



Governor's Commission on Disabilities Legislation Committee

Monday May 12, 2008 3 – 4:30 PM

John O. Pastore Center, 41 Cherry Dale Court,
Cranston, RI 02920-3049

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Attendees:	Timothy Flynn (Chair); Kate McCarthy-Barnett (Vice Chair); Jeanne Behie; Rosemary C. Carmody; William R. Inlow; Arthur M. Plitt; Gwendolyn Reeve; & Janet Spinelli
Excused:	Raymond Bandusky; Sharon Brinkworth; Paul Choquette; Linda Deschenes; Deborah Garneau; Elaina Goldstein; Liberty Goodwin; Ken Pariseau; Paula Parker; Rev. Gerard O. Sabourin; & Michael Spoerri

----- Minutes -----

Call to Order and Acceptance of the Minutes	Tim Flynn Chairperson	5 min.
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Introductions: Chair called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as presented AP/JB passed unanimously

Action Items:	Discussion Leader:	Time:
1. Consideration of Tabled Bills	Bob Cooper	

Tabled for RI Disability Law Center Amendments

Civil Rights

Review requested by Election Assistance Cmte

08 S-2832 AN ACT RELATING TO CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT

Sponsors: Sen. Ruggerio & Sens. DaPonte, Doyle, Ciccone Requested by the Secretary of State In Committee Senate Judiciary Committee

Description: This act would amend rules regarding conduct at polling places on election day, including issue rules and regulations governing polling places where the ramp for the mobility impaired extends beyond the fifty foot (50') radius, and provides penalties for violations. This act would take effect upon passage.

- 1-1 SECTION 1. Section 17-19-49 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-19 entitled "Conduct
- 1-2 of Election and Voting Equipment, and Supplies" is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 1-3 **17-19-49. Political literature and influence.** – (a) No poster, paper, circular, or other
- 1-4 document designed or tending to aid, injure, or defeat any candidate for public office or any
- 1-5 political party on any question submitted to the voters shall be distributed or displayed within the
- 1-6 voting place or within fifty (50) feet of the entrance or **entrances** to the building in which voting is
- 1-7 conducted at any primary or election. Each voting place shall have a single handicapped
- 1-8 accessible entrance. Each local board of canvassers shall cause the fifty foot (50') radius to be

1-9 clearly marked, in a manner determined by the board of elections, in accordance with subsection
 1-10 17-7-5(c). The board of elections shall issue rules and regulations governing polling places where
 1-11 the ramp for the mobility impaired extends beyond the fifty foot (50') radius. Neither shall any
 1-12 election official display on his or her person within the voting place any political party button,
 1-13 badge, or other device tending to aid, injure, or defeat the candidacy of any person for public
 1-14 office or any question submitted to the voters or to intimidate or influence the voters.
 1-15 (b) The board of elections shall provide every candidate with an election day package,
 1-16 which contains a complete set of election laws, rules and regulations, and policies governing
 1-17 conduct of candidates, and campaign and poll workers on election day, and the candidates shall
 1-18 distribute this election day package to his or her poll workers.
 1-19 (c) Penalties: Violations of this section shall be punishable as follows:
 2-1 (i) first violation: Any person who commits a first violation on a particular election day
 2-2 shall be given a warning by the moderator or warden or police officer;
 2-3 (ii) Second and subsequent violation(s): Any person who commits a second or subsequent
 2-4 violation, on a particular election day, shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor.
 2-5 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

Tabled

Tabled to find out the RI Dept of Education position on **08 H-7463 Sub A**

08 H-7463 Sub A AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

Sponsors: Rep. Baldelli-Hunt Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration House Health, Education, & Welfare Committee 4/9/2008 @ Rise in rm 135

Description: This act would direct the governing bodies of each school to develop a policy designed to provide a safe environment for students with peanut/tree nut allergies. This act would also repeal the current provisions requiring the posting of notices in schools regarding the presence of children with such food allergies. This act would take effect upon passage.

The Substitute is limited to peanut/tree nut allergies rather than peanut, tree nut, or other food allergies.

1-1 SECTION 1. Section 16-21-31 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-21 entitled "Health
 1-2 and Safety of Pupils" is hereby amended to read as follows.
 1-3 **16-21-31. Notice of peanut/tree nut allergies -- Posting. --** (a) In any school subject to
 1-4 the provisions of this chapter wherein a student with an allergy to peanuts/tree nuts and/or food
 1-5 derived from peanut/tree nuts products is in attendance, a notice shall be posted within that school
 1-6 building in a conspicuous place at every point of entry and within the cafeteria facility advising
 1-7 that there are students at said school with allergies to peanuts/tree nuts. The notice shall not
 1-8 identify the individual(s) with such allergy.
 1-9 ~~(b) In the event a student who is enrolled in a school is known to have an allergy to~~
 1-10 ~~peanuts/tree nuts and/or food derived from peanut/tree nut products, the school administration~~
 1-11 ~~shall prohibit the sale of peanuts/tree nuts, peanut butter and other peanut based products in the~~
 1-12 ~~school cafeteria;~~
 1-13 ~~(c) This section shall apply to any building, modular classroom, or similar structure used~~
 1-14 ~~by a school district for instruction and education of elementary or middle school students.~~
 1-15 ~~(d) In the event a school district knows that an elementary or middle school student has a~~
 1-16 ~~peanut or tree nut allergy, the district shall:~~
 1-17 ~~(1) Designate a peanut/tree nut free table and peanut/tree nut table in the cafeteria; and~~
 1-18 ~~(2) Designate one classroom per grade to be peanut/tree nut free.~~
 1-19 SECTION 2. Chapter 16-21 of the General Laws entitled "Health and Safety of Pupils"
 2-1 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

