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# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

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**H-8120 HAS BEEN POSTPONED AT THE REQUEST OF SPONSOR**

## NOTICE OF MEETING

**DATE:** Thursday, April 9, 2026

**TIME:** Rise of the House

**PLACE:** House Lounge - State House

## SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION

### House Bill No. [7639](#)

**BY Ajello, Cortvriend, Corvese, Place, Cruz, Kislak, Handy, Boylan, Donovan, Cotter ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL LAW--GENERAL REGULATORY PROVISIONS -- GENETIC INFORMATION PRIVACY ACT {LC5027/1}** (Requires a direct-to-consumer genetic testing company, as defined, to provide a consumer with certain information regarding the company's policies and procedures regarding use of genetic data.)

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/06/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

03/10/2026 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

04/03/2026 Scheduled for consideration

### House Bill No. [7640](#)

(Judiciary)

**BY McEntee, Caldwell, Knight, Dawson, Spears, Bennett ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--COURTS -- COURT ADMINISTRATION {LC5105/1}** (For purposes of the judicial security act permits an authorized agent to file a written notice with a state, county, or municipal agency on behalf of a protected individual.)

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

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

04/03/2026 Scheduled for consideration

### House Bill No. [7642](#)

(Judiciary)

**BY Donovan**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- DISTRICT COURT PRACTICE {LC5100/1}** (Provides amendments to the assessment of filing fees required to appeal from certain matters adjudicated by the district court.)

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

**\* House Bill No. 7642 Continued on Next Page**

**\* House Bill No. 7642 Continued from Previous Page**

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

04/03/2026 Scheduled for consideration

**House Bill No. [7643](#)**

(Judiciary)

**BY Donovan**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE-- PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTION -- SMALL CLAIMS AND CONSUMER CLAIMS {LC5101/1}

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

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

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

04/03/2026 Scheduled for consideration

**House Bill No. [7747](#)**

(Dept. of Revenue)

**BY Voas**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- REGULATION OF SALES {LC5194/1} (Prohibits the holding of multiple drivers licenses or identification cards and would change the term "re-constructed salvage" to "rebuilt salvage" for purposes of the Rhode Island salvage law.)

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

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

04/03/2026 Scheduled for consideration

**House Bill No. [7748](#)**

(Judiciary)

**BY Craven, McEntee, Shanley**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--COURTS -- DISTRICT COURT {LC5104/1} (Moves North Kingstown from the third division of the district court to the fourth division to better balance case workloads among the divisions.)

02/12/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

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

04/03/2026 Scheduled for consideration

**House Bill No. [8050](#)**

(Judiciary)

**BY McEntee, Caldwell, Spears, O'Brien, Potter**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- CAUSES OF ACTION {LC5103/1} (Provides immunity for mediators and staff employed by the family court in the family court mediation program from financial liability for certain claims arising out of their participation in the program.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

**\* House Bill No. 8050 Continued from Previous Page**

03/06/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

03/10/2026 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

04/03/2026 Scheduled for consideration

**SCHEDULED FOR HEARING AND/OR CONSIDERATION**

**House Bill No. [7201](#)**

**BY McEntee, Spears, Caldwell, Casimiro, Felix, Craven, O'Brien**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- COMMERCIAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY {LC3876/1}** (Establishes the commercial sex buyer's accountability program which consists of an instructional program on prostitution and human trafficking schemes.)

01/21/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

**House Bill No. [7641](#)**

**BY Dawson, McEntee, Boylan**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- JUDICIAL SELECTION {LC5005/1}** (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.)

02/11/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

**House Bill No. [7820](#)**

**BY Lima**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- EXPUNGEMENT OF CRIMINAL RECORDS {LC5804/1}** (Makes persons who were convicted of crimes forty or more years ago eligible to have their records expunged, with certain exceptions.)

02/26/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/27/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

03/31/2026 Committee postponed at request of sponsor

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

**House Bill No. [7821](#)**

**BY Lima**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS -- DIVORCE AND SEPARATION {LC5067/1}** (Creates the rebuttable presumption that joint legal custody and shared placement is in the best interest of the child and create a mechanism in constructing a parenting plan should the court deviate from equal parenting time.)

