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# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CORPORATIONS

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**H-7613 AND IT'S PROPOSED SUB/A HAS BEEN POSTPONED AT THE REQUEST OF THE SPONSOR**

## NOTICE OF MEETING

**DATE:** Tuesday, April 7, 2026  
**TIME:** Rise of the House  
**PLACE:** House Lounge - State House

### SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION

**House Bill No. [7173](#)**

**BY Kennedy, Cotter, Fellela, Serpa, Diaz, Ackerman, Edwards, Solomon, Azzinaro, O'Brien ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- FACILITATING BUSINESS RAPID RESPONSE TO STATE DECLARED DISASTER ACT OF 2024 {LC4181/1} (Incorporates broadband, internet, and wireless means into the crime of injuring electric and communication lines and authorizes municipalities to grant zoning relief for the protection of critical infrastructure.)

01/21/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

01/30/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/03/2026 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

04/03/2026 Scheduled for consideration

**House Bill No. [7613](#)**

(Dept. of Revenue)

**BY ~~Marszalkowski~~**

**~~ENTITLED,~~** AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- ~~TAX PREPARERS ACT OF 2013~~ {LC4981/1} (Provides for penalties for tax preparers that purposefully mislead their clients or act as ghost preparers of tax returns.)

~~02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations~~

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

~~02/23/2026 Meeting postponed~~

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

~~03/03/2026 Committee recommended measure be held for further study~~

~~04/03/2026 Scheduled for consideration~~

### PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE

**House Bill No. ~~7613-SUB-A~~**

{~~LC4981/A/1~~}

**SCHEDULED FOR HEARING AND/OR CONSIDERATION**

**House Bill No. [7112](#)**

**BY J. Lombardi, Hull, Sanchez, Cruz, Stewart**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - REGULATORY POWERS OF ADMINISTRATION {LC3762/1} (Provides that any rate increase with respect to electric distribution companies would be no greater than the increase in the Consumer Price Index or 5.5%, whichever is greater, unless there is approval of a higher rate by the general assembly)

01/15/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7138](#)**

**BY J. Lombardi, Hull, Cruz, Stewart**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY {LC3778/1} (Enables the Rhode Island public transit authority (RIPTA) to work with the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA) to allow commuter rail passes to be used as dual passes for both RIPTA and MBTA.)

01/16/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7270](#)**

**BY Speakman, Spears, Carson, Cortvriend, McGaw, Boylan, McEntee, Cotter, Handy, Alzate**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION {LC3826/1} (Requires the public utilities commission to provide for a classification of service for retail electricity consumers that are large energy use facilities.)

01/23/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7331](#)**

**BY Kennedy, Azzinaro, McEntee, Tanzi, Cortvriend, Edwards, Bennett, Ackerman, Kazarian, Diaz**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION {LC4385/1} (Requires that certain data centers requiring large amounts of electricity be required to fund the cost of necessary infrastructure improvements to supply such electricity.)

01/28/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7332](#)**

**BY Hull, J. Lombardi, Fogarty, DeSimone, Tanzi, Felix, Azzinaro, Alzate, Bennett, Slater**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS {LC4618/1} (Requires all public utilities to maintain a customer service facility within the state to perform services such as addressing customer inquiries and accepting bill payments.)

01/28/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Resolution No. [7524](#)**

**BY Fascia, Quattrocchi, J. Brien, Santucci, Chippendale, Hopkins**

**ENTITLED**, HOUSE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY URGING THE GOVERNOR TO SUPPORT AND TAKE ACTION TO EXPAND THE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE CAPACITY INTO NEW ENGLAND {LC3631/1}

02/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7610](#)**

**BY Lima, Costantino, J. Brien, Casey, Noret, Hopkins, Shanley, O'Brien**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION {LC5079/1} (Requires the PUC to produce report on comprehensive study by April 30, 2027.)

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7612](#)**

**BY Cruz, Stewart, Potter, Morales, McEntee, Giraldo, Kazarian, Sanchez, Tanzi, Felix**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- TERMINATION OF SERVICE TO PERSONS WHO ARE DISABLED, SERIOUSLY ILL, OR IN ARREARS OF PAYMENT {LC3746/1} (Extends the forbearance of utility terminations for customers with serious illness certifications and would amend various provisions related to the termination of utility services for persons who are disabled, seriously ill, or in arrears.)

