
National Association of Social Workers - Rhode Island Chapter
2010 Legislative Agenda
Review of Bills Submitted As of 2/26/10

*“When we tug on a single thing in nature,
we find it attached to everything else.”*

John Muir

“Why has government been instituted at all?”

*“Because the passions of men will not conform to
the dictates of reason and justice, without constraint.”*

Alexander Hamilton (1788)

This document is a work in progress subject to change at any time during the 2010 Rhode Island legislative session. The agenda covers legislative submissions to the Rhode Island General Assembly only and may not include all state legislation that NASW - RI works on during the session. In general, NASW - RI is concerned with legislation that relates to social and economic justice, civil rights, public education, healthcare and/or other areas deemed to be of concern to social workers and those they serve. Any comments, corrections, and/or concerns should be directed to Rick Harris, LICSW, Executive Director (NASW - RI).

Special thanks to NASW - RI representatives: **Colleen Wenzl, Breah Anderson, Gabrielle Lisnoff (Rhode Island College), Nichole Cordeiro (Wheelock College), Kelly Bevis, Cassie Lenza, and Megan Foster (Providence College)** for the many hours of work putting this document together.

All opinions expressed in this document are the sole responsibility of the Executive Director and does not necessary represent the opinions of all NASW - RI members. Positions may change based on additional information and/or analysis.

Rick Harris, LICSW
Executive Director

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H – 7011

BY: M Rice, Gallison, Edwards, Brien, and Pollard
ENTITLED: Relating to Towns and Cities—State Aide

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Despite the critical state of property taxes in RI, we can not support an automatic response to state mandates that could endanger or ill effect public safety, education or other vital services.

H – 7021

BY: Corvese
ENTITLED: An act relating to food and drugs—Uniform controlled substance act

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

H –7029

BY: Giannini, E Coderre, Lima, Naughton, and Fellela
ENTITLED: Coverage for donor breast milk. This act would provide reimbursement for donor breast milk for infants who have severe allergic reactions to all formulas.

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Infants with allergies to all formulas should have access to breast milk, regardless of cost, through authorized providers, in order to ensure proper nutrition and healthy development. For critical medical services, cost should not be a factor for those who can not afford the service as long as we depend on a profit oriented economic engine. This is the cost to having capitalism. We should not operate under the edict of “survival of the fittest (Social Darwinism)”.

H – 7031

BY: Giannini, McNamara, Fellela, Hearn, Marcello
ENTITLED: An act relating to motor and other vehicles—Mobile telephone use

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this bill because the studies show high numbers of accidents due to using non-hands-free mobile telephones while operating a motor vehicle.

H-7034

BY: Rice A
ENTITLED: Relating to Delinquent and Dependent Children

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW supports allowing the family court to retain jurisdiction over juveniles within the system until twenty-one years of age. Three more years allows time for substantial skill and adjustment work as the child matures.

H-7036

BY: Representatives Gallison, McNamara, A Rice, Martin, and Azzinaro

ENTITLED: An Act Related to Education

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW supports efforts to guarantee the health and well-being of RI's student athletes.

H-7044

BY: Ajello, Ferri, Segal, Walsh, Handy

ENTITLED: Relating to State Affairs and Government: State Police

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW supports this legislation as it does with all anti-discrimination efforts. Regulatory definitions concerning "disabilities, sexual orientation and gender identity and expression" in monitoring hate crimes or those motivated by bigotry and bias are system standards necessary to the effective elimination of discrimination and proper police protocol for dealing with hate crimes or those of human rights issues.

H - 7045

BY: Edwards, Fierro, Azzinaro, Guthrie, and Pollard

ENTITLED: POST FORECLOSURE EVICTION OF RESIDENTIAL TENANTS.

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

The foreclosure crisis continues to plague many Rhode Islanders and disproportionately affects low and moderate-income earners. This act will provide tenants an opportunity to stay in their foreclosed residence without incurring any additional utility costs until the property transfers to another mortgagee.

H-7047

By: Representatives Edwards, Hearn, Shallcross Smith, Corvese, and DaSilva

Entitled: An Act Relating to Health and Safety- Flammable and Combustible Liquids

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/QuickAnalysis/Opinion

We support this legislation that expands companies that can hire 16 and older youth whose duties included dispensing gasoline. This of course assumes proper training of this very flammable liquid and does not release said companies of responsibility.

H - 7048

BY: Corvese, Edwards, Guthrie, DaSilva, and Melo

ENTITLED: An Act Relating to Labor and Labor Relations – Overtimes Calculation

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

H - 7058

BY: Pollard and Mattiello

ENTITLED: An Act Relating to State Affairs and Government – Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

The commercial housing loan market has made flawed decisions in the past when giving out loans to residents who could not afford them. In addition, predatory lenders have taken advantage of lack of financial oversight by regulatory bodies. The Rhode Island Housing Corporation should not be limited to only “last resort loans”. Residents of Rhode Island from lower to lower middle economic levels should remain eligible. We do not have objections to prioritizing loans to poorer residents, but the systems needs to remain flexible to remain competitive in the market and to manage the business obligations of the organization.

H-7060

BY: Representatives Pacheco, and Newberry

ENTITLED: Relating to public utilities and carriers--excavation near underground utility facilities--costs

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW values keeping property tax low for municipalities, and this bill would make sure the costs does not end up falling on the citizens. This is not to be confused with Tabor or Propositions that freeze property tax at certain rates. We oppose thes measures which have been deavastating to communitis affected by them.

H – 7065

BY: M Rice, Naughton, Handy, Ferri, and Marcello

ENTITLED: CLEAN ENERGY BIOFUELS

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

H – 7068

BY: Carter, MacBeth, and Serpa

ENTITLED: A N A C T RELATING TO EDUCATION -- STATE REIMBURSEMENT

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support the funding of special education services, but we oppose this bill because the state simply does not have the funding to follow through on it. If the services depend on this money, but it is unavailable, then services would cease to exist - separate funding sources are necessary.

NASW - RI is not opposed to this legislation in principle if expanded to higher cost sharing for all education services and not singling out special education students. However NASW - RI is opposed at this time.

Reimbursements can help lessen the strain on property taxes. Property tax funding for local school costs is based on an antiquated system of funding schools when communication was limited between schools and the capitol and government was much more localized. It also was created before communities and people became aware of the significant barriers that disabilities cause related to increasingly more complex and competitive highly skilled job market. Individuals with severe disabilities certainly can work in highly skilled jobs and learn effectively with supports and accommodations. No society is healthy or mature without full integration opportunities for numerous groups, including people with disabilities. The competing problems is that RI has an extremely large budget deficit and town residents are overburdened with property taxes.

NASW - RI would not be in favor of taking funds out of the general budget at this time because of the harm to other needed programs. The two main issues here are an antiquated funding mechanism for public education and the cost shifting mechanism that the federal government has implemented

for the past seven years. It is time that the governor of our state join others in insisting that the federal government changes priorities to education and social programs relieving funds at the state level to help temporarily fix the issue that this bill is trying to address. Simultaneously, it is time to address the structural deficit by looking at other untapped or under tapped revenue streams that can be found in a number of tax expenditures, tax loop holes & the overall distribution of income tax among various tax categories.

We would also oppose this bill because it singles out special needs students making them a “target” for some town residents when friction develops because promises or presumed promises were broken. We would definitely support greater fiscal responsibility by state government for all public education services when the budget allows.

H - 7069

BY: Naughton, San Bento, Walsh, Silva, and Kennedy
ENTITLED: UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support the continued and increased financial funding for the University of Rhode Island, which will allow valuable scientific research to be performed and encourage economic development for science green oriented industries in Rhode Island.

H-7070

BY: Representatives Naughton, M Rice, E Coderre, Kilmartin, and McNamara
ENTITLED: Relating to state affairs and government--Allocation for art for public facilities

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW supports the *raising* of funds to expand arts and construction projects for the betterment of the city, not a limitation on funding. NASW does support this bill’s efforts to establish a committee to oversee these projects.