2-2 16-21-32. Peanut/tree nut allergies. – (a) The governing body of each elementary,
 2-3 middle or junior high school approved for the purpose of sections 16-19-1 and 16-19-2, shall
 2-4 develop a policy designed to provide a safe environment for students with peanut/tree nut
 2-5 allergies. When a school is aware that an enrolled student has a peanut/tree nut allergy with
 2-6 potentially serious health consequences, the school shall implement a protocol, consistent with
 2-7 the governing body’s policy, that provides the student with protections while he or she is
 2-8 attending school or participating in school-sponsored activities. The governing body’s policy
 2-9 shall include the development of an individual health care plan (IHCP) and an emergency health
 2-10 care plan (EHCP) for each student with such food allergy. The student’s IHCP and EHCP shall
 2-11 be developed collaboratively and be signed by the school nurse, the student’s health care
 2-12 provider, the parents/guardians of the student, and the student (if appropriate). Depending upon
 2-13 the nature and extent of the student’s peanut/tree nut allergy, the measures listed in the IHCP may
 2-14 include the posting of signs at school, the prohibition of the sale of particular food items in the
 2-15 school, the designation of special tables in the cafeteria, the prohibition of particular food items in
 2-16 certain classrooms, and the complete prohibition of particular food items from a school or school
 2-17 grounds.
 2-18 (b) The department of elementary and secondary education and the department of health
 2-19 shall amend their rules and regulations for school health programs to establish standards for the
 2-20 care of students with peanut/tree nut allergies.
 2-21 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

MOTION: To find beneficial **08 H-7463 Sub A AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS AP/BI** passed, KMcC-B & RC abstained

2. Consideration of New Bills

Requested by Sharon

08 H-7361 AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1990

Sponsors: Rep. Walsh & Reps. Giannini, Handy, Lewiss, Rice

Description This act would impose a three year statute of limitations on civil actions for violating an individual's civil rights. This act would take effect upon passage.

1-1 SECTION 1. Section 42-112-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-112 entitled "The
 1-2 Civil Rights Act of 1990" is hereby amended to read as follows:
 1-3 **42-112-2. Civil liability.** -- A person whose rights under the provision of section 42-112-
 1-4 1 have been violated may commence a civil action for injunctive and other appropriate equitable
 1-5 relief, and for the award of compensatory and exemplary damages, within three (3) years after the
 1-6 occurrence of the alleged violation of this chapter. An aggrieved person who prevails in an action
 1-7 authorized by this section, in addition to other damages, is entitled to an award of the costs of the
 1-8 litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees in an amount to be fixed by the court.
 1-9 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

Tabled for more information from the Commission for Human Rights

08 H-8249 Title: N ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - HEALTH AND SAFETY AND STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS

Sponsors: Rep. Jacquard & Reps. Schadone, Carter, Church

This act would authorize the department of administration to oversee a statewide system has been put into operation. It would require all school committees to implement the statewide system to transport students, unless a school committee utilizes district owned buses and employees. This act would take

effect upon passage.

1-1 SECTION 1. Section 16-21-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-21 entitled "Health and
1-2 Safety of Pupils" is hereby amended to read as follows:

1-3 **16-21-1. Transportation of public and private school pupils. --** (a) The school
1-4 committee of any town or city shall provide suitable transportation to and from school for pupils
1-5 attending public and private schools of elementary and high school grades, except private schools
1-6 that are operated for profit, who reside so far from the public or private school which the pupil
1-7 attends as to make the pupil's regular attendance at school impractical and for any pupil whose
1-8 regular attendance would otherwise be impracticable on account of physical disability or
1-9 infirmity.

1-10 (b) For transportation provided to children enrolled in grades kindergarten through five
1-11 (5), school bus monitors, other than the school bus driver, shall be required on all school bound
1-12 and home bound routes. Variances to the requirement for a school bus monitor may be granted by
1-13 the commissioner of elementary and secondary education if he or she finds that an alternative
1-14 plan provides substantially equivalent safety for children. For the purposes of this section a
1-15 "school bus monitor" means any person sixteen (16) years of age or older.

1-16 (c) Upon implementation of the statewide transportation system described in sections 16-
1-17 21.1-7 and 16-21.1-8, no school committee shall negotiate, extend, or renew any transportation
1-18 contract unless such contract enables the district to participate in the statewide transportation
2-1 system, without penalty to the district. Upon implementation of the statewide system of
2-2 transportation for all students, each school committee shall purchase transportation services for
2-3 their own resident students by accessing the statewide system on a fee-for-service basis for each
2-4 pupil; provided, however, that any school committee that fulfills its transportation obligations
2-5 primarily through the use of district-owned buses and district employees may continue to do so.
2-6 Notice of the implementation of the statewide transportation system for in-district transportation
2-7 shall be provided in writing by the department of elementary and secondary education to the
2-8 superintendent of each district upon implementation.

2-9 SECTION 2. Sections 16-21.1-7 and 16-21.1-8 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-21.1
2-10 entitled "Transportation of School Pupils Beyond City and Town Limits" are hereby amended to
2-11 read as follows:

2-12 **16-21.1-7. Statewide transportation of students with special needs. --** Notwithstanding
2-13 the regional structure created in this chapter, and pursuant to the obligation of school committees
2-14 to transport children with special needs to and from school either within the school district or in
2-15 another school district of the state created by section 16-24-4, the department of elementary and
2-16 secondary education, in collaboration with the office of statewide planning of the department of
2-17 administration, and the Rhode Island public transit authority shall develop a plan for the creation
2-18 and implementation of a statewide system of transportation of students with special needs to and
2-19 from school. The statewide school transportation system for children with special needs shall be
2-20 provided through a competitive request for proposals to which vendors of transportation services
2-21 may respond. Effective upon the implementation of this statewide system of transportation for
2-22 students with special needs, each school committee ~~may~~ shall purchase the transportation services
2-23 for their own resident students with special needs by accessing this integrated statewide system of
2-24 transportation for children with special needs on a fee-for-service basis for each child; provided,
2-25 however, that any school committee that fulfills its transportation obligations primarily through
2-26 the use of district-owned buses and district employees may continue to do so. The goals of the
2-27 statewide system of transportation for students with special needs shall be the reduction of
2-28 duplication of cost and routes in transporting children from the various cities and towns to the
2-29 same special education program providers using different buses from each city and town, the
2-30 improvement of services to children through the development of shorter ride times and more
2-31 efficient routes of travel, and the reduction of cost to local school committees through achieving

2-32 efficiency in eliminating the need for each school district to contract for and provide these
2-33 specialized transportation services separately. The department of elementary and secondary
2-34 education shall submit a report of their findings and plans to the general assembly by March 30,
3-1 2008.

