



## Governor's Commission on Disabilities

# Legislation Committee

**Monday, July 11, 2016 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

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**Attendees:** Linda Ward (Chair.); Jack Ringland (Vice Chair.); Rosemary C. Carmody; Linda Deschenes; Casey Gartland; Arthur M. Plitt; Meredith Sheehan; & Angelina Stabile

**Absentees:** Regina Connor; Julie DeRosa; Kathleen Heren; William R. Inlow; & Kathy Kushnir

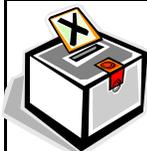
**Guests:** Colleen Polselli, Department of Health; Faye Zuckerman & Debra Sharpe, Brain Injury Association; & Tammy Russo, Family Voice/RIPIN

**Staff:** Bob Cooper



**3:00 Call to Order and Acceptance of the Minutes, Linda Ward, Chair**

Chair calls the meeting to order at 3:06 PM  
Introductions of Commissioners and guests



**MOTION:** To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as presented

Motion moved by AP, seconded by AS, passed unanimously

### Action Items:



**3:05 2016 Legislative Package, Bob Cooper, Executive Secretary**

**Purpose/Goal:** To review the status of the Commission's legislative package

The Commission was successful on 34 of the 93 bills/budget articles, 36.6 %.

GCD Position	Status	Total	
Commission Opposes unless amended			
	Held for Further Study, Continued, or Heard	2	66.7%
	Resolution Adopted	1	33.3%
<b>Commission Opposes unless amended</b>		<b>3</b>	
Commission Supports			
	Held for Further Study, Continued, or Heard	2	66.7%
	Signed by the Governor	1	33.3%
<b>Commission Supports</b>		<b>3</b>	
Commission Supports as amended			
	Passed in Concurrence	1	16.7%
	Signed by the Governor	5	83.3%
<b>Commission Supports as amended</b>		<b>6</b>	
Commission Supports if amended			
	Indefinitely Postponed	1	12.5%
	Referred to Committee	3	37.5%
	Signed by the Governor	4	50.0%
<b>Commission Supports if amended</b>		<b>8</b>	
Legislation Committee finds this bill Beneficial			
	Held for Further Study, Continued, or Heard	23	53.5%

Passed and Referred to	4	9.3%
Recommend Pass in Concurrence	1	2.3%
Referred to Committee	2	4.7%
<b>Signed by the Governor</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>30.2%</b>
<b>Legislation Committee finds this bill Beneficial</b>	<b>43</b>	
Legislation Committee finds this bill Beneficial if amended		
Held for Further Study, Continued, or Heard	9	47.4%
Transmitted to Governor	1	5.3%
Signed by the Governor	8	42.1%
Withdrawn by sponsor	1	5.3%
<b>Legislation Committee finds this bill Beneficial if amended</b>	<b>19</b>	
Legislation Committee finds this bill Harmful		
Held for Further Study, Continued, or Heard	6	54.5%
Meeting Postponed	1	9.1%
Passed and Referred to	1	9.1%
Referred to Committee	3	27.3%
<b>Legislation Committee finds this bill Harmful</b>	<b>11</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>93</b>	

	<b>Successfully Enacting</b>
	<p><b>Signed by the Governor (as of 07-01-16)</b></p> <p><b><u>Commission Supports</u></b></p> <p><b>16 H 7454 Art. 11 AN ARTICLE RELATING TO STRENGTHENING NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS</b></p> <p>Rep. Abney Requested by the Governor</p> <p>This article amends several sections of law relating to school district accounting and the education funding formula, including review of the formula on a regular interval, change to the weight for high-cost special education and adjusting per pupil funding for charter school students. Also, new accounting standards for greater transparency at the local level are proposed.</p> <p>House Finance Committee Substitute does not alter the determination of excess cost, instead it requires the department of elementary and secondary education to collect data on those educational costs that exceed the state approved threshold based on an amount above four (4) times the core foundation amount.</p> <p>The Floor Amendment does not affect the special education provisions.</p>
	<p><b><u>Commission Supports as amended</u></b></p> <p><b>16 H 7454 Art. 01/10 gcd AN ARTICLE RELATING TO MAKING APPROPRIATIONS IN SUPPORT OF FY 2017 - GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES</b></p> <p>Rep. Abney Requested by the Governor</p> <p>FY 2016 Revised Budget</p> <p>The Governor recommends revised FY 2016 appropriations of \$435,961 for the Governor's Commission on Disabilities, including \$381,890 from general revenue, \$21,181 from federal funds, and \$32,890 from restricted receipts. Relative to FY 2016 enacted levels, recommended general revenue financing decreases by \$1,166, federal funds financing decreases by \$14,278, and restricted receipts financing increases by \$22,881.</p> <p>FY 2017 Recommended Budget</p> <p>The Governor recommends FY 2017 appropriations of \$440,570, including \$386,147 from general revenue, \$10,297 from federal funds, and \$44,126 in restricted receipts. Relative to FY 2016 enacted levels, the FY 2017 recommended general revenue financing increases by \$3,091, federal funds financings decreases by \$25,162, and restricted receipt financing increases by \$34,117. The FY 2017 Budget is inclusive of enacted statewide medical benefit and other savings distributed to state agencies, which resulted in \$1,176 of general revenue savings being allocated to the Commission.</p> <p>The Substitute</p> <p>FY 2016</p> <p>76. Federal HA VA Grant Fund Adjustments. The FY 2017 recommended budget includes \$10,297</p>

from federal Help America Vote Act funds for renovation of polling places, fellowships, signage, and other costs associated with elections. The Governor's Commission on Disabilities was notified by the United States Department of Health and Human Services that the funds must be spent by June 30, 2016. The Governor subsequently requested an amendment to shift expenditures from FY 2017 to FY 2016 and includes \$10,466 to enable the Commission to spend the funds before the grant expires. The House Finance Committee concurs.