H - 7073

BY: Carter, MacBeth, and Serpa
ENTITLED: An Act Relating to Taxation

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor **More Analysis Needed**

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

H – 7075

BY: Walsh, Kennedy, Driver, MacBeth, and Martin
ENTITLED: RELATING TO EDUCATION

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Currently school funding comes from towns with additional federal funding. If towns are no longer responsible for paying tuition for students attending state elementary or secondary vocational schools there must be an assurance, given the current fiscal crisis, that the state of Rhode Island will ensure funding for tuition.

H - 7078

BY: Pacheco, Ferri, Marcello, Trillo, and Gallison
ENTITLED: An Act Relating to General Assembly – Joint Committee on Legislative Services

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support an accessible and open political process, which includes the publication of legislator's voting records. Internet access to these records will allow citizens to be better informed about their legislator's stance of various issues.

H – 7085

BY: Gablinske, Kilmartin, Gallison, and DaSilva
ENTITLED: CHILD RESTRAINTS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports enforcement of safety belt and child restraint laws due to proven decrease in both severity of injury and deaths.

H - 7088

BY: Pollard
ENTITLED: An Act Relating to Courts and Civil Procedure – Courts – Judicial Selection

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

H-7090

BY: Representative Joseph M. McNamara
ENTITLED: Public Officers and Employees
Executive Director's Recommendation

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support **Conditional Support** Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support the concept of this bill, but are questioning the timeline associated with the governor's time in office.

H - 7093

BY: Corvese, Brien, and Gablinske
ENTITLED: An Act Relating to Education – Teacher's Tenure

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

H-7096

BY: Representatives Gallison, San Bento, Martin, MacBeth, and Fellela
ENTITLED: Relating to Public Officers and Employees: Merit System

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Although NASW has generally had anti-war policies, we support benefits for returning veterans who have served in the Gulf and Afghan war.

H-7104

BY: McNamara, Handy
ENTITLED: House Resolution Respectfully Requesting The Department of Environmental Management and the Pawtuxet River Authority to Conduct Environmental Testing

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support this measure as an incremental step in setting the alternative tax rate at 7%. However, NASW is in strong support of full elimination of the flat tax and believes in this bill as a means of accomplishing this larger goal.

H - 7118

BY: Gablinske, DaSilva, Carnevale, Almeida, and Gallison

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSES

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We oppose this act because we strongly believe that rehabilitation efforts rather than punishment are more beneficial for those with substance abuse problems. We would consider a felony charge on the third offense, but until then, for first and second offense, we support the requirement and recommendation of rehabilitation rather than a felony charge.

H-7120

BY: Representatives Walsh, Ajello, M Rice, Ferri, and Marcello

ENTITLED: Relating to Courts and Civil Procedure

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW supports acts that provide for more equal distribution of power between the 3 branches of government.

H - 7123

BY: Corvese, Malik, Palumbo, and Brien

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION-- THE EDUCATION ADEQUACY ACT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor **More Analysis Needed**

H-7136

BY: Representatives Lima, Wasylyk, A Rice, Ucci, and Giannini

ENTITLED: An Act Relating to Taxation

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW supports efforts to make the tax system for businesses more transparent. We also support efforts to empirically connect tax incentives with state revenue.

H-7140

BY: Representatives Edwards, Pollard, Azzinaro, A Rice, and Fierro

ENTITLED: Relating to Taxation-Sales and Use Taxes-Liability And Computation

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

H-7144

BY: Gallison, Fellela, Serpa, Kilmartin, Carter

ENTITLED: Relating to Military Affairs and Defense: Rhode Island Veterans' Home

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW, although anti-war, supports the rights and well-being of Rhode Island veterans and therefore agrees in the implementation of a legislative oversight commission. Providing the general assembly with findings and recommendations will foster more discussion of measures to benefit Rhode Island veterans.

H - 7148

BY: Costantino

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support this act because if public corporations could donate to private organizations, it would change the contract system that is currently in place. Monetary giving to private organizations should be done through a private contracting system and not through donations, because corporations, by definition, are focused on profit and marketing, and are unable to make sincerely altruistic donations.

H – 7151

BY: Gemma, Ucci, Kilmartin, Trillo

ENTITLED: An act relating to education—School Committees and Superintendents

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

H-7152 - Support

By: Representatives Gemma, Kilmartin, Fox, and Williams

Entitled: An Act Relating to State Affairs and Government- Health Care for Children and Pregnant Women

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Some generic drugs do not perform as well as brand name drugs. Further complicating this problem is that effectiveness is also affected by individual physiological make up.

H – 7155

BY: Gemma, Trillo, Ucci, Kilmartin, and Fox

ENTITLED: UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports protecting innocent individuals who may be harmed by another, who would with malicious intent, administer a controlled substance to someone without their knowledge or consent.

H – 7165

BY: Naughton, M Rice, Kennedy, and E Coderre

ENTITLED: LICENSING OF GENETIC COUNSELORS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

H-7166

BY: Representatives Petrarca, JP O'Neill, and Ucci

ENTITLED: Casualty Insurance Generally

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

H – 7169

BY: Joseph M. McNamara

ENTITLED: RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports the continued work of nursing facilities in the area of culture change, which supports a patient's rights and choices.

H-7172-Support

By: Representatives Diaz, Slater, Ajello, Almeida, and Segal

Entitled: An Act Relating to Education- Student Equal Economic Opportunity Act

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support legislation that makes new residents to the state, here to take advantage of a college education, contribute to state revenues.

H - 7173

BY: Segal, Fierro, and Edwards

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - PERSONAL INCOME TAX

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support this act because we believe that those who speak a language other than English should be accommodated in all areas of society, including taxation notification. Living in a new country can be difficult in itself, but trying to understand one's rights in the new country can be near impossible with little understanding of the language. If an individual is going to work and pay taxes in a new country, they need to have adequate information to take full advantage of their new setting.

H7177

By: Representatives Melo, Serpa, Williams, Jackson, and JP O'Neill

Entitled: Supporting a Cap of \$40,000 on the Cost of Educating Each Individual Special Education Student at the Local Level

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support the funding of special education services, but we oppose this bill because the state simply does not have the funding to follow through on it. If the services depend on this money, but it is unavailable, then services would cease to exist - separate funding sources are necessary.

NASW - RI is not opposed to this legislation in principle if expanded to higher cost sharing for all education services and not singling out special education students. However NASW - RI is opposed at this time.

Reimbursements can help lessen the strain on property taxes. Property tax funding for local school costs is based on an antiquated system of funding schools when communication was limited between schools and the capitol and government was much more localized. It also was created before communities and people became aware of the significant barriers that disabilities cause related to increasingly more complex and competitive highly skilled job market. Individuals with severe disabilities certainly can work in highly skilled jobs and learn effectively with supports and accommodations. No society is healthy or mature without full integration opportunities for numerous groups, including people with disabilities. The competing problems is that RI has an extremely large budget deficit and town residents are over burdened with property taxes.

NASW - RI would not be in favor of taking funds out of the general budget at this time because of the harm to other needed programs. The two main issues here is an antiquated funding mechanism for public education and the cost shifting mechanism that the federal government has implemented for the past seven years. It is time that the governor of our state join others in insisting that the federal government changes priorities to education and social programs relieving funds at the state level to help temporarily fix the issue that this bill is trying to address. Simultaneous, it is time to address the structural deficit by looking at other untapped or under tapped revenue streams that can be found in a number of tax expenditures, tax

loop holes & the overall distribution of income tax among various tax categories.

We would also oppose this bill because it singles out special needs students making them a “target” for some town residents when friction develops because promises or presumed promises were broken. We would definitely support greater fiscal responsibility by state government for all public education services when the budget allows.

H - 7178

BY: DaSilva, and Martin

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - - MANDATES

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

H – 7179

BY: Petrarca, JP O’Neill, and Ucci

ENTITLED: PUPIL TRANSPORTATION PUPIL TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This legislation would allow the school committee of any district to sell advertising space on school buses. We oppose this legislation because it would allow for young students to be exposed to various advertisements that may not be beneficial to their learning or well being. Students should not be exposed to media that promotes goods and services while on their way to school. Commercialism already imposes itself in a number of places, such as doctor’s offices. The message implied is that society serves the free marketplace instead of the free marketplace serving society, which is not a good lesson to promote on young impressionable minds.