3-2 **16-21.1-8. Statewide transportation system for all students to be established. --**

3-3 Notwithstanding the regional structure created in this chapter, the department of elementary and
3-4 secondary education, in collaboration with the office of statewide planning of the department of
3-5 administration, and the Rhode Island public transit authority shall conduct a comprehensive study
3-6 of all current transportation services for students in Rhode Island school districts in order to
3-7 develop a plan for the creation and implementation of a statewide system of transportation of all
3-8 students to and from school. The statewide school transportation system for all students shall be
3-9 provided through a competitive request for proposals to which vendors of transportation services
3-10 may respond. Effective upon the implementation of this statewide system of transportation for all
3-11 students, each school committee ~~may~~ shall purchase the transportation services for their own
3-12 resident students by accessing this integrated statewide system of transportation on a fee-for-
3-13 service basis for each child; provided, however, that any school committee that fulfills its
3-14 transportation obligations primarily through the use of district-owned buses and district
3-15 employees may continue to do so. The goals of the statewide system of transportation for all
3-16 students shall be the reduction of duplication of cost and routes in transporting children from the
3-17 various cities and towns using different buses within and between each city and town, the
3-18 improvement of services to children through the development of shorter ride times and more
3-19 efficient routes of travel, and the reduction of cost to local school committees through achieving
3-20 efficiency in eliminating the need for each school district to contract for and provide these
3-21 transportation services separately. The comprehensive study of all current transportation services
3-22 for students in Rhode Island school districts and development of a plan for a statewide system of
3-23 transportation of all students to and from school shall be completed, with a report to the general
3-24 assembly by March 30, 2008.

3-25 SECTION 3. Chapter 16-21.1 of the General Laws entitled "Transportation of School
3-26 Pupils Beyond City and Town Limits" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following
3-27 section:

3-28 **16-21.1-9. Oversight of statewide transportation system. – Upon implementation of**
3-29 **the system, the office of statewide planning of the department of administration shall manage and**
3-30 **oversee the statewide system of transportation. Management of the system may be delegated to an**
3-31 **outside consultant (through a competitive request for proposals) should outsourcing of this**
3-32 **function be deemed more efficient.**

3-33 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon passage.

**MOTION: To find beneficial 08 H-8249 Title: N ACT RELATING TO
EDUCATION - HEALTH AND SAFETY AND STATEWIDE
TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS BI/RC Passed, AP Abstained**

3. Consideration of Amended versions of Bills

**08 S-2223 Sub A as Amended AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - MEDICAL
ASSISTANCE - LONG-TERM CARE SERVICE AND FINANCE REFORM**

Sponsors: Sen. Perry & Sens. Miller, Levesque C, Paiva-Weed, Gibbs , Introduced on 2/6/2008

This act would require the department of human services to implement a model system for integrated long-term care that expands the capacity of the long-term care system as a whole to support consumer choice and independence. This act would take effect upon passage.

Substitute as amended would mandate fifty percent of the Medicaid long-term care funding be utilized

on home and community based care. The substitute does not contain any of the original version's changes to RIGL 40-8.9-3. Least restrictive setting requirement, 40-8.9-4. Unified long-term care budget, 40-8.9-5. Administration and regulations, 40-8.9-6. Reporting, and 40-8.5-1. Categorically needy medical assistance coverage.

Floor Amendment extends the time for reaching 50% of Medicaid long-term care funding on home and community based care from July 1, 2012 to July 1, 2013.

The Legislation Committee found the original version of this bill Beneficial

1-1 SECTION 1. Sections 40-8.9-1 and 40-8.9-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 40-8.9
1-2 entitled "Medical Assistance - Long-Term Care Service and Finance Reform" are hereby
1-3 amended to read as follows:

1-4 **40-8.9-1. Findings.** -- (a) The number of Rhode Islanders in need of long-term care
1-5 services continues to rise substantially, and the quality of life of these Rhode Islanders is
1-6 determined by the capacity of the long-term care system to provide access to the full array of
1-7 services and supports required to meet their health care needs and maintain their independence.

1-8 (b) It is in the interest of all Rhode Islanders to endorse and fund statewide efforts to
1-9 build a fiscally sound, dynamic long-term care system that supports: consumer independence and
1-10 choice; the delivery of high quality, coordinated services; the financial integrity of all
1-11 participants-purchasers, payers, providers and consumers; and the responsible and efficient
1-12 allocation of all available public and private resources.

1-13 (c) It is in the interest of all Rhode Islanders to assure that rates paid for community-
1-14 based long-term care services are adequate to assure high quality as well as supportive of
1-15 workforce recruitment and retention.

1-16 (d) It is in the interest of all Rhode Islanders to improve consumer's access information
1-17 regarding community-based alternatives to institutional settings of care.

1-18 (e) Although slight increases in Medicaid and state spending on home and community
2-1 based long-term care has occurred, these programs still serve only a portion of the people needing
2-2 services, often resulting in waiting lists.

2-3 (f) Most people prefer to receive long-term care services in their homes or at least in a
2-4 home like setting, such a residential housing, adult day care or an assisted living residence.

2-5 (g) Despite consumer preferences, the long-term care portion of the Medicaid program
2-6 has a bias toward nursing home care, which is a mandatory benefit, while home and community
2-7 based services are optional.

2-8 (h) New service settings, such as adult day care, the PACE program, and assisted living,
2-9 have developed since the basic Medicaid services and coverage rules were developed.

2-10 (i) There is an increased legal emphasis, partly in response to the 1999 Supreme Court
2-11 Olmstead decision, on providing services in the least restrictive setting to persons with
2-12 disabilities.

2-13 (j) Currently Rhode Island spends ninety percent (90%) of its Medicaid long-term care
2-14 dollars on nursing homes and ten percent (10%) on alternatives to nursing homes. Nursing home
2-15 usage is on the decline and citizens prefer to remain at home.

2-16 (k) Informal caregivers are the backbone of the long-term care system in the United
2-17 States today, providing much of the assistance to individuals who want to remain in their homes
2-18 and need help with daily activities, including eating, bathing, and dressing, or shopping,
2-19 transportation, and taking medications.