FY 2017

Independent Living Program from DHS. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to designate the Governor's Commission on Disabilities as the state agency responsible for applying for and receiving federal funds under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act for the State Independent Living Plan, effective October 1, 2016. The House Finance Committee also concurs with the requested amendment to transfer \$255,150 from the Department of Human Services to the Commission. This includes \$228,750 from federal funds and \$26,400 from general revenues for the state's required 10.0 percent match.

Federal HAVA Grant Adjustment. The FY 2017 recommended budget includes \$10,297 from federal Help America Vote Act funds for renovation of polling places, fellowships, signage, and other costs associated with elections. The Governor's Commission on Disabilities was notified by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that the funds must be spent by June 30, 2016. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to shift available resources from FY 2017 to FY 2016 to enable the Commission to spend the funds before the grant expires.

**16 H 7454 Art. 04 Sec. 19 & 20 AN ARTICLE RELATING TO GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION**

Rep. Abney Requested by the Governor

This article will formalize and streamline several important areas of state government which is intended to improve government efficiency, protect against fraud, waste and abuse, and to better serve the citizens of Rhode Island. Included within this article is the establishment of the Office of Diversity, Equity and Opportunity, the Office of Internal Audit, an Independent Office of Veterans Affairs, the Division of Enterprise Technology Strategy and Service, and the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance. In addition, the Women, Infants, and Children program is transferred to the Department of Health from the Department of House Finance Committee transfers the State Independent Living Program from the Department of Human Services to the Governor's Commission on Disabilities. The new statutory language will also establish the Commission as the Designated State Entity under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. The transfer of these functions is proposed to coincide with the federal fiscal year on October 1, 2016.

**16 H 7454 Art. 14 AN ARTICLE RELATING TO CAREGIVERS/COMPASSION CENTERS**

Rep. Abney Requested by the Governor

This article restructures and expands regulation of Rhode Island's medical marijuana system. The Department of Business Regulation (DBR) will regulate primary caregivers, compassion centers, cooperative cultivations, and a new class of cultivator licenses for people and businesses who wish to operate as wholesale suppliers of marijuana to compassion centers. The Department of Health will continue to regulate patients and a new group called authorized purchasers. This article implements a system requiring every medical marijuana plant in the state to be tagged, and tag holders will be charged an annual fee for each tag. This article also lowers the number of plants a qualifying patient or primary caregiver can grow, and decreases the surcharge on compassion centers from 4% to 3%.

House Finance Committee Substitute reduces the fees from \$150/plant for patients growing their own & \$350/plant for caregivers to \$25/plant. For patients that qualify for reduced-registration due to income or disability status, there shall be no fee per tag set.

The Floor Amendment allows a patient/cardholder to designate "an authorized purchaser cardholder" or "registry identification card" to act on their behalf.

It adds "Notwithstanding any other provisions of the general laws, the manufacture of marijuana using a solvent extraction process that includes the use of a compressed, flammable gas as a solvent by a licensed cultivator shall not be subject to the protections of this chapter."

It also makes a number of technical changes.

**16 S 2476 & H 8035 ACTS RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --  
GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RHODE ISLAND**

Sen. Conley & Rep. Amore

This act would require the governor's workforce board to expand job and career opportunities for

	<p>individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In addition, it would add representatives from the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals to the advisory committee of the state career pathways systems.</p> <p>This act would take effect upon passage.</p> <p>The Floor Amendment adds "and other significant disabilities" On page 5 line 27-28 when referring to the distribution of funds for adult training activities.</p>
	<p><b><u>Legislation Committee finds these bills Beneficial</u></b></p> <p><b>16 S 2499 &amp; H 7512 ACTS RELATING TO INSURANCE -- OFF-LABEL USES OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS</b>  Sen. Walaska &amp; Rep. Shekarchi Requested by Attorney General</p> <p>This act would provide that no health insurer issuing a policy which provides coverage for prescription drugs shall exclude coverage of any drug used for the treatment of disabling or life-threatening chronic disease on the grounds that the drug is considered "off-label" in that the drug has not been approved by the FDA for that indication, provided that the drug is recognized for treatment of that indication in one of the standard reference compendia, or in the medical literature.</p> <p>This act would take effect upon passage.</p> <p>The Substitute A inserts the same phrase "or disabling or life-threatening chronic disease" in all relevant paragraphs.</p> <p>The Substitute B This act would define "peer-reviewed medical journals" and would provide that no health insurer issuing a policy which provides coverage for prescription drugs shall exclude coverage of any drug used for the treatment of disabling or life-threatening chronic disease on the grounds that the drug is considered "off-label" in that the drug has not been approved by the FDA for that indication, provided that the drug is recognized for treatment of that indication in one of the standard reference compendia, or in the medical literature.</p> <p><b>16 S 2755 &amp; H 7816 ACTS RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - PHARMACIES</b>  Sen. Coyne &amp; Rep. Serpa</p> <p>This act would add biological products and interchangeable biological products to the medications pharmacies may dispense, and would regulate the procedures for dispensing and substitution.</p> <p>This act would take effect upon passage.</p> <p>The Substitute A expands on the definition of "Interchangeable biological product" by adding "lists of licensed biologic products with reference product exclusivity and biosimilarity or interchangeability evaluations". It also authorizes "The pharmacist will make a biological product selection from approved interchangeable prescription biological products, which shall be less expensive to the patient in accordance with §21-31-16.1(b)." The pharmacist is allow to dispense the product when prescribe in writing or orally and the product information is available on a computerized system.</p> <p>The Substitute also deletes the phrase "shall pass the savings on to the ultimate consumer".</p> <p>Substitute B clarifies that the "approved interchangeable prescription biological products" are products in accordance with §21-31-16.1(a). It adds "§21-31-16.1(g) Biological product selection. The director shall permit substitution of a less expensive biological product, as defined in §5-19.1-2, for a prescribed biological product only if said less expensive biological product is an interchangeable biological product as defined in §5-19.1-2.</p> <p>The director shall maintain on the Rhode Island state department of health website, a link to the current list of each biological product determined by the United States Food and Drug Administration to be an interchangeable biological product."</p> <p>The Floor amendment to Substitute B corrects the citation from §21-31-16.1(a) to " §21-31-16.1(g)".</p> <p><b>16 S 2853 &amp; H 7835 ACTS RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RHODE ISLAND</b>  Sen. Goodwin &amp; Rep. McEntee Requested by Department of Labor and Training</p> <p>This act would amend the composition of the governor's workforce board by adding one additional employer seat and one seat representing the office of rehabilitation services in the department of human resources.</p> <p>This act would take effect upon passage.</p> <p>The Substitute would correct the name of the "department of human resources" to the department of human services".</p> <p>The Floor Amendment would adjusts the Terms of office and voting provision to reflect the increase</p>

in membership.