H - 7183

BY: DaSilva, Kilmartin, Shallcross Smith, and Martin

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - ASSAULTS

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

While we strongly support efforts to prevent domestic violence, we believe this law could be misused to charge individuals with felonies who are not actually committing any form of assault. We also believe that this change in the law is already covered under assault and battery.

H – 7181

BY: Petrarca, O’Neill JP, Ucci

ENTITLED: An act relating to criminal offenses—Failure to pay child support

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

H-7186

BY: Representatives Kennedy, Palumbo, E Coderre, Naughton, and Carter

ENTITLED: DNA detection of Sexual and Violent Offenders

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW opposes such an extreme imposition on people’s bodies. In addition, the bill goes too far and requires those who are not convicted of any crime to submit DNA samples. NASW feels that the violation of civil rights in this case outweighs any possible public safety benefits.

H – 7191

BY: Almeida, Carnevale, Diaz, Williams, and Slater

ENTITLED: An act relating to property—Mortgage foreclosure and sale

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports the tenant’s right to have information regarding the residence going into foreclosure. We also feel that the successor of the foreclosed property needs to continue providing the utilities. We also support that the tenants having sixty days in advance notice.

H-7196

BY: Representatives Carter, Serpa, Melo, and MacBeth

ENTITLED: Reservist Education Benefits

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Again, although we generally favor anti-war positions, NASW-RI supports educational benefits for returning veterans, so long as the fiscal consequences are recognized.

H – 7201

BY: Hearn, Edwards, Shallcross Smith, and Marcello

ENTITLED: An act relating to state affairs and government

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We believe that if there is one industry worth investing in, it is creating green jobs. RI is poised to become a leader in producing green energy related products.

H-7202

By: Representatives Ruggiero, Newberry, Edwards, Serpa, and Kilmartin

Entitled: An Act Relating to General Assembly- Joint Committee on Legislative Services

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Transparency is the best insurance to running a government as clean and responsive as possible.

H - 7203

BY: Schadone, Shallcross Smith, Winfield, Edwards, and Gemma

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- BUSINESS CORPORATION TAX

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

The corporate minimum tax should not be reduced because the taxing of corporations provides needed revenue to the state to help fight our large deficit.

H-7210

BY: Representatives Driver, Marcello, Pollard, Ehrhardt, and Trillo

ENTITLED: Relating to Elections--Initiative and Referendum

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We oppose any form of voter initiative due to its influence from well-financed backers.

H-7212

By: Representatives Driver, Marcello, Pollard, Ehrhardt, and Trillo

Entitled: To Approve and Publish and Submit to the Electors a Proposition of Amendment to the Constitution of the State

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We oppose any voter initiative process due to the potential negative effect on civil rights issues. The Majority can never be in a position to decide the civil rights of the Minority. Additionally voter initiative is particularly vulnerable to last minute advertisements with slick psychologically designed informational spots than can influence people even opposite to their beliefs at times. In states that have voter initiative, there is often long and difficult voter ballots that can be confusing to voters.

H – 7225

BY: Peter F. Kilmartin

ENTITLED: CREATING A SUNSET OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI believes there should be a review process in place to look at various commissions to determine if they are still relevant.

H - 7228

BY: Lally, D Caprio, Azzinaro, Kilmartin, and Walsh

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

H– 7231

BY: Kilmartin, Almeida, Gallison, Carter, and Coderre E

ENTITLED: An act relating to taxation

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Although NASW-RI often opposes wars in general, we support individuals in the military and the service they do for our country.

H-7232

By: Representatives A Rice, Ehrhardt, M Rice, Giannini, and Walsh

Entitled: An Act Relating to Taxation- Energy Assistance- Tax Holiday

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support a tax holiday for the purchase of energy efficient materials and weatherization products. These products will help improve our environment and stimulate product development and manufacturing in Rhode Island. These breaks could also be used to stimulate manufacturing of “green” products.

H-7237

By: Representatives Gemma, Newberry, and Schadone

Entitled: An Act Relating to Public Finance- State Budget

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

The public should have available state budget information directly.

H-7244

BY: Segal, Caprio D, Silva, Slater, Diaz

ENTITLED: An Act Relating to Criminal Procedure

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW supports the prohibition and enforcement by state or local law enforcement to seek documentation of immigration status. NASW supports proper immigration laws that help to prevent discrimination and racial profiling, therefore is in favor of legislation to create trust and confidence in relationships between law enforcement and citizens of the community.

H-7254

BY: Silva, Vaudreuil, Serpa, Mattiello, Melo

ENTITLED: Urging the United States Congressional Delegation to Expand the Protections of the Truth in Lending Act

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW supports banking regulations that decrease fee-charging practices and penalties for the residents of the State of Rhode Island.

H- 7256

BY: Representative Scott M. Pollard

ENTITLED: Health Insurance Oversight

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI generally supports greater transparency for health insurers. This law would force insurers to release their prescription drug formularies to the public.

H-7260

BY: Representatives Palumbo, Naughton, Corvese, Jackson, and D Caprio

ENTITLED: Relating to Insurance--Autism Spectrum Disorders

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We believe that autism should be covered by health insurance carriers. This bill would make autism one of several conditions that Rhode Island Healthcare coverers would be required to cover if they want to practice in the state of Rhode Island.

H – 7261

BY: Walsh, Caprio D, Kennedy, Lally, and Rice

ENTITLED: An act relating to insurance—Reimbursement rate disclosure

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

As patients, doctors, general public, and healthcare advocates we support the right for more information. This bill promotes fairness, and greater informs the patient. Transparency is always a tool to provide better healthcare access.

H-7264

BY: Baldelli-Hunt
ENTITLED: An Act Relating to Education: Health and Safety of Pupils

Executive Director's Recommendation
 Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion
School bus monitors have kept children safe and helps maintain order on the bus allowing the bus driver to pay attention to driving.

H-7270
BY: Representatives M Rice, Naughton, Walsh, A Rice, and Pollard
ENTITLED: Relating to Education--Nursing Loan Repayment Program

Executive Director's Recommendation
 Support **Conditional Support** Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion
NASW cannot fully support this bill, because it only advocates for one profession. Many professions in the social services group, including doctors and social workers, need loan forgiveness

H-7274
BY: Ajello, Baldelli-Hunt, Walsh, Corvese, McNamara
ENTITLED: Relating to Health and Safety, Tanning Facility Safety Standards

Executive Director's Recommendation
 Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion
NASW supports the prohibition of tanning bed use to individuals under eighteen years of age. NASW believes that before this age, young adults are not necessarily apt to make the best decisions for their health. Federal statistical evidence shows that those who use tanning beds are 200% more likely to develop skin cancer and melanoma. Because of these truths, NASW agrees that establishing this limit will allow young adults to make well-informed choices at an older age.

H – 7279
BY: Lisa Baldelli-Hunt
ENTITLED: PARKING FACILITIES AND PRIVILEGES
This act would require that when a handicapped tag is issued that it contain a photograph of the person to whom it was issued.

Executive Director's Recommendation
 Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion
Requiring a photograph on a handicap tag is an infringement on ones right to privacy and could foreseeable cause undue harm caused by increased disclosure of an individuals identity. We feel that the incidence of fraudulent use of a handicap sticker could not possibly support this intrusive procedure.

H – 7281
BY: Palumbo, Corvese, Baldelli-Hunt, Brien, Caprio D
ENTITLED: An act relating to criminal offenses—Sexual offender registration and community notification

Executive Director's Recommendation
 Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion
NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

H-7282
By: Representatives Palumbo, Baldelli-Hunt, Corvese, Brien, and D Caprio
Entitled: An Act Relating to Criminal Offenses- Sexual Offender Registration

Executive Director's Recommendation
 Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

H-7137

By: Representatives Guthrie , Fierro, Williams, DaSilva, and Sullivan
Entitled: An Act Relating to Taxation- Alternative Flat Tax

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support the elimination of the alternative flat tax because it applies only to the wealthiest Rhode Islanders and to a very small percentage. This tax arrangement also contributes significantly to Rhode Island's deficit.