2-20 **40-8.9-2. System reform goal.** -- On or before July 1, 2007, the department of human
2-21 services shall begin to implement a model system for integrated long-term care, that expands the
2-22 capacity of the long-term care system as a whole to support consumer choice and independence;
2-23 enables consumers to access coordinated services; assures quality outcomes through certification
2-24 standards, performance measures and incentives and rewards that promote service excellence and
2-25 generates the information consumers need to make reasoned choices about their health care; and

2-26 improves the system's overall stability by reinvesting the benefits that accrue from the more
 2-27 efficient utilization of services to enhance the capacity of each of its component parts. Attaining
 2-28 system-wide reform of the magnitude set forth herein will require significant changes in the
 2-29 organization, financing and delivery of services that must be implemented incrementally.

2-30 The department of human services shall target the goal of allocating a minimum of fifty
 2-31 percent (50%) of Medicaid long-term care funding to be utilized by nursing homes and fifty
 2-32 percent (50%) on home and community based care by the state of Rhode Island on or before July
 2-33 1, 2013. The department's annual reports required pursuant to section 40-8.9-6 shall include
 2-34 information on actions needed and progress toward this targeted fifty-fifty (50-50) goal.

3-1 The department of human services shall prioritize increased investments in home and
 3-2 community based care. The department will also work to maintain the integrity and funding of
 3-3 current programs and investments that will help Rhode Island reach this goal.

3-4 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

Potential MOTION: To find beneficial/harmful 08 S-2223 Sub A as Amended AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - MEDICAL ASSISTANCE - LONG-TERM CARE SERVICE AND FINANCE REFORM AP/BI Passed unanimously

4. Planning for the Public Forums	Bob Cooper	
Confirmed Public Forum Locations	Date & Time	Host
	Monday July 21st	
Independence Square II, Independence Way, Kingston route 136 just west of the URI campus	Tuesday July 22 nd 3 – 5 PM	Rhodes to Independence
Warwick Public Library, 600 Sandy Lane Warwick	Wednesday July 23 rd 2 – 4 PM	Ocean State Center for Independent Living
	Thursday July 24 th	
	Friday July 25 th	

Public Forum Locations Needed in:
 Northern Central RI – Arthur will attempt to find a host
 Providence/Pawtucket – Department of Health, Kate will confirm date/location
 Newport County – Rory will attempt to find a host
 & Bristol County

Sites used in 2007: Middletown Library’s Community Room, 700 West Main Road; Woonsocket Senior Center’s Conference Room, 84 Social Street; Barrington Public Library’s Gallery, 281 County Road; & RI Department of Health’s Health Policy Forum basement, Three Capitol Hill, Providence

Sponsor	Donation/Service
RI Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	Interpreters for the Deaf
Office of Rehabilitation Services	Real-time Captioning
RI Public Transit Authority	after hours RIdE services
In-Sight, Community Provider Network of RI; Opportunities Unlimited for People with Differing Abilities; RI Statewide Independent Living Council	Need for display advertisements, \$6,000 in ‘07 Received to date: \$450; Pledged to date: \$150

Questions on Status of Commission’s Legislative Package	20 min.
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The Commission Position: Commission Supports this bill

Continued

Last Action on: 2/13/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7235 AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - ZONING ORDINANCES

Sponsor: Rep. Kilmartin Identical to S 2290 House Municipal Government Committee

Description: This act would authorize an accessory family dwelling unit in a single -family residence as a reasonable accommodation for family-members with disabilities. This act would take effect upon passage.

Last Action on: 3/10/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7390 Art. 20 AN ARTICLE RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - HEALTH ACCOUNT

Sponsor: Rep. Watson House Finance Committee

Description: This article makes amendments to the existing children's health account assessment on health insurance providers to expand the reimbursements required for services provided to insured children.

08 H-7390 Art. 21 RELATING TO GENERAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE - HARDSHIP

Sponsor: Rep. Watson House Finance Committee

Description: This article renews the annual authorization for benefits and the expenditure ceiling for the General Public Assistance Hardship program.

Last Action on: 4/3/2008

Next Action on:

08 S-2290 AN ACT RELATING TO CITIES AND TOWNS -- ZONING ORDINANCES

Sponsor: Sen. Levesque Identical to H 7235 & S 2697 Sub A

Senate Housing and Municipal Government Committee

Description: This act would authorize an accessory family dwelling unit in a single -family residence as a reasonable accommodation for family-members with disabilities. This act would take effect upon passage.

Total of GCD Bills Commission Supports this bill - Continued: 4

In Committee

Last Action on: 1/2/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7023 AN ACT RELATING TO FAMILY COURT -- JURISDICTION

Sponsor: Rep. Gemma House Finance Committee

Description: This act would mandate that sentences imposed by courts, other than family court, upon seventeen years pursuant to 2007 P.L. 73 Article 22, section 1, be vacated and remand to the family court for the institution of appropriate proceedings. This act would take effect upon

Last Action on: 1/31/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7319 AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - GOVERNMENTAL TORT LIABILITY STATE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Sponsor: Rep. Fox House Finance Committee

Description: This act would add members of state boards and commission, when acting in their official capacity, to those state officials and employees, who are subjected to certain standards in determining governmental tort liability and the attorney general's responsibilities in providing legal representation. This act would take effect upon passage.

Total of GCD Bills Commission Supports this bill - In Committee: 2

Passed

Last Action on: 5/8/2008

Next Action on:

08 S-2697 Sub A AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

Sponsor: Sen. Levesque Sub A is identical to H 7235 & S 2290 Senate Desk

Description: This act would authorize an accessory family dwelling unit in a single -family residence as a reasonable accommodation for family-members with disabilities. This act would take effect upon passage. The Substitute adds a definition of a person with a disability.

Total of GCD Bills Commission Supports this bill - Passed: 1

Total of GCD Bills Commission Supports this bill - 7

The Commission Position: Commission Opposes this bill

Continued

Last Action on: 2/28/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7390 Art. 42 AN ARTICLE RELATING TO ELDERLY AFFAIRS PROGRAMS

Sponsor: Rep. Watson House Finance Committee

Description: This article eliminates the function of issuing state identification cards to elderly and disabled persons 55 and over for a nominal fee charged for cost recovery, and recognizes general revenue cost savings in community services objective grant funding under the aegis of the Legislature through the department of elderly affairs and advocacy, but still requires public and private elderly housing complexes to submit satisfactory evidence of a safety and security plan for its residents to the department. It also alters the income criterion for all three tiers of the Rhode Island Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Elderly program and mandates enrollment in the federal Medicare Part D benefit program, as provided for in the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and modernization Act of 2003. Finally, it also mandates the use of generic drugs in

Last Action on: 3/3/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7390 Art. 09 AN ARTICLE RELATING TO EDUCATION AID Sponsor:

Rep. Watson House Finance Committee

Description: This article repeals housing aid bonuses for projects involving asbestos removal and access for persons with disabilities, sets a five year time limit on bonuses for regionalized districts, and pegs bonuses for renovation projects involving energy conservation to standards set forth in the Rhode Island Building Energy Code. This article also provides for the calculation and distribution of education aid to local and regional school districts in FY 2009.