**16 H 7283 AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS**

Rep. Amore

This act would prohibit any person convicted of a misdemeanor offense under §12-29-2 1 (a crime involving domestic violence) from purchasing, owning, transporting, carrying, or possessing any firearm. Offenses punishable as petty misdemeanors would be excluded from this prohibition. Further, it would provide that those people who have had their convictions expunged, set aside, or who have had their civil rights restored would not be considered a prohibited person under this chapter.

This act would take effect upon passage.

The Substitute requires that any person convicted of a felony domestic offense be ordered by the court to surrender all firearm(s) in their possession, care, custody or control to either the state or local police, or federally licensed firearms dealer and that they file proof of surrender of those firearms with the court having jurisdiction over the case.

**16 S 2898 & H 7866 ACTS RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- THE RHODE ISLAND HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE ACT OF 2008**

Sen. Miller & Rep. Coughlin Requested by Office of Health and Human Services

This act would allow persons authorized by a patient to gain access to that patient's confidential health care information from the health information exchange. This act would also allow health plans: (1) To send information to the health information exchange; and (2) To receive information to which they are already legally entitled from the health information exchange for care coordination and management.

This act would take effect upon passage.

**16 S 2426 & 7154 ACTS RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- FREEDOM FROM PRONE RESTRAINT ACT**

Sen. Goldin & Rep. Canario

This act would prohibit the use of prone restraints in certain facilities; would require training of all service providers in the reduction / elimination of restraint and seclusion, and would create a eighteen (18) member study commission to study prone restraint and training approaches in covered facilities.

This act would take effect upon passage.

The Substitute increases the study commission membership to 20, adding the director of the Community Provider Network of Rhode Island; and a director of a provider of mental health services.

**16 S 2356 & H 7616 ACTS RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- INSURANCE--MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

Sen. Miller & Rep. Bennett

This act would require comprehensive discharge planning for patients treated for substance use disorders and would require insurers to cover medication-assisted addiction treatment including methadone, buprenorphine, and naltrexone.

This act would take effect upon passage.

The Substitute added a new number iii to discharge planning in Section 1 page 1. "(iii) Attempting to notify the person(s) listed as patients' emergency contacts and 14 recovery coach before discharge". Also added a clause under (D) Recovery Coaches at the bottom of page 3 which states "Also added is a clause under (D) Recovery Coaches at the bottom of page 3 which states "If the clinically appropriate in-patient and out-patient services for the treatment of substance use disorder, opioid overdose, or chronic addiction are not immediately available, the hospital, health care clinic, urgent care center, and emergency room diversion facility shall provide medically necessary and appropriate services until the appropriate transfer of care is completed."

The Substitute also changed the title by adding "THE ALEXANDER C. PERRY ACT"

The Floor Amendment changed the title by adding "AND BRANDON GOLDNER" and delaying the effective date from September 1, 2016 to January 1, 2017. It also adds "(i) That with patient consent, each patient presenting to a hospital or freestanding emergency care facility with indication of a substance use disorder, opioid overdose, or chronic addiction shall receive a substance abuse evaluation, in accordance with the standards in subsection (a)(4)(ii) of this section, before discharge. Prior to the dissemination of the standards in subsection (a)(4)(ii) of this section, with patient consent, each patient presenting to a hospital or freestanding emergency care facility with indication of a

	<p>substance use disorder, opioid overdose, or chronic addiction shall, receive a substance abuse evaluation, in accordance with best practices standards, before discharge;"</p>
	<p><b>Passed in Concurrence</b></p> <p><b><u>Commission Supports as amended</u></b></p> <p><b>16 S 2294 AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- DRUG COVERAGE</b>  Sen. Crowley Requested by the Governor's Commission on Disabilities  This act would require any health care insurance company to notify authorized prescribers, network pharmacies, and pharmacists at least sixty (60) days' prior to removing a prescription drug from its plan's formulary, or making any change in the preferred or tiered cost-sharing status of a covered prescription drug.  Any health care insurer must provide direct written notice to affected subscribers at least sixty (60) days prior to the date the change becomes effective; or at the time an affected subscriber requests a refill of the prescription drug, provide such subscriber with a sixty (60) day supply of the prescription drug under the same terms as previously allowed, and written notice of the formulary change.  This act would take effect on January 1, 2017.</p> <p>The Substitute requires accident and sickness insurers, nonprofit hospital, medical and dental service corporations and health maintenance organizations to give thirty (30) days' notice to authorized prescribers by established communication methods and by updating available references and web-based publications before making any change in preferred or tiered cost sharing status of a covered drug. Any drug deemed unsafe by those entities or by the Food and Drug Administration may be removed immediately without prior notice.</p>
	<p><b>Successfully Blocked</b></p>
	<p><b>Referred to Committee</b></p> <p><b><u>Legislation Committee finds this bill Harmful</u></b></p> <p><b>16 H 7177 AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - STATE AID</b>  Rep. Edwards  This act would provide that if during any fiscal year the state reimbursement to cities and towns and school districts is insufficient to cover the costs of state mandates as reported by the department of revenue, those affected cities, towns, and school districts may cease implementation of state mandates at their discretion, in an amount not greater than fifty percent (50%) of the value of the reimbursement shortfall.  This act would take effect upon passage.</p> <p>16 S 2625 AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  Sen. Cote  This act would prohibit certain affordable housing programs with requirements that exceed those set forth in the general laws of the state or ordinances of the cities and towns from being included in the statewide planning program.  This act would take effect upon passage.</p> <p><b>16 S 2116 AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ACT</b>  Sen. Kettle  This act would require retailers to examine photo identification to verify that a buyer presenting an EBT card ("food stamps") is in fact the person entitled to use the card. It further provides that a retailer who neglects to perform such verification shall be suspended from the program for one month.  This act would take effect upon passage.</p> <p><b>Passed and Referred to</b></p> <p><b><u>Legislation Committee finds this bill Harmful</u></b></p>