H – 7285

BY: Brien, Corvese, Palumbo, Savage, and MacBeth

ENTITLED: ABORTION This act would prohibit any woman from being forced to have an abortion against her will and would provide a cause of action in tort and wrongful death.

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

No woman under present law can be forced to have an abortion. This law is redundant.

H – 7289

BY: Ajello, Baldelli-Hunt, Walsh, JP O'Neill, and A Rice

ENTITLED: PROCEDURE GENERALLY --CAUSES OF ACTION This act would provide that no person who gratuitously renders emergency assistance in the nature of cardiopulmonary resuscitation or automated external defibrillation to a person in need thereof, would be liable for civil damages for any personal injuries which result from acts or omissions by such persons rendering the emergency care, which may constitute ordinary negligence.

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports protecting those well-intentioned individuals who would assist or act in a way to provide emergency assistance another in need.

H – 7295

BY: Representative Thomas Winfield

ENTITLED: WORKERS' COMPENSATION –BENEFITS This act would require workers who claim disfigurement as a result of a work related incident to wait one year from the disfiguring event before filing a petition for disfigurement benefits.

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Preventing an individual who has been disfigured as a result of a work related incident from filing a petition for benefits until one year from the accident would cause unnecessary financial and emotional hardship.

H-7300

BY: Representatives Kennedy, Naughton, Lima, Lally, and Martin

ENTITLED: Relating to Highways-Accessible Crosswalks

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW supports the increase in accessibility for all persons with disabilities. This bill would be helpful for making accessibility more equal for all persons.

H - 7308

BY: Pacheco, Ajello, Almeida, and Handy

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support the elimination of the alternative flax tax because we believe it is unfair and destructive to Rhode Island's revenue. A very small percentage of Rhode Islanders can take advantage of this tax and it adds considerably to our deficit.

H-7310

BY: Representative Christopher M. Fierro

ENTITLED: Relating to Taxation-- Cigarette Tax

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

H - 7313

BY: Lima, Naughton, Giannini, Williams, and Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

A basic need of children is stability. Staying in one school system will provide children with stability in the form of teachers and classmates and provide some measure of consistency in their lives, even if they are moving residential placements.

H-7314

BY: Pacheco

ENTITLED: Relating to Public Property and Works: Transportation Review Council

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support this bill to create a transportation review council in which the lieutenant governor would serve as chairperson. We believe that a council to coordinate state policy will improve the effectiveness of transportation for the community of Rhode Island and address issues within the current system.

H-7317

By: Representatives Edwards, Azzinaro, Driver, Newberry, and Martin

Entitled: An Act Relating to Food and Drugs- Controlled Substances- Marijuana

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

H - 7319

BY: Gemma, Pacheco, Fox, Handy, and Jacquard

ENTITLED: RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY - DOGS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports guidelines that would protect dogs from abuse and neglect and penalties in place to enforce such abuse.

H-7326

BY: Representatives Lally, and D Caprio
ENTITLED: Low and Moderate Income Housing

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This legislation does not meet RI Coalition for the Homeless' 3-part litmus test. It does not 1) guarantee housing that meets quality standards 2) meet long-term affordability requirements/assurances or 3) guarantee affordability based on the state definition of affordable (< 80% of area median income).

H-7334

BY: Trillo, Ruggiero, Lima
ENTITLED: Relating to Sales and Use Taxes: Liability and Computation

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW understands that businesses on the borders of Rhode Island and Massachusetts will benefit from the passage of this bill. However, we remain to have reservations and concern for a lack of revenue to replace sales tax on the days Massachusetts does not collect such taxes. NASW is monitoring this bill.

H – 7335

BY: Segal, Malik, Kennedy, D Caprio, and Gablinske
ENTITLED: RESIDENTIAL RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEM TAX CREDIT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports the overall concept, however, we do not support increasing revenue deficits and would need to know where revenue replacements are expected to come from.

H- 7336

BY: Representatives Azzinaro, Pollard, Kennedy, and Walsh
ENTITLED: Mandate Relief

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

While we understand that towns are feeling fiscally crunched, NASW-RI opposes these relief bills. Town services are too important for the provision of special education and other services for vulnerable populations. See analysis for H- 7068

H-7337- Support

By: Representative David A. Segal
Entitled: An Act Relating to General Assembly- Organization of General Assembly

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support government transparency and believe the public should have access to voting records.

H – 7339

BY: Trillo, and Palumbo
ENTITLED: MINIMUM PERFORMANCE STANDARD

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports programs that seek to improve the academic success of students, however, in the case of English language proficiency for young learners, more information needs to be provided about the types of programs that will be offered to achieve the standard in this area. Also unanswered is the amount of expertise of “existing staff” to educate students for who English may be a second language.

H-7340

BY: Representatives Serpa, Melo, Ruggiero, Marcello, and Vaudreuil

ENTITLED: Relating to Businesses and Professions

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

H – 7341

BY: Giannini, Coderre E, Lima, Ruggiero, and Naughton

ENTITLED: An act relating to health and safety—Women’s cardiovascular screening and risk reduction pilot program

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports most preventive health/mental health measures taken to protect any population.

H - 7343

BY: Driver, A Rice, Pollard, Ajello, and Lally

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- RESTRICTION ON POLITICAL SURVEILLANCE

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support this act because we believe in freedom of belief and expression as protected under the First Amendment. This act will ensure that individuals will not be wrongfully targeted for their beliefs and associations unless the subject is actually involved in criminal activity.

H-7346

BY: Representatives Lima, and Carter

ENTITLED: Divorce and Separation

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI believes that deployed military personnel should not be held accountable for failures to follow court orders when the reason for the failure is deployment. On the other hand, we want single parents to have all recourse to legal methods of collecting child support.

H-7350

BY: Representatives Jacquard, Palumbo, Carnevale, Almeida, and Lima

ENTITLED: Relating to Alcoholic Beverages-Regulation of Sales

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

H-7357

By: Representatives Fox, Fierro, Hearn, Marcello, and Walsh

Entitled: To Approve and Publish and Submit to the Electors a Proposition of Amendment to the Constitution of the State

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support the ethics commission having jurisdiction over the general assembly members. A code of ethics forces all members to operate with the same responsibilities and make decisions professionally.

H – 7359

BY: Peter F. Kilmartin

ENTITLED: RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE COMMISSIONER OF THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION TO REQUIRE ALL RHODE ISLAND SCHOOLS TO ADOPT AN INTERNET SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Because internet use has become a widely used tool for young learners. NASW-RI supports the development of an internet safety education program that would seek to inform students of potential dangers associated with internet use, as well as educate them on appropriate on-line behavior.

H – 7361

BY: Ajello, Ruggiero, Fierro, Ferri, and Walsh

ENTITLED: An act relating to insurance—Insurance coverage for mental illness and substance abuse

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this bill because we support mental health parity in health insurance

H-7364

BY: San Bento

ENTITLED: Relating to Public Utilities and Carriers: Excavation near Underground Utility Facilities

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

NASW supports the maintenance of regulations for private excavation near underground utility facilities as such marking of nearby excavations will serve as notification and awareness to the public concerning the existence of these areas. We believe appropriate regulatory markings of private utilities will help promote public safety and awareness.

H – 7365

BY: Kennedy, Marcello, Naughton, Pacheco, and Carter

ENTITLED: RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports the implementation of health information technology and believes that increasing the occurrence of e- prescribing will greatly reduce the incidence of medication errors, increasing patient safety.

H - 7368

BY: Ajello, Segal, and Handy

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Although we realize that this is a regressive tax, we feel the health outcomes outweigh the harm done as a regressive tax. We support any measures that combat obesity, which is a pervasive health problem, and soft drink consumption is linked to obesity. This bill would also provide a source of revenue for the state.

H-7371

BY: Ehrhardt, Edwards, Silva, Ucci, and Savage

ENTITLED: An act relating to State Affairs and Government—Establishing an office of Inspector General

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports a method that would detect fraud and mismanagement of public funds.

H-7372

By: Representatives Segal, Fierro, Guthrie, and Edwards

Entitled: An Act Relating to Education- School Committees and Superintendents

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

H- 7376

BY: Representatives Naughton, and M Rice

ENTITLED: Children's Right to Freedom from Restraint

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports the legal and human rights of children. This is especially true for children who are in treatment facilities or who have special psychiatric needs.