Total of GCD Bills Commission Opposes this bill - Continued: 2

Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Last Action on:

3/10/2008 Next

Action on: **5/14/2008**

08 H-7390 Art. 17 as Amended AN ARTICLE RELATING TO RHODE ISLAND MEDICAID REFORM ACT

Sponsor: Rep. Watson House Finance Committee

Description: This article outlines the structure for Medicaid Reform, a client-centered Medicaid delivery program to replace the current provider reimbursement-based payment model. The article instructs the Department of Human Services and the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to draft language for the new program, for substitution with this article as presented herein. Governor's proposed Amendments would replace the entire original with 30 sections:

Sec. 17 Long Term Home Health Care - Alternative to Placement in a Skilled Nursing or Intermediate Care Facility
SECTION 17. Relating to Long Term Home Health Care - Alternative to Placement in a Skilled Nursing or Intermediate Care Facility. Eliminates the comprehensive assessment of the medical, social, and environmental needs assessment that currently must be performed at least every one hundred eighty-(180) days by the department of human services.

Sec. 29 Rhode Island Assisted Housing Living Waiver

SECTION 29. Rhode Island Assisted Housing Living Waiver - Additional assisted living waiver request. - The executive office of health and human services and/or the department of human services are authorized to obtain any necessary waivers and/or state plan amendments to bring medical assistance recipients who have been admitted to nursing homes back into the community and to help more medical assistance recipients remain in the community, as they require long-term care, thereby resulting in improved health, quality of life and more cost effective care. The executive office of the health and human services and the human service agencies as defined in 42-7.2-2 are authorized and directed to adopt rules and regulations to ensure the establishment and implementation of this section.

The current Rhode Island Assisted Housing Living Waiver Act sections 42-66.8- 1 Legislative findings, 42-66.8-2 Purpose - Assisted living waiver request, 42-66.8-3 Definitions, 42-66.8-4 Provision of service, 42-66.8-5 Duties of director of human services, 42-66.8-6 Evaluation of assisted living waiver demonstration, and 42-66.7 Additional assisted living waiver request, would be repealed upon the approval of the necessary waivers and/or state plan amendments from the secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Total of GCD Bills Commission Opposes this bill - Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration: 2

Total of GCD Bills Commission Opposes this bill - 4
The Commission Position: Commission Supports this bill if its amended

In Committee

Last Action on: 1/22/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7162 AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Sponsor:

Rep. Costantino House Finance Committee

Description: This act would eliminate the five (5) health and human services departments and consolidate the functions of the departments within the executive office of health and human services. The act would create a new function based organizational structure within the executive office of health and human services that would include the following divisions: children and family services, behavioral health, developmental disabilities, public health, veterans affairs, and elderly and long-term care. This act would take effect on October 1, 2008.

Total of GCD Bills Commission Supports this bill if its amended - In Committee: 1

Total of GCD Bills Commission Supports this bill if its amended - 1

The Commission Position: Commission Opposes this bill unless its amended

Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Last Action on: 3/10/2008

Next Action on: **5/14/2008**

08 H-7390 Art. 17 as Amended AN ARTICLE RELATING TO RHODE ISLAND MEDICAID REFORM ACT

Sponsor: Rep. Watson House Finance Committee

Description: This article outlines the structure for Medicaid Reform, a client-centered Medicaid delivery program to replace the current provider reimbursement-based payment model. The article instructs the Department of Human Services and the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to draft language for the new program, for substitution with this article as presented herein. Governor's proposed Amendments would replace the entire original with 30 sections:

Sec. 10 - 11Katie Becket

SECTION 10 Relating to Health Care for Families - Eligibility. - Lowers the income eligibility limits for parents or relative caretakers whose income levels are equal to or up to one hundred thirty three (133%) below of the federal poverty level. {Current law is up to one hundred eighty five percent}. The resource limit of \$10,000 section is repealed, including the exemption to that limit for children with disabilities who are otherwise eligible for medical assistance coverage as categorically needy, commonly known as Katie Beckett eligible. The 5% limit of annual income cost sharing is repealed.

Katie Beckett eligible families would be required to take financial responsibility for a share of the cost of the medical assistance coverage based on the family's ability to pay.

The department would be authorized to require that eligible children! families contribute to the cost of the care by premium sharing, cost sharing, the establishment of consumer directed accounts or any other reasonable means in accordance with approved provisions of appropriate waivers and/or state plan amendments in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the department of human services.

Consumer Directed Health Care. The department of human services would be authorized to apply for and obtain appropriate waivers to create consumer directed health care accounts to increase and encourage personal responsibility, wellness and healthy decision-making.

SECTION 11. Would authorize any rules or regulations necessary or advisable to implement the provisions of Section 10 to be effective immediately as an emergency rule upon the department's filing thereof with the secretary of state and exempt those rules from the requirements of sections 42-35-3(b) and 42-35-4(b)(2) relating to agency findings of imminent peril to public health, safety and welfare and the filing of statements of

Sec. 12 - 13 Rite Share Health Insurance Premium Assistance Program

SECTION 12. Relating to Rite Share Health Insurance Premium Assistance Program. - Lowers the income eligibility for the Rhode Island health insurance premium assistance program for Rite Care eligible parents with incomes up to one hundred thirty three (133%) of the federal poverty level who have access to employer-based health insurance. {Current law is up to one hundred eighty five percent (185%)} The resource limit of \$10,000 section is repealed, including the exemption to that limit for children with disabilities who are otherwise eligible for

medical assistance coverage as categorically needy, commonly known as Katie Beckett eligible. The 5% limit of annual income cost sharing is repealed.

Katie Beckett eligible families would be required to take financial responsibility for a share of the cost of the medical assistance coverage based on the family's ability to pay.