16 S 2572 AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION

Sen. DiPalma

This act would require the department of elementary and secondary education to promulgate rules and regulations regarding graduation requirements for public school students fourteen (14) years of age or older who are under the care and control of the state.

This act would take effect upon passage.

The Amendment adds DCYF on page 1 line 4. The department of education will promulgate rules and regulations regarding graduation requirements in consultation with both the school districts and DCYF.

**Held for Further Study, Continued, or Heard**

**Commission Opposes unless amended**

**16 H 7361 & S 2643 ACTS RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANT SERVICES**

Rep. Naughton & Sen. Lombardi Requested by Attorney General

This act would require registration of those individuals who provide personal care assistant services to a consumer. This act would authorize the department of health to supervise and investigate compliance with such issues as, consumer rights, the registration process, national criminal records checks and training for applicants.

**Legislation Committee finds these bills Harmful**

**16 H 7880 & S 2210 ACTS RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HEALTH CARE ACCESSIBILITY AND QUALITY ASSURANCE ACT**

Rep. Slater & Sen. Goodwin

This act would prohibit health care facilities from using licensed nursing services agencies to cover shifts resulting from vacancies due to chronic short staffing and would require that health care facilities seek the use of licensed Rhode Island nurses to satisfy staffing needs but would permit exceptions in certain emergencies.

This act would take effect on March 1, 2017.

**16 H 7227 & S 2376 ACTS RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OPERATORS' AND CHAUFFEURS' LICENSES--MEDICAL INFORMATION**

Rep. Diaz & Sen. Metts

This act would allow drivers' licenses and state-issued identification cards to contain medical information to assist medical personnel. This act would take effect upon passage.

**16 H 7107 AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION**

Rep. Price

This act would prohibit certain affordable housing programs with requirements that exceed those set forth in the general laws of the state or ordinances of the cities and towns from being included in the statewide planning program.

This act would take effect upon passage.

**16 S 2876 & H 8014 ACTS RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING**

Sen. Algieri & Rep. Kennedy by request

This act would change the determination of whether enough low or moderate income housing exists, in the case of an urban city or town, from 5,000 rental units to 3,000 occupied year-round rental units and the units, as reported in the latest decennial census of the city or town, comprise twenty-five percent (25%) or more of the year-round housing units, is in excess of fifteen percent (15%) of the total occupied year-round rental units; or (B) in the case of all other cities or towns, is in excess of ten percent (10%) of the year-round housing units reported in the census.

The Substitute also would lower the determination of "excess units" from 15% to 12% of the total occupied year-round rental units.

## Unsuccessful in Amending

### **Signed by the Governor (as of 07-01-16)**

#### **Commission Supports if amended**

#### **16 H 7454 Art. 07 Sec. 05 formerly 09 Sec. 07 AN ARTICLE RELATING TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Rep. Abney Requested by the Governor

This Section amends Chapter 40-8.9 Medical Assistance - Long-Term Care Service and Finance Reform. By October 1, 2016, an increase in the base payment rates for home care service providers, for the purpose of implementing a wage pass-through program for personal care attendants and home health aides assisting long-term care beneficiaries.

House Finance Committee Substitute requires the service providers to report on patient liability owed and collected to the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. As the Governor requested home care provider agencies participating in the wage pass-through program targeted to increase wages for direct care home care workers will be permitted to retain any costs related to payroll taxes, insurance contributions and only those other expenses of implementing the wage increase that are required by state and federal law.

The Floor Amendment clarifies the intent that the wage increase is passed on to the employees.

#### **16 H 7454 Art. 07 Sec. 04 formerly 09 Sec. 06 AN ARTICLE RELATING TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Rep. Abney Requested by the Governor

This Section amends Chapter 40-8.5 Health Care for Elderly and Disabled Residents Act; Chapter 40-8.9. Managed care systems would be expanded to include community health teams, and/or other such arrangements.

House Finance Committee Substitute does not make any changes to the renumbered Section 04.

#### **16 H 7454 Art. 07 AN ARTICLE RELATING TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Rep. Abney Requested by Governor

This article is a joint resolution authorizing the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to undertake various reforms within the Medical Assistance (Medicaid) program. Included in the resolution are measures requiring changes to the Medicaid State Plan, Category II or III changes under the terms and conditions of Rhode Island's Section 1115 Waiver, and/or changes to state rules and regulations.

The annual appropriation bill passed by the General Assembly typically includes an article that provides legal authority for Medicaid initiatives that have budgetary savings associated with them. In recent budgets, this article has also included a series of resolutions that describe changes to the Medicaid program that underlie the budget's appropriation but that do not require statutory action, rather regulatory changes. This article grants

OHHS the authority to undertake all actions required to realize the funding levels included in Article 1. Article 9 includes language for the statutory changes needed to implement several of the associated initiatives.

The Governor's budget includes \$8.8 million (\$22.7 million all funds) in savings and recommends expenditure of \$2.0 million in general revenues and (\$4.1 million all funds) for a net savings of \$6.8 million (\$18.6 million all funds) in FY 2017.