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7871](#)**

**BY Finkelman, Baginski, DeSimone, Noret**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- RELOCATION OF UTILITY SERVICES {LC5770/1} (Allows the state to require utilities to relocate facilities for certain highway projects and to pay the cost of the relocation to the utility as part of the cost of the federally aided highway project.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7872](#)**

**BY Kennedy, Cotter, Azzinaro**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SUPPLY {LC5192/1} (Establishes civil penalties for extended service interruptions by water suppliers. These penalties would be in addition to other available remedies and damages.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7877](#)**

**BY Handy, Bennett, Speakman, McGaw, Cortvriend, Kislak, Tanzi, Cruz, Potter, McNamara ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- APPLIANCE AND EQUIPMENT ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY STANDARDS ACT OF 2021 {LC4495/1} (Establishes minimum energy and water efficiency standards for appliance and specified equipment purchased or installed after January 1, 2025.)**

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7880](#)**

**BY Slater, Kislak, Stewart, Ajello, Handy, Cruz**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS {LC5613/1} (Creates an income-sensitive tiered subsidy program to ensure that home energy utility costs are affordable for eligible low-income households.)**

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7881](#)**

**BY Handy, Potter, Ajello, McGaw, Boylan, Read, Giraldo, Dawson, McNamara, Cotter**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND CARRIERS {LC5488/1} (Prohibits public utilities, serving greater 100,000 customers from recovering through rates any direct or indirect cost associated with, amongst other costs, advertising, marketing, communications.)**

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7882](#)**

**BY Casey, Phillips, J. Brien**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- RHODE ISLAND UTILITY FAIR SHARE ROADWAY REPAIR ACT {LC5759/1} (Requires any public utility company that needs to close any state or municipal roadway for work to provide notice to all residential and business property owners located within 1,000 ft of the closed highway at least 48 hrs before the road closure.)**

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7883](#)**

**BY Handy, Kislak, Cortvriend, Tanzi**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- REGULATORY POWERS OF ADMINISTRATION {LC4912/1} (Provides amendments to procedures necessary for approval of transactions between utilities by giving the public utilities commission jurisdiction; mandates public hearings, allows intervention by any interested party and provides for appeal.)**

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7885](#)**

**BY Sanchez, Morales, Fellela, Serpa**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- REGULATORY POWERS OF ADMINISTRATION {LC5586/1} (Defines that a conspicuous display is a visual illustration showing each component of the utility bill and the cost associated with each component of said bill.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7886](#)**

**BY Morales, Sanchez, Cruz, Potter, Cotter**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- REGULATORY POWERS OF ADMINISTRATION {LC5723/1} (Requires quarterly reading of electric and gas meters.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7887](#)**

**BY Cotter, Kazarian, Potter, Tanzi, McGaw, Morales, Stewart, Handy, Casimiro, Cruz**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION {LC5160/1} (Directs the public utilities commission to establish a standardized framework for determining authorized common equity ratios and authorized rates of returns on equity for public utilities.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [7888](#)**

**BY Cotter, Kazarian, Potter, Tanzi, McGaw, Morales, Stewart, Handy, Casimiro, Cruz**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION {LC5165/1} (Provides that effective July 1, 2026, the profit margin of any electric distribution company or distributor of natural gas, would not exceed four percent (4%), in any given calendar year.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [8127](#)**

**BY Tanzi, Cortvriend, Chippendale, Batista, Shanley, Stewart, Kislak, Cruz, Hull, Handy**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY {LC5433/1} (Amends the Rhode Island Transit Authority (RIPTA) board composition by adding the Rhode Island Climate Community to the groups given due consideration for appointment to the board.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [8361](#)**

**BY Craven, Dawson, DeSimone, O'Brien**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- RHODE ISLAND TOWING INDUSTRY MODERNIZATION AND REGULATORY EQUITY ACT {LC6121/1} (Establishes the Rhode Island towing advisory board, to provide advice to the DPUC regarding the DPUC's regulation of tow truck operators.)

03/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

04/03/2026 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](mailto: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>

Louis Mansolillo

Committee Clerk

401-222-2369

[HouseCorporations@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseCorporations@rilegislature.gov)

**POSTED: FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026, 2:55 PM**

**LAST REVISED: MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2026, 12:30 PM**

**PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE: MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2026, 12:30 PM**