H-7377

By: Representatives Palumbo, MacBeth, Edwards, Azzinaro, and Brien

Entitled: An Act Relating to Health and Safety- Women's Right to Know Act

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We oppose the Women's Right to Know Act because we believe its actual goal may be to deter women from making the decision to get an abortion. The decision to have an abortion is not a light one for anyone. Counselors do go over other options and we see not reason to include an artificial time period and requirement for further education which appears to be presented in a biased format. NASW-RI is a pro-choice organization.

H - 7378

BY: Ferri, Ajello, Messier, McNamara, and Naughton

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, RETARDATION AND HOSPITALS -- NEW TITLE

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We oppose this act because we do not believe that all mental health can be categorized under broad terms such as "behavioral healthcare", which implies that mental illness is a behavioral disease, which is not always the case.

H-7380

BY: Representatives Walsh, M Rice, Ajello, Handy, and A Rice

ENTITLED: Relating to

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This act would require the electronic recording of interrogations in which persons are facing a possible sentence of life imprisonment. There have been cases of errors and accidental bias related to interrogation activities. These recordings will ensure an efficient and speedy trial with a decreased

likelihood of a wrongful conviction. They will also mitigate these factors in this very important outcome for the defendant.

H-7382

By: Representative David A. Segal

Entitled: An Act Relating to Criminal Procedure- Sentence and Execution

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports granting the department of probation and parole the authority to end a sentence when requirements have been met. We believe prisoners who have had positive behavior and who have potential for rehabilitation should be allowed to do so while reintegrating into the public.

H - 7383

BY: Segal

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINALS -- CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS -- PAROLE

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support regulations that are rehabilitative in nature within our correction systems. This helps foster positive changes in the individual, saves money for the state, and may decrease recidivism.

H- 7386

BY: Representatives Kilmartin, Pacheco, and Marcello

ENTITLED: Reporting of Political Contributions by State Vendors

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

H - 7388

BY: Brien, MacBeth, Corvese, Gablinske, and Newberry

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - VOTER IDENTIFICATION

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This bill would require that a person wishing to vote provide proof of identification at the voting polls. Identification would be defined as a current, federal or state-issued document with a photograph. We believe this bill places an undue burden on the voting rights of several populations, such as the elderly, minorities and the poor and contributes to a "big brother" state.

H-7392- Oppose

By: Representatives Gablinske, Mattiello, Trillo, D Caprio, and Fox

Entitled: An Act Relating to Education

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI opposes this act because we believe the percentage of the health insurance premiums that is paid out to employees who do not use the benefits should be negotiated through union contracts.

H - 7393

BY: Brien, and Baldelli-Hunt

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Although NASW – RI is not opposed to cost sharing, this should be a matter established through contract negotiations.

H-7397

By: Representative Robert A. Watson

Entitled: An Act Making Appropriations for the Support of the State for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2011

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

H-7406

BY: Representatives Ferri, Segal, Fierro, Pacheco, and Handy

ENTITLED: Incinerator Ban

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports bills that would positively affect the public's health. In addition, we are in agreement with laws that would improve the environment and cut back on pollution.

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

H-7407

By: Representatives A Rice, Walsh, Handy, Gallison, and Malik

Entitled: An Act Relating to Health and Safety- Green Economy Roundtable

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support the creation of a green economy round table because it will assist the governor in developing an action plan to help improve our state's economy as well as the environment.

H-7410

BY: Representatives Hearn, Marcello, Shallcross Smith, Baldelli-Hunt, and D Caprio

ENTITLED: Relating to Public Finance-- State Budget

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support the way in which the state makes stricter rules in light of the recent budget deficits. It is a reasonable request and will help in solving budget problems.

H-7412

By: Representatives A Rice, Martin, Jackson, McNamara, and Gallison

Entitled: An Act Relating to Education- Regional Vocational Schools

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

H- 7416

BY: Representatives Giannini, E Coderre, Naughton, Fellela, and Lima

ENTITLED: Nurses---Education

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

H-7452- Support

By: Representatives Jacquard, and Williams

Entitled: An Act Related to Motor and Other Vehicles- Equipment and Accessories Generally

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this act that will require all newly purchased school buses to have seat belts. It also requires all operators and passengers to wear the seat belts appropriately. We believe this is very important for the safety of children and adults. We do recognize that the law will be difficult to enforce.

H - 7413

BY: Segal

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FOUNDATION LEVEL SCHOOL SUPPORT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Schools should not be built on toxic waste sites because these sites expose individuals to dangerous chemicals with negative health results, and children are especially vulnerable to these effects. Ex. Love Canal.

H - 7418

BY: Jackson, Gallison, Martin, A Rice, and Edwards

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - HEALTH EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Lyme disease is a dangerous and sometimes fatal disease which is misunderstood and under diagnosed. Many times, people who have contracted lymes disease, first become aware of contracting the decease because they are aware of the symptoms. The earlier you diagnose this disease the less devastating impact it has on the individual.

H-7430

BY: Representatives Schadone, Messier, Winfield, Trillo, and Marcello

ENTITLED: Relating to State Affairs and Government—Economic Development

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

H - 7431

BY: Pacheco, Serpa, and DaSilva

ENTITLED: An act relating to State taxation

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support **Conditional Support** Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this bill because it promotes small businesses to hire new employees, however, NASW-RI is concerned that there should be an evaluation process to determine the effectiveness of this credit.

H- 7436

BY: Representatives Diaz, Slater, Almeida, Lima, and Segal

ENTITLED: Honoring Cesar Estrada Chavez

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Because César Chávez was a great community leader, activist, and representative of workers and the Latino community, NASW-RI supports this resolution to create a day honoring him.

H - 7441

BY: Slater, Almeida, Diaz, and Williams

ENTITLED: An act relating to public utilities and carriers—Termination of services to persons who are disabled of seriously ill

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this bill due to the inability of fixed income individuals to pay for utilities

H-7444

BY: Slater, Almeida, Diaz, Williams, Segal

ENTITLED: Relating to Taxation: Personal Income Tax

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

NASW supports the reinstatement of the refundable earned income tax credit. This tax assists low-income individuals and families, and thus is a standard of social services that NASW believes should be re-implemented.

H- 7446

BY: Representatives Fierro, Ajello, Pacheco, Segal, and Guthrie

ENTITLED: Campaign Fiduciary

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

H – 7451

BY: Coderre E, Kilmartin, and Naughton

ENTITLED: An act relating to human services—Interpreter services

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports an individual's ability to be aware of services that are available for them in a language format that is conducive to understanding.

H – 7461

BY: Malik, Corvese, and Palumbo

ENTITLED: An act relating to labor and labor relations—Temporary disability insurance

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports temporary disability benefits being provided to an unemployed individual due to a sickness resulting from pregnancy or childbirth. We believe in giving an individual the opportunity to recover from an illness.

H-7462

By: Representatives DaSilva, Melo, Savage, Carnevale, and Corvese

Entitled: An Act Relating to Labor and Labor Relations- Rhode Island Worker Protection and Job Loss Notification Act

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support this act, which would require certain notifications be given to employees, who are being laid off or temporarily suspended, of employment counseling being offered to said employees to provide maximum opportunity to prepare them.

H-7464

BY:

ENTITLED: Relating to Labor and Labor Relations: Workers' Compensation General Provisions

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We oppose granting the employer access to a prospective employee's history with Workers' Compensation. In support of efforts to eliminate discrimination in the workplace, NASW opposes allowing employees to violate the privacy of applicants to obtain information on old Workers' Compensation claims.

H- 7466

BY: Representatives Ferri, M Rice, Ajello, Slater, and Walsh

ENTITLED: Fair Employment Practices

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI believes that requiring workers to submit extra documentation is unfair and burdensome. It may also represent institutional discrimination, because workers of color are unjustly targeted.

H-7474

BY: Silva

ENTITLED: Relating to Criminal Offenses: Homicide

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW opposes this legislation. We believe that this bill is simply too strict and that conditional use of sentencing must be implemented, even in cases of homicide. NASW supports the notion that those found guilty of premeditated homicide should, in most circumstances, be sentenced without the possibility of parole. However, this decision should remain at the discretion of the court on a case-by-case basis.