This article establishes the legal authority for the Secretary of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to review and coordinate any Medicaid section 1115 demonstration waiver requests and renewals as well as any initiatives and proposals requiring amendments to the Medicaid state plan or category II or III changes as described in the demonstration. The changes include: Nursing Facility Payment Rates; Beneficiary Liability Collection Enhancements; Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCO) – Administrative Rate-Setting; Managed Care Plan Re-procurement; Increase in Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Home Care Provider Wages; Integrated Care Initiative (ICI) – Enrollment; Alternative Payment Arrangements; Implementation of Approved Authorities: Section 1115 Waiver Demonstration Extension and Amendments; and Federal Financing Opportunities.

House Finance Committee Substitute: Articles 07 and 09 have been merged into a revised Article 07. Changes to the original Articles 07 & 09 follows.

**16 H 7454 Art. 07 Sec. 09 formerly Art. 07 AN ARTICLE RELATING TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Rep. Abney Requested by the Governor

This article is a joint resolution authorizing the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to undertake various reforms within the Medical Assistance (Medicaid) program. Included in the resolution are measures requiring changes to the Medicaid State Plan, Category II or III changes under the terms and conditions of Rhode Island's Section 1115 Waiver, and/or changes to state rules and regulations.

The annual appropriation bill passed by the General Assembly typically includes an article that provides legal authority for Medicaid initiatives that have budgetary savings associated with them. In recent budgets, this article has also included a series of resolutions that describe changes to the Medicaid program that underlie the budget's appropriation but that do not require statutory action, rather regulatory changes. This article grants OHHS the authority to undertake all actions required to realize the funding levels included in Article 1. Article 9 includes language for the statutory changes needed to implement several of the associated initiatives.

The Governor's budget includes \$8.8 million (\$22.7 million all funds) in savings and recommends expenditure of \$2.0 million in general revenues and (\$4.1 million all funds) for a net savings of \$6.8 million (\$18.6 million all funds) in FY 2017.

This article establishes the legal authority for the Secretary of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to review and coordinate any Medicaid section 1115 demonstration waiver requests and renewals as well as any initiatives and proposals requiring amendments to the Medicaid state plan or category II or III changes as described in the demonstration. The changes include: Nursing Facility Payment Rates; Beneficiary Liability Collection Enhancements; Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCO) – Administrative Rate-Setting; Managed Care Plan Re-procurement; Increase in Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Home Care Provider Wages; Integrated Care Initiative (ICI) – Enrollment; Alternative Payment Arrangements; Implementation of Approved Authorities: Section 1115 Waiver Demonstration Extension and Amendments; and Federal Financing Opportunities.

The original Article 07 was moved to the end of the merged article, the changes include removing from the article the proposed:

- Elimination of the Nursing Facility Payment Rates increase;
- Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCO) – Administrative Rate-Setting changes;
- Managed Care Plan Re-procurement;
- Integrated Care Initiative (ICI) – Enrollment; and
- Implementation of Approved Authorities: Section 1115 Waiver Demonstration 3 Extension and Amendments.

The Substitute includes the Governor's amendment to add authority to the Rhode Island Medicaid Reform Act of 2008 Resolution to implement the R.I. Health System Transformation Program which will utilize newly authorized federal match for Costs Not Otherwise Matchable (CNOMS) and Designated State Health Programs (DSHPs) to make payments to health care providers participating in Alternative Payment Arrangements including but not limited to accountable entities to accelerate the transformation of Rhode Island's health care system to value based payment.

**Commission Opposes unless amended**

16 H 7951 HOUSE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROTECTING AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE CARE FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS IN STATE-FUNDED HOME CARE PROGRAMS

Rep. O'Grady

This resolution would create an eleven (11) member special legislative study commission whose purpose it would be to study the best practices and provide recommendations for protecting and providing effective care for vulnerable populations participating in state-funded home care programs in Rhode Island, and who would report back to the House of Representatives no later than February 7, 2017, and whose life would expire on

The Floor Amendment adds one representative from a home care provider agency.

**Legislation Committee finds these bills Beneficial if amended**

**16 S 2579 & H 8056 ACTS RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, DEVELOPMENTAL**

**DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS**

Sen. Lynch Prata & Rep. Casey

This act would authorize the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals to certify recovery housing facilities and programs for residential substance abuse treatment. In addition, after July 1, 2017, only department-certified recovery housing facilities would be eligible to receive funding to delivery recovery housing services.

This act would take effect upon passage.

The Substitute A authorized the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals to certify recovery housing facilities directly or through a contracted entity, subject to appropriations, using National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR) standards. This act would further provide that, in accordance with a schedule to be determined by department regulations, all referrals from state funded facilities would be to certified houses, and only certified recovery housing would be eligible to receive funding to deliver recovery housing services.

The Substitute A authorized the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals to certify recovery housing facilities directly or through a contracted entity, subject to appropriations, using National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR) standards. This act would further provide that, in accordance with a schedule to be determined by department regulations, all referrals from state funded facilities would be to certified houses, and only certified recovery housing would be eligible to receive funding to deliver recovery housing services.

Substitute B eliminates the wording "Subject to appropriation", requiring the department to undertake certification even if no additional funding is provided.

**16 H 7329 & S 2373 AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

Rep. Naughton & Sen. Pichardo

This act would provide that the governor's appointments to the RIPTA authority shall include a regular user of fixed-route RIPTA transportation and also a disabled person.

This act would take effect upon passage.

**16 S 2460 & H 7710 ACTS RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES**

Sen. Miller & Rep. Bennett

This act would require all health insurance providers that provide prescription coverage to provide coverage for opioid antagonists (overdose preventive medicine), and all devices and services related to the use thereof.

This would apply to nonprofit hospital service corporations, nonprofit medical service corporations and health maintenance organizations.

This act would take effect on January 1, 2017.