02/26/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

**House Bill No. [8045](#)**

**BY Kislak, Cruz, Ajello, Tanzi, Handy**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS--FAMILY COURT {LC5523/1} (Requires that the chief judge of the family court in appointing magistrates do so in accordance with the judicial selection and nomination process set forth in chapter 16.1 of title 8.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

**House Bill No. [8046](#)**

**BY Corvese, Read, Dawson, Casey, Kennedy, DeSimone, Azzinaro, Noret, Phillips**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- FEES {LC5810/1} (Establishes a set service rate of seventy dollars (\$70.00) for the service of all writs, citations or subpoenas.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

**House Bill No. [8048](#)**

**BY Kislak, Cruz, Ajello, Tanzi, Handy**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--COURTS -- JUDICIAL SELECTION {LC5512/1} (Permits RI Supreme Court Committee on Racial and Ethnic Fairness, in consultation with RI Bar Association and its Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, to appoint members of JNC and requires judicial candidates to disclose political donations.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

**House Bill No. [8049](#)**

**BY Kislak, Tanzi, Cruz, Handy, Ajello**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- JUDICIAL SELECTION {LC5514/1} (Requires the JNC to establish standardized merit-based selection process and that applications be evaluated according to uniform, job-related criteria adopted in advance and published on the commission's website.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

**House Bill No. [8055](#)**

**BY Solomon**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- ASSAULTS {LC4891/1}

(Makes assault with intent to commit murder punishable by no less than ten years and not more than forty years and the person would not be afforded the benefit of suspension or deferment of sentence or probation.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

**House Bill No. [8057](#)**

**BY Ajello, Cruz, Place, Potter**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- COMMERCIAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY {LC4438/1} (Decriminalizes certain commercial sexual activity. It would also include human trafficking as a racketeering activity and would allow expungements of certain convictions in § 11-34.1 after one year.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

**House Bill No. [8060](#)**

**BY Solomon**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- IMPERSONATION AND IDENTITY FRAUD {LC5466/1} (Protects individuals and businesses from those who knowingly impersonate an entity with the intent of facilitating fraud. This act would also protect individuals and businesses from digital forgery.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

03/06/2026 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

03/06/2026 Committee postponed at request of sponsor

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

**House Bill No. [8079](#)**

**BY Potter, Alzate, Cruz, Batista, McEntee, Felix**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--PROCEDURE GENERALLY -- JURY LISTS {LC5771/1} (Amends the jury list and jury qualification statutes to add individuals receiving public assistance benefits.)

02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

**~~House Bill No. [8120](#)~~**

**~~BY Chippendale, Place, Santucci, Fascia, J. Brien, Newberry, Nardone, Roberts, Hopkins~~**

**~~ENTITLED~~**, AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- ESTATE AND TRANSFER TAXES -- ENFORCEMENT AND COLLECTION {LC5327/1} (Allows the personal representative of a decedent's estate to discharge the estate tax lien by recording with decedent's municipality, a statement stating decedent's gross estate does not require a state or federal estate tax filing pursuant to §44-22-1.1.)

~~02/27/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary~~

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

**House Bill No. [8247](#)**

**BY Casimiro, Stewart, Cruz, Shallcross Smith, Slater, Bennett, Read, Potter, Giraldo, Diaz**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- SUPERIOR COURT {LC5924/1} (Changes the term of drug court to recovery court.)

03/06/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

**House Bill No. [8328](#)**

**BY Diaz, Slater, Felix, Biah, Alzate, J. Lombardi, Hull, Potter, Edwards**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- PERMITTING VIRTUAL OR REMOTE COURT HEARINGS {LC6138/1} (Permits all Rhode Island courts to conduct hearings remotely and allow any party or attorney to appear by telephone or video conference, with remote appearances having the same legal effect as in-person appearances.)**

03/20/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

**House Bill No. [8347](#)**

**BY J. Lombardi, Cruz, Perez, Alzate, Potter, Stewart, Sanchez, Morales**

**ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RESTRICTIONS ON STATE AND MUNICIPAL COOPERATION WITH CIVIL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT {LC6165/1} (Prohibits state or local authorities from voluntary participation in federal civil immigration enforcement. It would not prohibit compliance with a judicial warrant or court order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.)**

03/25/2026 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

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

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**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>

**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.

Roberta DiMezza

Committee Clerk

401-222-2258

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

**POSTED: FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026, 3:05 PM**

**LAST REVISED: MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2026, 12:29 PM**