H-7450

BY: Representatives Ferri, Segal, M Rice, Naughton, and McNamara

ENTITLED: Relating to Health and Safety- Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW believes that this bill is necessary to ensure good health of partners in a relationship and prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases.

H - 7483

BY: E Coderre, Kilmartin, Giannini, Shallcross Smith, and Serpa

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS -- DIVORCE AND SEPARATION

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor **More Analysis Needed**

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

H-7484

BY: Pacheco, Kilmartin, DaSilva, Martin, Ruggiero

ENTITLED: Relating to Motor and Other Vehicles: Accidents and Accident Reports

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion Monitor

NASW is monitoring this legislation.

H - 7488

BY: Slater, Almeida, Diaz, Williams, and Ferri

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY -- IMMIGRATION STATUS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We do not believe that it is the responsibility of business entities to check the immigration status of purchasers of services and goods and could contribute to institutional discrimination.

H- 7489

BY: MacBeth, Edwards, Azzinaro, Brien, and Palumbo
ENTITLED: INFORMED CONSENT FOR ABORTION

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI does not support the unnecessary intrusion into the medical privacy of the woman.

H-7490

BY: Representatives Segal, Ferri, Williams, Slater, and Diaz
ENTITLED: Relating to State Affairs and Government—Criminal Procedure Sentence and Execution-Hate Crimes

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

By adding crimes against homeless persons to the definition of "hate crime" it ensures that an individual faces the consequences of acting against a disadvantaged person.

H - 7491

BY: Ferri, Rice M, Naughton, McNamara, Diaz
ENTITLED: An act relating to food and drugs—Good Samaritan overdose prevention act

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this bill because it promotes "Good Samaritan" values without repercussions.

H - 7498

BY: E Coderre, Kilmartin, Pollard, Kennedy, and Giannini
ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support this bill because it would help ensure the equality of access for people with disabilities.

H - 7508

BY: Newberry, and Driver
ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We oppose this bill because we think that bus monitors serve an important safety purpose for children as well as provide bus monitoring during transit allowing the driver to maintain concentration on driving.

H - 7513

BY: Diaz, E Coderre, Almeida, Slater, and Gemma

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - LICENSING AND MONITORING OF CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

The incidence of abuse is an important piece of information for the public to have to make critical policy decisions in the form of supporting or opposing legislation/regulation that may be related to this subject.

H- 7516

BY: Representatives Carnevale, DaSilva, Jacquard, Ucci, and Azzinaro

ENTITLED: Weapons

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Would eliminate the 7-day waiting period for gun purchase for police officers. We support gun control and a waiting period for gun purchases. We would support a waiver process for law enforcement officers who needed a weapon on an emergency basis for his/her line of duty.

H - 7518

BY: A Rice, Ajello, Walsh, Jacquard, and San Bento

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - MAIL BALLOTS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support any initiative that would make participating in the electoral process easier for all citizens.

H - 7523

BY: Newberry

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLE OFFENSES – MINIMAL REQUIREMENTS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We oppose this bill because we think having a record of what police officers do while on duty is important for future investigations and to protect for police officers and the public.

H- 7526

BY: Representatives E Coderre, Naughton, Giannini, and Shallcross Smith

ENTITLED: Address Confidentiality of Domestic Violence Victims

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Would add the category "no contact order" to current confidentiality law for victims. NASW-RI supports measures to increase protections for victims of Domestic Violence.

H- 7556

BY: Representatives Slater, Naughton, McNamara, Ferri, and Messier

ENTITLED: Breast Cancer Act-Cancer Screening

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this effort to provide cancer screenings for low-income women and men. We understand that the measure may appear costly in these financial times, however we believe this is, in the long run, a money saving measure and a necessary humane option.

H- 7606

BY: Representatives Kennedy, San Bento, Marcello, Pacheco, and Carter

ENTITLED: Discount Medical Plans

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This legislation would support disclosure to public and consumer protections against harmful insurance practices. NASW-RI supports regulation of insurance companies and transparency for consumers.

H- 7676

BY: Representative Peter F. Kilmartin

ENTITLED: Corrections Department

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This legislation would require all probationers to notify their landlords of their legal status. NASW-RI feels that this is an unnecessary imposition on people's privacy, and would likely make it even more difficult for people involved with the legal system to reintegrate. Also, it would disproportionately affect minorities and other vulnerable groups.

H- 7716

BY: Representative Arthur Handy

ENTITLED: ELECTRONIC WASTE PREVENTION, REUSE AND RECYCLING ACT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports efforts to reduce pollution.

H- 7746

BY: Representatives Slater, Handy, Ajello, Naughton, and Almeida

ENTITLED: SUPPORTING A UNIVERSAL BREAKFAST PROGRAM IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI believes that universal school breakfast increases children's chances of school success.

H- 7756

BY: Representatives Ajello, A Rice, Ruggiero, Walsh, and JP O'Neill

ENTITLED: REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports a woman's right to choose and does not support state interference in reproductive choice.

H- 7816

BY: Representatives Handy, Slater, Fierro, Almeida, and Silva

ENTITLED: RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This legislation would create an energy affordability program for low-income homes. NASW-RI recognizes that high energy prices are a major hurdle for families and counter regressive energy cost.

H- 7856

BY: Representatives Sullivan, Fierro, Guthrie, and Handy

ENTITLED: DIESEL EMISSION REDUCTION ACT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI believes that public policy must be created to deal with an impending environmental disaster caused by over-consumption and inefficient uses of technology.

☆☆☆ SENATE ☆☆☆

S-2006

BY: Senators Blais, Raptakis, Maher, and E O'Neill

ENTITLED: RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - THE 2010 TOWN OF COVENTRY MANDATE RELIEF PROGRAM ACT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

While we acknowledge the fiscal problems being experienced by many of RI's towns, and cities, NASW-RI opposes these measures because they would target and eliminate necessary programs that serve vulnerable groups.

S - 2038

BY: Raptakis, Cote, Maher, Maselli, and Connors

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

The minimum wage needs to reflect "a living wage" before it can reflect the consumer price index. Right now, workers who make minimum wage do not actually make enough money to live above the poverty line, and we believe minimum wage should ensure that workers do not live in poverty. We have serious concerns that if this bill is passed, the general assembly would not adjust the minimum wage accordingly to reflect a living wage.

S-2039

BY: Walaska, McBurney, Bates, McCaffrey, and Sosnowski

ENTITLED: ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports efforts locally and nationally to reduce the effects of global warming.

S - 2045

BY: Tassoni, McBurney, and Doyle

ENTITLED: HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports legislation that seeks to reduce the incidence of cyber-bullying, which is occurring among young students at elementary and secondary schools throughout the state. Policy that promotes prevention and education related cyber-bullying is essential, as this type of harassment can be extremely harmful to the emotional wellbeing of our youth and may greatly interfere with academic achievement.

S- 2046

BY: Senators Tassoni, McBurney, and Doyle

ENTITLED: RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports the extension of legal benefits to all families. No community is a healthy community until all people living within its borders are treated fairly.

S - 2058

BY: Raptakis, Sosnowski, Maselli, DiPalma, and Blais

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

S- 2066

BY: Senators Sosnowski, and Perry

ENTITLED: RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - CHILDREN

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports efforts to restrict tobacco purchase to vulnerable populations. Young people under 21 are prime victims for big tobacco and this law would restrict the companies' access to this population.

S - 2113

BY: Fela g, Sosnowski, and C Levesque

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR FUEL TAX

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support **Conditional Support** Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We believe everyone should be able to afford gas, and a tax on gas is a regressive tax that disproportionately affects the poor, which is why we support this bill. It is only conditional support because a decrease gas tax revenue would negatively impact on the state's deficit and needs to be analyzed.

S – 2115

BY: Felag, Jabour, and Bates

ENTITLED: ESTATE AND TRANSFER TAXES – COMPUTATION

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

The NASW-RI does not support the reduction and eventual dissolution of this important tax revenue for the state of Rhode Island, especially given the current fiscal climate.