The Substitute requires all health insurance providers that provide prescription coverage include coverage for generic opioid antagonists (overdose preventive medicine), and devices. It would permit prior authorization for non-generic forms of opioid antagonists and devices. This act would apply to nonprofit hospital service corporations, nonprofit medical service corporations and health maintenance organizations.

The Floor Amendment deletes "as permitted by Rhode Island Admin. Code 31-2-9".

**16 H 7056 & S 2168 ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS**

Rep. Diaz & Sen .Pichardo

This act would direct all school superintendents to review discipline data for their school district, to decide whether there is an unequal impact on students based on race, ethnicity, or disability status, and to respond to any disparity. Every school district would submit a report to the council on elementary and secondary education describing any action taken on the disparity. All such reports shall be public records. Also, student suspensions would not be served out of school unless the student's conduct meets certain standards or the student represents a demonstrable threat to students, teachers or administrators.

This act would take effect upon passage.

The Floor Amendment changes the annual reporting of disparities and the actions has been taken to address the disparity; to a report if a disparity exists describing the conduct of the student, the frequency of the conduct, prior disciplinary actions for the conduct, any other relevant information and

	corrective actions to address the disparity.
	<p><b>Transmitted to the Governor</b></p> <p><b><u>Legislation Committee finds this bill Beneficial if amended</u></b></p> <p><b>16 S 2502 AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES</b>  Sen. Miller  This act would require the DCYF to transition from child placement in group homes to child placement in foster care. It would also require the DCYF to submit to the house and senate finance committees, annual reports which would include such details as the number of children in foster care and those in group homes and the costs associated with those placements, as well as recommendations for placement and options to pay for certain services for children and families.  This act would take effect upon passage.</p> <p>The Substitute strikes the words "and preferences" from line 16. The sentence now reads: "On or before October 1, 2016, the department of children, youth, and families shall recommend the allocation of existing resources as needed to ensure that those children in need of residential care, including foster homes and support services receive them in the least restrictive setting appropriate to their needs."</p>
	<b>Unsuccessful in Enacting</b>
	<p><b>Held for Further Study, Continued, or Heard</b></p> <p><b><u>Commission Supports</u></b></p> <p><b>16 S 2814 AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- RHODE ISLAND LIVABLE HOME TAX CREDIT ACT</b>  Sen. Nesselbush Requested by the Multiple Sclerosis Society of RI This act would establish the "Rhode Island Livable Home Tax Credit Act", and provide for its administration by the Governor's Commission on Disabilities.  This act would take effect upon passage.</p> <p><b>16 H 7931 AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- DRUG COVERAGE</b>  Rep. Corvese Requested by the Governor's Commission on Disabilities  This act would require any health care insurance company to notify authorized prescribers, network pharmacies, and pharmacists at least sixty (60) days' prior to removing a prescription drug from its plan's formulary, or making any change in the preferred or tiered cost-sharing status of a covered prescription drug.  Any health care insurer must provide direct written notice to affected subscribers at least sixty (60) days prior to the date the change becomes effective; or at the time an affected subscriber requests a refill of the prescription drug, provide such subscriber with a sixty (60) day supply of the prescription drug under the same terms as previously allowed, and written notice of the formulary change.  This act would take effect on January 1, 2017.  <b><i>[Senate Companion passed in concurrence]</i></b></p>
	<p><b>Recommend Pass in Concurrence</b></p> <p><b><u>Legislation Committee finds this bill Beneficial</u></b></p> <p><b>16 H 8268 AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION</b>  Rep. McNamara  This act would increase the authority of the board of trustees on career and technical education over career and technical education schools while modifying the formula for state financial aid to them. It also changes the "Excess costs associated with special education students" from "educational costs that exceed the state approved threshold based on an amount above five (5) times the core foundation amount" to "an amount greater than five (5) times the core foundation amount", and effective starting in fiscal year 2018, the approved threshold shall be based on an</p>

	<p>amount greater than four (4) times the core foundation amount.  This act would take effect upon passage.</p> <p>The Substitute removed all the proposed changes to the excess costs associated with special education</p>
	<p><b>Passed and Referred to</b></p> <p><b><u>Legislation Committee finds these bills Beneficial</u></b></p> <p><b>16 S 2461 AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE</b></p> <p>Sen. Miller  This act would require health practitioners and health plan coverage to support clinical practices fostering the appropriate use of abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic drug product formulations approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.  This act would take effect upon passage.</p> <p>The Substitute requires health care practitioners and health plan coverage to support clinical practices fostering the appropriate use of abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic drug product formulations approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and department of health regulations. It would require health plans to include at least one abuse-deterrent formulation on the lower cost prescription drug co-payment tiers.</p> <p><b>16 S 2495 AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - SOCIAL SERVICES</b></p> <p>Sen. Picard  This act would define and declare the purpose of child opportunity zones and would provide for annual reporting from the commissioner of elementary and secondary education to the general assembly on each zone. The purpose of the zones is to provide: early childhood initiatives; before-school, after-school, and summer enrichment programs; health and mental health services; parent engagement, adult education, workforce development training; or any combination of these programs based upon the students and the community's needs.</p> <p>The Substitute adds the phrase "a Rhode Island community school initiative," to the definition of a "Child Opportunity Zone".</p> <p><b>16 S 2693 AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE RECOVERY HIGH SCHOOLS ACT</b></p> <p>Sen. DiPalma  This act would allow students who are diagnosed with substance use disorder or dependency to be referred to a Rhode Island recovery high school by a licensed clinician and would direct no less than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) per year from the state for administration and programmatic costs at each recovery high school.</p> <p>The Substitute allows for but does not require appropriations of no less than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) per year from the state for administration and programmatic costs at each recovery high school.</p> <p>The Floor Amendment changes the citation for licensing clinicians.</p> <p><b>16 H 7625 AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE</b></p> <p>Rep. Serpa Requested by Attorney General  This act would require insurance coverage for at least ninety (90) days of residential or inpatient services for mental health and/or substance-use disorders for American Society of Addiction Medicine levels of care 3.1 and 3.3.</p> <p>The Substitute would prohibit insurers for mental illness and/or substance abuse from denying continued coverage for residential or inpatient services if such services are medically necessary and if the insured is admitted and currently in residential or inpatient treatment or if the continued treatment is recommended based on the criteria of the American Society of Addiction Medicine.</p>
	<p><b>Held for Further Study, Continued, or Heard</b></p> <p><b><u>Legislation Committee finds these bills Beneficial</u></b></p>

**16 S 2694 & H 8023 ACTS RELATING TO INSURANCE - ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES - STEP THERAPY PROTOCOL**

Sen. Gallo & Rep. Edwards

This act would allow for a step therapy exception determination when coverage of a prescription drug for the treatment of a medical condition is restricted for use by an insurer, health plan, or utilization review organization.