The department would be authorized to require that eligible children families contribute to the cost of the care by premium sharing, cost sharing, the establishment of consumer directed accounts or any other reasonable means in accordance with approved provisions of appropriate waivers and/or state plan amendments in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the department of human services.

Employers who are also approved Medicaid providers and all vendors doing business with the state of Rhode Island shall make available in a timely manner to the department at the department's request, documents describing the health insurance or health benefits offered by the employer, including but not limited to a Certificate of Coverage or a Summary of Benefits and employee obligations. The Employer shall accept the enrollment of the individual and/or the family in the employer based health insurance plan without regard to any seasonal enrollment restrictions, including open enrollment restrictions, without regard to the impact on the member's wages. This is known as "pay in lieu of benefits."

SECTION 13. Would authorize any rules or regulations necessary or advisable to implement the provisions of Section 10 to be effective immediately as an emergency rule upon the department's filing thereof with the secretary of state and exempt those rules from the requirements of sections 42-35-3(b) and 42-35-4(b)(2) relating to agency findings of imminent peril to public health, safety and welfare and the filing of statements of

Sec. 14 - 16 Health Care for Elderly and Disabled Residents

SECTION 14. Relating to Health Care for Elderly and Disabled Residents Act - Categorically needy medical assistance coverage. - The section providing for a voluntary (opt out) managed health care delivery system, including a primary care case management model would be repealed.

SECTION 15. Relating to Health Care for Elderly and Disabled Residents Act - Managed health care delivery systems. - Creates for all medical assistance recipients, including the elderly and all individuals with disabilities, a system of health care delivery for all medical assistance recipients, through a mandatory managed care health systems. "Managed care" is defined as systems that: integrate an efficient financing mechanism with quality service delivery; provides a "medical home" to assure appropriate care and deter unnecessary and inappropriate care; and places emphasis on preventive and primary care. For purposes of Medical Assistance, managed care is also defined as to include a primary care case management model in which ancillary services are provided under the direction of a physician in a practice that meets standards established by the department of human services. Those medical assistance recipients who have third party medical coverage or insurance may be exempt from mandatory managed care in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the department of human services through the rule making process. The department is further authorized to redesign benefit packages for medical assistance recipients subject to the appropriate federal approval of all necessary waivers and state plan amendments.

SECTION 16. Would authorize any rules or regulations necessary or advisable to implement the provisions of Section 10 to be effective immediately as an emergency rule upon the department's filing thereof with the secretary of state and exempt those rules from the requirements of sections 42-35-3(b) and 42-35-4(b)(2) relating to agency findings of imminent peril to public health, safety and welfare and the filing of statements of

Sec. 18 - 19 Medical Assistance- Antipsychotic Prescription Drugs

SECTION 18. Relates to Medical Assistance-Prescription Drugs - Prescription drug program. - Eliminates antipsychotic drugs from the preferred drug list.

SECTION 19. Would authorize any rules or regulations necessary or advisable to implement the provisions of Section 10 to be effective immediately as an emergency rule upon the department's filing thereof with the secretary of state and exempt those rules from the requirements of

Sec. 23 - 24 Elderly Affairs Department - Duties of the department

SECTION 23. Relating to Elderly Affairs Department - Duties of the department. - (1) Expands the authority of the department to investigate reports of elder exploitation, or self-neglect {Current laws limits of abuse, and neglect}. (2) eliminates the requirement that rules and regulations to provide and coordinate the delivery of in-home services to the elderly, must be proposed by the in home services commission. (3) Authorizes the department to include a passenger cost sharing as part of the elderly/disabled transportation program.

SECTION 24 . Would authorize any rules or regulations necessary or advisable to implement the provisions of Section 10 to be effective immediately as an emergency rule upon the department's filing thereof with the secretary of state and exempt those rules from the requirements of sections 42-35-3(b) and 42-35-4(b)(2) relating to agency findings of imminent peril to public health, safety and welfare and the filing of statements of the agency's reasons thereof.

Sec. 25 - 28 Home and Community Services to the Elderly

SECTION 25. Relating to Home and Community Services to the Elderly - Definitions. - The Department of Health would license Adult day service providers {Current law it's the Department of Elderly Affairs}. The definitions of: "Case management agency" would be changed to mean a community-based agency designated by the department of elderly affairs to provide care coordination for home and community care clients, rather than case management services;

"Home and community care services" would be changed to mean arranging for providing directly the client or providing through contract services such as home health aid/homemaker services and such other services that may be required for a client to remain in the community and as defined by department regulation through the rulemaking process, rather than arranging for adult day services.

"Assisted living residences" would be changed to mean a publicly or privately operated residence that is a licensed Health care facility. {Current law to be repealed defines assistive living residences as providing personal assistance to meet the resident's changing-needs and preferences, lodging, and meals to two (2) or more adults who are unrelated to the licensee or administrator}.

"Respite care services" would be changed to remove the limitation to only services provided by an agency funded by the department of elderly affairs to provide respite care services.

"Shared living program" would be changed to mean a privately owned residence in which the family provides for or arranges for the needs of the client so that the client can remain in the community, a program that is designed to respect the unique character of each individual, promotes self-reliance and the freedom to make choices, and fosters dignity, autonomy and personal safety. Services may be provided in-home or host home residence in which the family provides for or arranges for the needs of the client so that the client can remain in the community including but not limited to lodging and meals. This program is designed to provide the opportunity for the provision of an inter generational multidisciplinary supports to preserve and strengthen families.

SECTION 26. Relating to Home and Community Services to the Elderly - Services available. - The term case-management is replaced by care coordination.

SECTION 27. Relating to Home and Community Services to the Elderly - Persons eligible. - The eligibility requirements would be changed to no longer require the person to meet an institutional level of care, instead the required level of care would be defined in department rules. The level of retain cash and/or liquid resources would be changed from not exceeding four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for an individual and six thousand dollars (\$6,000) for a married couple, to a level defined in department rules. The income level would be changed from not exceeding the income eligibility for the Rhode Island pharmaceutical assistance to the elderly-program, to a level defined in department rules.

