol to apply the owner-occupied tax rate for mixed-used properties where the residential portion is owner-occupied.)

01/09/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

01/16/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

01/20/2026 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

01/23/2026 Scheduled for consideration

01/27/2026 Committee recommends passage

01/30/2026 Placed on House Calendar

02/03/2026 House read and passed

02/06/2026 Referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [7047](#)

BY McGaw, Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL TAXES {LC3550/1} (Authorizes the town council of Little Compton to establish a homestead exemption for residential dwellings.)

01/09/2026 Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing

01/16/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

01/20/2026 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

01/23/2026 Scheduled for consideration

01/27/2026 Committee recommends passage

01/30/2026 Placed on House Calendar

02/03/2026 House read and passed

02/06/2026 Referred to Senate Housing and Municipal Government

03/09/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

TESTIMONY SUBMITTAL

*Written Testimony must be submitted prior to 3:00 PM on Thursday, March 12, 2026, in order for it to be provided to the members of the committee at the hearing and to be included in the meeting records.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Written testimony sent to the Senate and House is posted to this website. Do not submit any information that you do not want available to the public. Once written testimony is posted to the General Assembly website, submitted documents may be viewable via internet search engines.

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. Senate committee hearings may also air on Channel 75 for Cox Subscribers. Livestreaming is available at <https://capitolvri.cablecast.tv>

Alex Rocha
Committee Clerk
401-222-2381
SLegislation@rilegislature.gov

POSTED: MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026, 3:04 PM