S – 2121

BY: Blais

ENTITLED: An act relating to education—School and Municipal playground safety

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports access to be provided for individuals with disabilities.

S- 2126

BY: Senator John J. Tassoni

ENTITLED: RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports efforts to control environmental pollution.

S - 2138

BY: Bates, Walaska, Blais, Algieri, and Sosnowski

ENTITLED: RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- DNA DETECTION OF SEXUAL AND VIOLENT OFFENDERS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We think that this bill is too broad because it includes DNA collection for all felonies regardless of the crime. We think that DNA collection for certain crimes, especially violent crimes, would be agreeable, but we oppose collection for all felonies.

S-2140

BY: Senators Blais, McCaffrey, and Goodwin

ENTITLED: Relating to Health and Safety- Abortion

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

There is no vehicle in RI that would allow a woman to have a forced abortion against her will. This bill is redundant with existing rights of women.

S- 2145

BY: Blais, and Maher

ENTITLED: RHODE ISLAND POLICY AND ITS DIVERSE CULTURES

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

The NASW-RI supports cultural diversity and linguistic differences and therefore, opposes establishing English as the primary language in the state of Rhode Island.

S – 2149

BY: Metts, Pichardo, Jabour, Perry, and Crowley

ENTITLED: RHODE ISLAND FAIR HOUSING PRACTICES ACT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Denial of a government funded housing application should not be made solely because the person relies on government assistance.

S – 2151

BY: Metts, and Pichardo

ENTITLED: An act relating to property—Immigration status

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this bill because it is unnecessary and an invasion of an individual's privacy to request that information.

S - 2153

BY: Blais, Maselli, DeVall, and Maher

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We oppose this bill because we encourage gun control to ensure gun safety, and this bill would loosen the current gun buying restrictions.

S – 2155

BY: Walaska, Lynch, Bates, Pichardo, and Tassoni

ENTITLED: UNIFORM CHILD CUSTODY JURISDICTION AND ENFORCEMENT ACT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI believes that permanent custody decisions should not be made if one or more parents is physically unable to attend a hearing, such as in the case of persons deployed by the military out of the state or the country. However, each case is unique and the judge overseeing the case should be able to make these determinations based on individual circumstances.

S – 2169

BY: Picard, and Ciccone

ENTITLED: -WORKERS COMPENSATION BENEFITS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Preventing an individual who has been disfigured as a result of a work related incident from filing a petition for benefits until one year from the accident would cause unnecessary financial and emotional hardship.

S-2180

BY: Senators Metts, Perry, Pichardo, Miller, and C Levesque

ENTITLED: Relating to Education.

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support the education of genocide awareness in schools. It's a huge issue that commonly occurs in our world and students should know about it.

S - 2183

BY: Tassoni, and DeVall

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- PUPIL TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We oppose this bill because it would create unhealthy relationships of influence between public schools and private corporations; also children are exposed to advertising in many facets of their life, and we feel that the educational experience should not be influenced by marketing.

S- 2186

BY: SENATOR HAROLD M. METTS

ENTITLED: PERSONAL INCOME TAX

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI has been a longtime supporter of increasing the personal income tax for the wealthy.

S – 2189

BY Metts, and Pichardo

ENTITLED: MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support methods to counter balance the effects of institutional discrimination.:

S-2190

BY: Senators DiPalma, Tassoni, Bates, and DaPonte

ENTITLED: Relating to State Affairs and Government—Tourism and Development

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

S – 2191

BY: Jabour, Pichardo, Metts, and Crowley

ENTITLED: An act relating to taxation—Personal Income tax—Alternative Flat tax

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this bill because the flat tax is undo hardship for the middle to lower class citizens. NASW-RI would support a more progressive tax structure.

S - 2193

BY: Algieri, Maher, and Sosnowski

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

While we support vocational education schools, we oppose this bill because the state simply does not have the funding to follow through on it. If the schools depend on this money, but it is unavailable, then the schools would cease to exist - separate funding sources are necessary.

S- 2196

BY: SENATORS PICHARDO, TASSONI, GOODWIN, SHEEHAN, AND FELAG

ENTITLED: RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This legislation would establish a military academy for at-risk youth. While we support alternatives for troubled kids, NASW-RI does not believe that a military academy would provide a comfortable solution. Forced discipline seldom works with at-risk children.

S – 2199

BY: Perry, Sosnowski, Crowley, C Levesque, and DeVall

ENTITLED: LIABILITY AND COMPUTATION

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this proposed tax revenue.

S – 2201

BY: Perry, Miller, Crowley, Sosnowski, Levesque C
ENTITLED: An act relating to taxation—Cigarette tax

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

S – 2205

BY: Perry, Miller, Metts, McCaffrey, and Sosnowski
ENTITLED: TANNING FACILITY SAFETY STANDARDS

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Whereas exposure to ultra-violet radiation has been determined to be a health risk, NASW-RI supports legislation to develop minimum safety standards for tanning facilities.

S- 2206

BY: Senator Michael J. McCaffrey
ENTITLED: ADULT CRISIS INTERVENTION – CENTER AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor **More Analysis Needed**

S – 2209

BY: Miller, Maher, Perry, Sosnowski, and Pichardo
ENTITLED: FOSTER PARENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We believe it is necessary for foster parents to have access to items identified in this bill.

S – 2211

BY: Metts, Perry, Miller, Crowley, and Pichardo
ENTITLED: An act relating to labor and labor relations—Fair employment practices

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this bill due to the already immense barriers an individual with a criminal record has to navigate. It is unjust to refuse employment solely based on a criminal record. There are many different types and levels an individual with a criminal record could have.

S-2219

BY: Metts, Jabour, and Pichardo
ENTITLED: EXPUNGEMENT OF CRIMINAL RECORDS

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This act calls for removal of a felony record, at the discretion of a judge, five years after the completion of the individual sentence. Rehabilitation of individuals who have a criminal record is difficult. Expungement will help in this process.

S-2220

BY: Senators Perry, Miller, Goodwin, Sosnowski, and Gallo

ENTITLED: Relating to Business and Professions--Confidentiality of Health Care Communications and Information Act-- Health Care Communications and Information

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Adequate laws are already in place to report child abuse.

S - 2221

BY: DeVall, Crowley, and Perry

ENTITLED: An act relating to public records—Access to public records

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports public access to knowledge and information.

S - 2223

BY: Maselli, Picard, Cote, DaPonte, and Blais

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We oppose this bill because we feel that the suggested fingerprint system is a waste of time and resources and is a very evasive way of tracking people. All users should have a unique identifier number that is not their social security number. A much better use of resources is to invest in a system introduced by Representative Naughton a couple year's back that would automatically enroll any persons entering into any government service program into all eligible government sponsored programs. The system would allow an "out" by the consumer for any programs he/she did not want and eliminate the need for the participant to repeat their intake information over and over again. We would also be able to decrease the size of intake staffs and number of welfare technicians. It would certainly solve the problem of under enrollment in the food stamp program.

S- 2226

BY: Senators Metts, Perry, Miller, Crowley, and Pichardo

ENTITLED: SENTENCE AND EXECUTION

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this legislation, which would make it easier for people with deferred sentences to have their criminal records removed.

S - 2228

BY: Levesque

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – ARREST

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

The electronic recording of interrogations will ensure that those accused of capital crimes will be accurately found guilty or innocent.

S – 2231

BY: McCaffrey

ENTITLED: An act relating to delinquent and dependent children

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this bill because of the benefits that would be provided to the juveniles.

S - 2233

BY: DeVall, Tassoni, Crowley, and Ciccone

ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- RHODE ISLAND WORKER PROTECTION AND JOB LOSS NOTIFICATION ACT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support this act because it aims to alleviate the high rates of unemployment in the state by working to prevent more job losses and providing workers an opportunity to prepare for loss of job.

S-2270

BY: Senator C Levesque

ENTITLED: Relating to Health and Safety -- RI Coordinates Health Planning Act of 2006

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Health planning should be a core activity of the Health Department. The Department cannot carry out this function without funds to do so.