SECTION 28. Would authorize any rules or regulations necessary or advisable to implement the provisions of Section 10 to be effective immediately as an emergency rule upon the department's filing thereof with the secretary of state and exempt those rules from the requirements of sections 42-35-3(b) and 42-35-4(b)(2) relating to agency findings of imminent peril to public health, safety and welfare and the filing of statements of

Total of GCD Bills Commission Opposes this bill unless its amended - Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration: 6

Total of GCD Bills Commission Opposes this bill unless its amended - 6

The Commission Position: Committee finds this bill Beneficial

Continued

Last Action on: 3/5/2008

Next Action on:

08 S-2282 AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - MEDICAL ASSISTANCE - LONG-TERM CARE SERVICE AND FINANCE REFORM

Sponsor: Sen. Perry Similar to S 2223 Senate Health and Human Services Committee

Description: This act would provide that those in need of long-term care and support services receive them in the

least restrictive setting appropriate to their needs to avoid unnecessary institutionalization of persons during the full eligibility determination process for Medicaid community-based care. This requirement would be met by the department of human services which would direct and authorize allocation of existing Medicaid resources. This act would take effect upon passage.

Last Action on: 3/26/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7409 AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS - THE RHODE ISLAND HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE ACT OF 2008

Sponsor: Rep. Kilmartin Identical to S 2679 House Health, Education, & Welfare Committee

Description: This act would establish safeguards and confidentiality protection for health information exchange (HIE) in order to improve the quality, safety and value of health care, keep confidential health information secure and confidential and use the HIE to progress toward meeting public health goals. This act would take effect upon passage.

Last Action on: 5/7/2008

Next Action on:

08 S-2679 AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - THE RHODE ISLAND HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE ACT OF 2008

Sponsor: Sen. Paiva-Weed Identical to H 7409 Senate Health and Human Services Committee

Description: This act would establish the "Rhode Island Health Information Exchange Act of 2008" for the purpose of providing safeguards and confidentiality protection for health information exchange. This act would take effect March 1, 2009.

Total of GCD Bills Committee finds this bill Beneficial - Continued: 3

In Committee

Last Action on: 1/31/2008

Next Action on:

08 S-2156 AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - SCHOOL AND MUNICIPAL PLAYGROUND SAFETY

Sponsor: Sen. Blais Senate Finance Committee

Description: This act would provide grants to cities and towns for projects undertaken specifically to comply with the department of education and department of health's joint health and environment recreational facility safety regulations and/or to provide access for people with disabilities. This act would take effect upon passage.

08 S-2194 AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RHODE ISLAND FAIR HOUSING PRACTICES ACT

Sponsor: Sen. Metts Senate Judiciary Committee

Description: This act would prohibit discrimination in housing against those persons who are recipients of government assistance. This act would take effect upon passage.

Last Action on: 4/3/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-8113 AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - FAMILY INDEPENDENCE ACT

Sponsor: Rep. Dennigan House Finance Committee

Description: This act would make substantial revisions to the employment standards and the assessment of a parent's educational and vocational abilities, in order to qualify for public assistance. The act would transfer from the department of administration, division of taxation to the department of human services, the office of child support services responsibility for establishing child support enforcement obligations on the part of non-custodial parents and make the office of rehabilitative services would be responsible for providing workforce services to persons with disabilities.

The assessment employability of the unemployed parent would include a vocational and educational assessment and shall be designed to uncover barriers to employment including substance abuse, physical, cognitive or mental health problems. Parents who demonstrate such barriers to employment in the initial assessment shall be referred for more in-depth assessment by an appropriate agency or organization with expertise in working with adults with disabilities. The department shall collaborate with the department of labor and training, the office of rehabilitative services and community-based organizations that provide work-readiness services to low-skilled adults in developing and administering the initial assessment

Last Action on: 4/30/2008

Next Action on:

08 S-2223 Sub A as Amended AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - MEDICAL ASSISTANCE - LONG-TERM CARE SERVICE AND FINANCE REFORM

Sponsor: Sen. Perry Similar to H House Finance Committee

Description: This act would require the department of human services to implement a model system for integrated long-term care that expands the capacity of the long-term care system as a whole to support consumer choice and independence. This act would take effect upon passage.

Substitute as amended would mandate fifty percent of the Medicaid long-term care funding be utilized on home and community based care. The substitute does not contain any of the original version's changes to RIGL 40-8.9-3.

Least restrictive setting requirement, 40-8.9-4. Unified long-term care budget, 40-8.9-5. Administration and regulations, 40-8.9-6. Reporting, and 40-8.5-1. Categorically needy medical assistance coverage.

Floor Amendment extends the time for reaching 50% of Medicaid long-term care funding on home and community based care from July 1, 2012 to July 1, 2013.

Total of GCD Bills Committee finds this bill Beneficial - In Committee: 4

Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

Last Action on: 3/10/2008

Next Action on: **5/14/2008**

08 H-7390 Art. 17 as Amended AN ARTICLE RELATING TO RHODE ISLAND MEDICAID REFORM ACT

Sponsor: Rep. Watson House Finance Committee

Description: This article outlines the structure for Medicaid Reform, a client-centered Medicaid delivery program to replace the current provider reimbursement-based payment model. The article instructs the Department of Human Services and the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to draft language for the new program, for substitution with this article as presented herein. Governor's proposed Amendments would replace the entire original with 30 sections:

Sec. 03 - 05 Family Court & the RI Training School

SECTION 3. Family Court & Training School - In the event a child is ordered to be detained at the training school, the family court shall conduct a probable cause hearing within seventy-two (72) hours of the child's detention (exclusive of weekends and/or holidays). At the conclusion of the probable cause hearing, the court shall order the release of the child from the training school unless the court finds that the child:

- (1) Poses a substantial risk of harm to self; or
- (2) Poses a substantial risk of harm to others; or
- (3) Has demonstrated that he or she may leave the jurisdiction of the court.

{Current law a child who is detained is entitled to a probable cause hearing within 10 days of detention.}

If a child is in temporary detention, the family court shall commence the adjudicatory hearing within thirty (30) calendar days from whichever of the following events occurs latest: the date the petition is served on the child; or the date the child is placed in detention.

In all such cases, the family court shall conclude the adjudicatory hearing within fifteen 15 calendar days of the commencement of the hearing.

The attorney general must file an application to waive and/or certify a youth, the juvenile may be detained at the training school for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days. Then the department shall present to the family court a waiver report within forty-five (45) calendar days. At the expiration of ninety (90) days, the attorney general's petition for waiver and/or certification shall be decided and the wayward/delinquent petition shall be adjudicated.