This act shall take effect upon passage and shall apply only to health insurance and health benefit plans

**16 S 2091 AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION – SCHOOL AND YOUTH PROGRAMS CONCUSSION ACT**

Sen. Lombardi

This act would refine the law on guidelines for concussions at school and youth programs so that an adult trained in recognizing the symptoms of a concussion is required to be present during all events.

This act would take effect upon passage

**16 S 2101 AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - RIGHTS OF NURSING HOME PATIENTS**

Sen. Lombardi

This act would enable nursing home residents whose rights are violated to bring an action against the facility for actual and punitive damages. Any plaintiff who prevails shall be entitled to recover attorneys' fees and costs of the action.

This act would take effect upon passage

**16 S 2318 & H 7481 ACTS RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - HUMANE ALTERNATIVES TO LONG-TERM SOLITARY CONFINEMENT**

Sen. Metts & Rep. Regunberg

This act would limit the time an inmate can spend in segregated confinement, prohibit the segregated confinement of certain vulnerable persons, and create more humane and effective methods of instituting such confinement.

**16 S 2338 & H 7054 ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - SCREENING FOR READING DISABILITIES**

Sen. Lombardi & Rep. Lombardi

This act would require school districts to conduct screening for dyslexia and other reading disabilities of school children who have exhibited one or more potential indicators using certain screening methods selected by the commissioner of education.

This act would take effect upon passage and would be implemented at the commencement of the 2016-2017 school year.

**16 S 2446 AN ACT RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING -- CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

Sen. Pichardo

This act would provide for a bond referendum which would authorize the issuance of bonds for Affordable Housing in the amount of one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000), at the election to be held in November, 2016.

Sections 1, 2, 3, and 13 of this act would take effect upon passage. The remaining sections of this act would take effect if and when the state board of elections would certify to the secretary of state that a majority of the qualified electors voting on the propositions contained in Section 1 hereof have indicated their approval of the

**16 H 7979 & S 2595 ACTS RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - EQUAL RIGHTS OF BLIND AND DEAF PERSONS TO PUBLIC FACILITIES**

Rep. Handy & Sen. Walaska

This act would require movie theaters to provide open captioning for persons who are deaf or hard-of-hearing.

**16 S 2510 AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

Sen. Crowley Requested by Attorney General

This act would require insurance coverage for at least ninety (90) days of residential or inpatient services for mental health and/or substance-use disorders for American Society of Addiction Medicine levels of care 3.1 and 3.3.

**16 S 2706 & H 7599 ACTS RELATING TO PROPERTY - FAIR HOUSING PRACTICES**

Sen. Metts & Rep. Williams

This act would prohibit discrimination in housing against those persons who have a lawful source of income.

This act would take effect upon passage.

**16 H 7937 & S 2685 ACTS RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC TRANSIT-- POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE AUTHORITY**

Rep. Barros & Sen. Pichardo

This act would remove the Rhode Island transit authority's bus fare adjustments enacted in fiscal year 2016 budget.

*[Budget restores funding of free fare until January 1, 2017]*

**16 H 7617 AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

Rep. Bennett

This act would require health practitioners and health plan coverage to support clinical practices fostering the appropriate use of abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic drug product formulations approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

This act would take effect upon passage.

**16 S 2697 AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RHODE ISLAND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE REFORM ACT OF 2016**

Sen. Nesselbush

This act would establish the "Rhode Island Behavioral Health Care Reform Act of 2016." Its purpose would be to ensure appropriate use of health care resources to manage behavioral health care services and to promote the delivery of such services to people who need them, and includes routine screening of children for behavioral health matters. The act would direct various parties, including physicians, the director of the department of health, and the health insurance commissioner to undertake various actions to achieve these goals. It would also provide for increased insurance coverage for health-related behavioral services.

This act would take effect upon passage.

**16 S 2050 AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - THE NATUROPATHIC PHYSICIANS ACT OF 2016**

Sen. Picard

This act would establish procedures for the licensing of naturopathic physicians, and defines the practice of naturopathic medicine. This practice would include the use of botanical and homeopathic medicines, as well as counseling and nutrition. The practice of naturopathic medicine would be subject to oversight by the director of the Rhode Island department of health.

This act would take effect upon passage.

**16 H 7864 AN ACT RELATING EDUCATION -- BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

Rep. Naughton

This act would require all public colleges, as defined in §16-59-13, to establish and maintain an office that assists students with disabilities in aspects of academic, social, living, and career-planning in the postsecondary education setting. The act also requires that Rhode Island residents who are or were in foster care would be able to access the services of these offices.

This act would take effect upon passage.