S – 2281

BY: Miller, Connors, Metts, Goodwin, and Perry

ENTITLED: An act relating to public utilities and carriers

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this bill because this benefit is already provided to the private schools and Rhode Island's public schools should have the same access to this discount. Also, a large majority of students within the public college and universities are commuters, and rely on public transportation.

S- 2286

BY: Senator V. Susan Sosnowski

ENTITLED: NEWBORN SCREENING PROGRAM

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor **More Analysis Needed**

S-2290

BY: Senators Sosnowski, and Perry

ENTITLED: Relating to Food and Drugs -- Calorie Labeling

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support most legislation that would combat obesity, which is a growing epidemic in the United States as long as said legislation does not penalize overweight people in any manner.

S – 2291

BY: Levesque C

ENTITLED: An act relating to business and professions—Pharmacies

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports the idea of transparency and right to know that this bill would promote. This bill promotes fairness, and greater informs the public. Transparency is always a tool to provide better healthcare access.

S- 2296

BY: Senators Pichardo, Metts, Crowley, Raptakis, and Gallo

ENTITLED: MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor **More Analysis Needed**

S – 2301

BY: Connors, Miller, Levesque C, and Perry

ENTITLED: An act relating to motor and other vehicles—Traffic ticket quotas

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this bill because if a quota system was introduced law enforcement would not be allowed to effectively do their job in other areas.

S – 2305

BY: Leo R. Blais

ENTITLED: PERSONS ELIGIBLE TO MARRY

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We are strongly opposed to this legislation because we believe it is a basic human and civil right for same gender couples to be married within Rhode Island.

S- 2306

BY: Senator Leo R. Blais

ENTITLED: RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This legislation would create a “reciprocal beneficiary agreement” for 2 people who cannot marry. Since NASW-RI supports marriage equality, we oppose this measure.

S – 2311

BY: Algieri

ENTITLED: An act relating to criminal offenses—Fraud and false dealings

Executive Director’s Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI is monitoring, no analysis has been developed at this time.

S- 2316

BY: Senators Metts, and C Levesque
ENTITLED: RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

Executive Director's Recommendation
 Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor **More Analysis Needed**

S-2320
BY: Senator C Levesque
ENTITLED: Relating to Domestic Relations -- Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Enforcement.

Executive Director's Recommendation
 Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion
We support this; these decisions should not be made while one parent is deployed and cannot argue on their own behalf concerning their child.

S – 2321
BY: Levesque C
ENTITLED: An act relating to property

Executive Director's Recommendation
 Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion
NASW-RI supports this bill because it would aid in homeless prevention, and allow tenants time to relocate.

S-2330
BY: Senator Leo R. Blais
ENTITLED: Relating to Public Finance-- Prohibiting the Use of Public Funds For Abortions

Executive Director's Recommendation
Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion
NASW opposes this bill, because it would add to the stigmatization of abortion. We would support the use of public funds for abortion. NASW believes that abortion is a woman's choice, and what she does with her body should be her own pejorative.

S – 2331
BY: Pichardo, Levesque C, Metts, and Miller
ENTITLED: An act relating to labor and labor relations—Fair employment practices

Executive Director's Recommendation
 Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion
NASW-RI supports the protection of employers who are following federal guidelines.

S- 2346
BY: Senators Lanzi, DiPalma, and Jabour
ENTITLED: DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

Executive Director's Recommendation
 Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor **More Analysis Needed**

S- 2356
BY: Senators Ruggerio, Goodwin, McBurney, Pichardo, and Metts
ENTITLED: PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ACT

Executive Director's Recommendation
 Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor **More Analysis Needed**

S-2376

BY: Senators Ruggerio, Jabour, McBurney, Crowley, and Lanzi
ENTITLED: THE TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE PROTECTION ACT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

While we believe that RI's government needs to take an active role in encouraging the growth and development of more full-time permanent jobs, we also support job protection for temporary employees.

S- 2396

BY: Senators Metts, Jabour, Pichardo, Perry, and Crowley
ENTITLED: RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- TERMINATION OF SERVICE

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This legislation would provide some protections for low income Rhode Islanders, against utility shutoffs. NASW-RI supports this as an extension of basic rights.

S – 2429

BY: DiPalma, Tassoni, Lanzi, Pichardo, and Jabour
ENTITLED: ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE LICENSING ACT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

Due to the effects of the Global Medicaid Waiver, older adults in Rhode Island, once eligible for nursing home services, are now being turned away due to new level of care requirements. Assisted living facilities must be able to appropriately manage those individuals currently in need of their services. This act will allow for progress to be made in this area.

S- 2466

BY: Senators Pinga, E O'Neill, Raptakis, and Maher
ENTITLED: MANDATE RELIEF

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI opposes this mandate relief bill for West Warwick because it opposes all mandate relief bills. Valuable services are made too vulnerable by this kind of legislation.

S- 2486

BY: Senators Pichardo, Jabour, Metts, Perry, and Crowley
ENTITLED: PERSONAL INCOME TAX

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This legislation would require employer notification of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) in languages other than English. This is a simple measure that would be cost effective and help families that do not speak English to gain access to EITC.

S- 2516

BY: Senators C Levesque, Miller, Metts, and Pichardo
ENTITLED: UNIVERSAL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports school breakfast programs. This legislation would bring universal breakfast to schools where a certain percentage of students are at or below the federal poverty level. It also allows schools to receive donations for this purpose.

S- 2536

BY: Senator Roger Picard

ENTITLED: HEALTH SELF-INSURANCE OF OPERATORS OF
NONPROFIT COMMUNITY RESIDENCES AND NONPROFIT HEALTH CARE CENTERS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

S- 2546

BY: Senators Algieri, Sosnowski, and Maher

ENTITLEMENT:REIMBURSEMENT RATE DISCLOSURE

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This is a companion bill to a House bill that we support, for reasons of transparency , consumer protection, and insurance regulation.

S- 2556

BY: Senators Goodwin, Perry, Jabour, Metts, and Pichardo

ENTITLEMENT:MAINTENANCE OF TOWN HIGHWAYS

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This legislation would guarantee that roads are safe for cars, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

S – 2589

BY: Perry, Miller, Pichardo, Sosnowski, and C Levesque

ENTITLED: PERSONS ELIGIBLE TO MARRY

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We are in full support of this measure and actively work for its passage into law. We consider this to be a basic human and civil right.

S – 2539

BY: Tassoni, and Ciccone

ENTITLED: THE HOSPITAL CONVERSIONS ACT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditinal Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI recommends monitor

S – 2545

BY: Michael J. McCaffrey

ENTITLED: DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

The Council on Accreditation (COA) is nationally recognized to provide best practice models for institutions and agencies providing care for at-risk youth. The Rhode Island Department of Children Youth and Families should attain the COA accreditation standard to ensure the at-risk youth they serve are best able to achieve their full potential.

S- 2576

BY: Senators Sosnowski, Perry, Blais, and Doyle
ENTITLED: CIGARETTE TAX

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This bill would make 2 for 1 packs, and other methods of cigarette packaging used to circumvent tobacco control measures, illegal.

S – 2579

BY: C Levesque, Miller, Perry, Pichardo, and Sheehan
ENTITLED: RELATING TO INSURANCE

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose **Monitor** More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI recommends monitor.

S – 2525

BY: Maryellen Goodwin
ENTITLED: DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES' HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY INCENTIVE GRANT

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rationale/Quick Analysis/Opinion

We support extending educational grants to those students already receiving grants from age 18 until the age of 23.

S- 2586

BY: Senators Pichardo, and Goodwin
ENTITLED: RELATING TO PROPERTY

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this bill, which would provide some protection to tenants whose homes have been foreclosed.

S- 2636

BY: Senators Sosnowski, Maselli, Algieri, and McCaffrey
ENTITLED: MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support **Oppose** Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

This legislation would impose higher minimum sentences for drunk driving. We generally oppose minimum sentencing requirements.

S- 2646

BY: Senators Metts, C Levesque, Jabour, and Pichardo
ENTITLED: SENTENCE AND EXECUTION

Executive Director's Recommendation

Support Conditional Support Oppose Monitor More Analysis Needed

Rational/Quick Analysis/Opinion

NASW-RI supports this bill, which allows for exoneration of people who have deferred sentences.