SECTION 4 relates to Release from the Training School. - The family court shall authorize the release of the child to his or her home and/or to the care and custody of the department of children. Youth and families unless the court finds that the child:

- (1) Poses a substantial risk of harm to self: or
- (2) Poses a substantial risk of harm to others: or
- (3) Has demonstrated that he or she may leave the jurisdiction of the court.

SECTION 5. Relates to Delinquent and Dependent Children. - In the event the court assigns custody of a child to the director of the department of children, youth and families, the court shall authorize the provision of suitable treatment, rehabilitation and care for each child in the least restrictive and community based setting.

Total of GCD Bills Committee finds this bill Beneficial - Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration: 1

Total of GCD Bills Committee finds this bill Beneficial - 8

The Commission Position: Committee finds this bill Harmful

Continued

Last Action on: 4/2/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7206 AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - - MANDATES

Sponsor: Rep. Corvese House Health, Education, & Welfare Committee

Description: This act would require that educational mandates be fully funded or else unenforceable. This act would take effect upon passage.

Total of GCD Bills Committee finds this bill Harmful - Continued: 1

In Committee

Last Action on: 1/30/2008

Next Action on:

08 S-2133 AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS

Sponsor: Sen. Gibbs Identical to H 7567 Senate Finance Committee

Description: This act would allow city and town councils to seek waivers of any state law or regulation related to education, including, but not limited to, regulations governing the education of children with disabilities, in order to reduce school budget increases to specified levels. This act would take effect upon passage.

Total of GCD Bills Committee finds this bill Harmful - In Committee: 1

Withdrawn by sponsor

Last Action on: 3/5/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7567 AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS

Sponsor: Rep. Loughlin Identical to H 2133

House Health, Education, & Welfare Committee

Description: This act would allow city and town councils to seek waivers of any state law or regulation related to education, including, but not limited to, regulations governing the education of children with disabilities, in order to reduce school budget increases to specified levels. This act would take effect upon passage.

Total of GCD Bills Committee finds this bill Harmful - Withdrawn by sponsor: 1

Total of GCD Bills Committee finds this bill Harmful - 3

The Commission Position: Committee finds this bill Beneficial if amended

Continued

Last Action on: 3/12/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7098 AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- TOXIC CHEMICALS IN CHILDREN'S

PRODUCTS Sponsor: Rep. Rice House Health, Education, & Welfare Committee

Description: This act would require manufacturers of children's products that contain chemicals of high concern to disclose information to the department of health on their chemical use if the department designates the chemical as a priority chemical based on potential exposure of a child or fetus to that chemical. The act would further authorize the department to require replacement of a priority chemical in children's products with a safer alternative whenever it determines that a safer alternative is available for a specified use. The act would exempt use of priority chemicals for industrial or manufacturing purposes, in motor vehicles and components, as fuels or that are generated as combustion byproducts. This act would take effect upon passage.

Last Action on: 3/26/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7176 AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- ELDERLY VIOLENCE PREVENTION

ACT Sponsor: Rep. Naughton House Judiciary Committee

Description: This act would create a right to speedy trial for victims sixty (60) years or older under the Elderly Violence Prevention Act. Additionally, the act would create the offense of "exploitation of an elder". Persons who committed such an offense would be guilty of a felony and subject to imprisonment and fines based on the amount exploited. This act would take effect upon passage.

Last Action on: 4/3/2008

Next Action on:

08 S-2089 AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - RHODE ISLAND PROTECTION FROM SECONDHAND SMOKE FOR CHILDREN ACT OF 2008

Sponsor: Sen. Sosnowski Senate Judiciary Committee

Description: This act would create the "Rhode Island Protection From Secondhand Smoke For Children Act of 2008" which prohibits smoking in any vehicle in which a child is required to be restrained in a child passenger

safety seat. This act would take effect upon passage.

Last Action on: 5/6/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7990 AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RHODE ISLAND HOUSING AND MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION

Sponsor: Rep. Naughton Similar to H 7384 House Finance Committee

Description: This act would establish a program of loan guarantees or interest subsidies within the Rhode Island housing and mortgage finance corporation for the purpose of making home modifications to the primary residence of persons who have a disability, or age 65 or older, or are the caregiver of a family member with a disability or age 65 or older; for the purpose of improved accessibility to allow such persons to live more independently in the community. In FY 09 \$300,000 would be appropriated. This act would take effect upon passage.

Total of GCD Bills Committee finds this bill Beneficial if amended - Continued: 4

In Committee

Last Action on: 1/23/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7205 AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS Sponsor: Rep. Silva House Health, Education, & Welfare Committee

Description: This act would require all elementary and secondary schools whether public, private, parochial or charter to use environmentally-sensitive cleaning and maintenance products. This act would also require the commissioner of education to establish guidelines, specifications and a sample list of such environmentally-sensitive cleaning products. This act would take effect upon passage.

Last Action on: 2/6/2008

Next Action on:

08 H-7384 AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - RHODE ISLAND HOUSING AND MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION

Sponsor: Rep. Naughton Similar to H 7990 House Finance Committee

Description: This act would establish a program of loan guarantees or interest subsidies within the Rhode Island housing and mortgage finance corporation for the purpose of making home modifications to the primary residence of persons who have a disability, or age 65 or older, or are the caregiver of a family member with a disability or age 65 or older; for the purpose of improved accessibility to allow such persons to live more independently in the community. Sections 1, 2 and 3 of this act would take effect upon passage. As to sections 4 and 5, if a majority of the people voting on the proposition provided for in section 2 of this act shall vote to approve the proposition as to any project provided for in section 2 hereof, sections 4 and 5 would take effect upon passage.

Total of GCD Bills Committee finds this bill Beneficial if amended - In Committee: 2

Total of GCD Bills Committee finds this bill Beneficial if amended - 6

Announcements and Scheduling of Meetings			Chairperson	5 min.
The June meeting will be for reviewing last minute amendments to bills the Committee has already taken a position on and planning the public forums.				
Next meeting will be on:	Monday June 16th		Starting at: 3 PM	
Adjournment:	Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4:45 PM			
Other Information				
Resource persons:	Bob Cooper, Committee Staff			