**16 H 7162 AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE**

	<p><b>POLICIES</b> Rep. Casey This act would require that health insurance policies include coverage for temporomandibular joint disorder. This act would take effect upon passage.</p> <p><b>16 H 7274 AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- GENETICALLY ENGINEERED RAW AND PACKAGED FOOD LABELING ACT</b> Rep. Canario This act would require the labeling of all raw and packaged food that is entirely or partially produced with genetic engineering, commencing January 1, 2017. This act would take effect upon passage</p> <p><b>16 H 7471 AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - OFF-LABEL USES OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS</b> Rep. Shekarchi This act would require insurance coverage for off-label prescription drugs when there is evidence in peer-reviewed medical literature to support their use. This act would take effect upon passage.</p>
	<p><b>Referred to Committee</b> <b><u>Legislation Committee finds these bills Beneficial</u></b></p> <p><b>16 S 2896 AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - HEALTH INSURANCE - TYPE-1 DIABETES INSULIN TREATMENT</b> Sen. Morgan This act would require health insurance contracts, plans, and policies to provide coverage for all insulin medications used to control type 1 diabetes. This act would take effect on January 1, 2017.</p> <p><b>16 H 7885 AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF</b> Rep. O'Brien This act would amend the definition of the term "extraordinary costs" for the purposes of excess costs associated with special education students. The new definition of extraordinary costs would be educational costs that are over three (3) times the average statewide special education cost. This act would take effect upon passage.</p>
	<p><b><i>3:30 2016 Public Forums, Margareta Schultz</i></b> <b>Purpose/Goal: To review plans for the 2016 Public Forums on the Concerns of People with Disabilities and their Families</b></p>
<p align="center"><b>Monday, July 25, 2016, from 4 - 6 PM</b> Rogers Free Library, 525 Hope St, Bristol Hosted by RI Statewide Independent Living Council and National Federation of the Blind</p>	
<p align="center"><b>Monday, July 25, 2016, from 4 - 6 PM</b> Warwick Library, 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick Hosted by the Ocean State Center for Independent Living</p>	
<p align="center"><b>Tuesday July 26, 2016, from 4 - 6 PM</b> Kingston Free Library, 2605 Kingstown Rd, Kingston, RI, 02881 Hosted by National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater New England Chapter</p>	
<p align="center"><b>Wednesday, July 27, 2016, 4 - 6 PM</b> Cumberland Public Library, 1464 Diamond Hill Rd, Cumberland Hosted by RI Department of Health</p>	

<p><b>Thursday, July 28, 2016, from 4 – 6 PM</b>  Middletown Library, 700 W. Main Rd, Middletown  Hosted by Opportunities Unlimited For People with Differing Abilities</p>
<p><b>Thursday, July 28, 2016, from 4 – 6 PM</b>  Jesse M. Smith Library, 100 Tinkham Ln, Harrisville  Hosted by Seven Hills?</p>
<p><b>Friday, July 29, 2016, from 3:30– 5:30 PM</b>  North Providence Union Free Library, 1810 Mineral Springs Ave, “North” Providence  Hosted by Perspectives Corporation</p>

Forum Sponsorships	Amount Pledged
Dorcas International	Foreign Language Interpreters
RI Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	Sign Language Interpreters
Office of Rehabilitation Services/Assistive Technology Access partnership	CART Reporters
UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Rhode Island	\$50
Alliance for Better Long Term Care Ombudsman Long Term Care	\$50
Living in Fulfilling Environments, Inc.	\$100
Ocean State Center for Independent Living	\$100
Goodwill Industries	\$100
RI Department of Health	\$900
National Federation of the Blind	\$100
RI Statewide Living	\$100
RI Disability Law Center	\$100
Seven Hills	\$100
Paul V. Sherlock Center	\$400
Brain Injury Foundation	\$150

**Total Received as of 07-11-16** **\$2,250**  
Need to send Press Release to NFB Newslines, In-Sight Radio, RI Council of Churches, Coventry Remainder, and Center for Southeast Asians  
Set up forum in Providence – see about Dorcas International as a forum site.

Publications	Quote
RI Newspaper Group: BEACON COMMUNICATIONS Warwick Beacon (Thursday July 17th) Cranston Herald (Thursday July 17th) Johnston Sunrise (Thursday July 17th) BREEZE PUBLICATIONS Valley Breeze, Cumberland/Lincoln (Thursday July 17th) Valley Breeze, N. Providence (Wednesday July 16th) Valley Breeze, N. Smithfield/Woonsocket (Thursday July 17th) Valley Breeze, Pawtucket (Wednesday July 16th) Valley Breeze & Observer (Thursday July 17th) EAST BAY NEWSPAPERS Bristol Phoenix (Thursday July 17th) Barrington Times (Wednesday July 16th) Portsmouth Times (Thursday July 17th) Sakonnet Times (Thursday July 17th) Warren Times-Gazette (Wednesday July 16th) East Providence Posts (Friday July 18th) INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS North-East Independent (Thursday July 17th) South County Independent (Thursday July 17th) ISLAND PUBLISHING Newport This Week (Thursday July 17th)	\$1,950.00

Publications	Quote
8 Publications •Narragansett Times (Friday July 18th) •Standard Times (Thursday July 17) •Chariho Times (Thursday July 17) • East Greenwich Pendulum(Thursday July 17) • Coventry Courier (Friday July 18th) •The Kent County Daily Times (Tuesday July 15)	\$872.80
•Newport Daily News	\$465.00
Monthly	\$360.00
Westerly Sun, daily	\$297.00
Westerly Pawcatuck Express daily	\$225.00
Monthly	\$300.00
<a href="http://www.providenceenespanol.com">www.providenceenespanol.com</a> online only	\$550.00
Weekly - Wednesday	\$142.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,161.80</b>

	<b><i>4:25 Agenda for the Next Meeting, Linda Ward</i></b>
	<b>Purpose/Goal: To set the agenda for the next meeting.</b>
	Discussion: The Legislation Committee meetings in 2016 will be on the Mondays 3 - 4:30 PM: 08/15 <sup>th</sup> ; 10/17 <sup>th</sup> ; 11/07 <sup>th</sup> ; and 12/05 <sup>th</sup> .
	<b><i>4:30 Adjournment, Linda Ward</i></b>
	Potential MOTION: To adjourn at 4:17 PM Motion moved by AS, seconded by CG, passed unanimously