

RI House Republican Minority Report

Legislative Activity Highlights 2020/21 Timeline

Fighting for RI

Residents and Businesses during the COVID Pandemic

3/13/20

COVID State of Emergency Declaration,
General Assembly Session indefinitely paused.

4/14/20

RI House GOP express concerns on reported
practice of COVID cell phone contact tracing.

4/21/20

RI HOUSE GOP CALL FOR HOUSE OVERSIGHT
TO REVIEW GOVERNOR'S UNILATERAL COVID
RESPONSE:

1. Administration of the \$1.2 billion in federal stimulus funds;
2. The COVID-19 virus's disproportionate effect on minority communities and the state's response;
3. State's announced development of "ethical standards" to apportion medical care in the event of a shortage;
4. Processes and rationale for "essential business" designations;
5. Processes and rationale for "essential employee" designations;
6. Status of unemployment claims at the department of labor and training;
7. Processes for designating surge hospitals - the Convention Center in Providence, North Kingstown former Lowes, and former Citizen's Bank building in Cranston;
8. Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency's and Department of Health's roles and responsibilities during this crisis;
9. The closing and anticipated reopening of state parks and beaches;
10. History of disease impact and spread modeling to date and how the models, or lack thereof, influenced decision making;
11. Use of science and data in decision making processes;
12. Development of phone location tracking for contact tracing program;
13. Designation of health care workers as Disaster Response Workers to protect them from civil liability pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 30-15-15;
14. Provision of information to non-English speaking populations;
15. Criteria for determining that COVID-19 was the cause of a death;
16. Mail ballots processes and procedures and the exemption of election laws from the Presidential Preference Primary;
17. Metrics for determining the success of distance learning;
18. Policies for use of non-FDA approved treatments;
19. Processes and milestones for the Governor's multi-state working group for reopening the economy;
20. Decision making process to close local small businesses in preference to large box stores and how processes are being conceived in preparation to reopen Rhode Island's economy;

21. Processes utilized to work with the federal government to maximize resources for our state;
22. Processes for addressing remote services for seniors and the vulnerable populations, as well as healthcare protocols for those in congregate care;
23. Process and data applied used to determine permitted size of gatherings until the issuance of a vaccine;
24. Process and data applied for protocols established for out of state tourists and seasonal residents.

7/7/20

RI House GOP call for immediate release of
COVID funds to support struggling RI
businesses.

9/3/20

RI House GOP submits legislation to address
education challenges by empowering parents
via Education Savings Accounts (ESA) home
learning stipends and school choice options for
in-person vs remote learning preferences.

9/10/20

RI House GOP submits Patient's Right to
Access: Designated Support Legislation to
allow families in-person connection to their
loved ones in health /congregate care facilities.

11/13/20

RI House GOP join bipartisan bill to seek court
opinion for GA to meet virtually --to get back to
work and end abuse of Executive Powers.

1/19/21

RI House GOP call for Governor to set a date
certain for transference of power to the Lt.
Governor, given precarious pandemic response
conditions

3/3/21

RI House GOP submits legislation to restore
checks and balances during a declared State of
Emergency; no vaccine mandates.

9/7/21

RI House GOP joins bipartisan effort to amend
Governor's health policy mandate requiring
COVID vaccine in healthcare jobs -- which
creates a new crisis in already strained state
healthcare system.

2021 RI HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE

Good government champions on behalf of all Rhode Islanders.

Represent 15 cities and towns including: Burrillville, Charlestown, Coventry, Cranston, Exeter, Foster, Glocester, Hopkinton, New Shoreham, North Smithfield, Richmond, Scituate, South Kingstown, West Greenwich, Westerly



BLAKE A. FILLIPI
LEADER, DISTRICT 36



BRIAN C. NEWBERRY
REP, DISTRICT 48



BOB QUATTROCCHI
DEP WHIP, DISTRICT 41



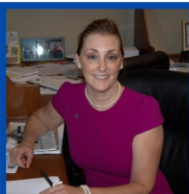
JUSTIN PRICE
REP, DISTRICT 39



MICHAEL W. CHIPPENDALE
WHIP, DISTRICT 40



DAVID J. PLACE
REP, DISTRICT 47



SHERRY ROBERTS
SR DEPUTY LDR, DISTRICT 29



GEORGE NARDONE
DEP LDR, DISTRICT 28

2021 LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT

CHAMPIONS OF TRANSPARENCY/ GOOD GOVERNMENT

*Opposed Unsustainable FY22 \$13.1B "kick the can down the road" budget; Submitted 6 Amendments to Reprioritize Children in State Care, Bolster RI's Struggling Small Business Economy, Curtail Unchecked Executive Powers During Declared State of Emergency, Properly Fund State's Mismanaged Core Government Services *

*Opposed Wasteful and Unfair Corporate Welfare Programs * Proposed Line Item Veto Powers for Governor * **Elections Accountability and Voter Roll Maintenance Reform (HOUSE PASSED)** * Proposed Audio and Video Recordings of every State and Municipal Body Meeting * Establish State Registry of Public Contract Awards * Creation of Redistricting Commission *

Require Attorney General to Issue Annual Firearms Report (PASSED) * Establish Office of Inspector General * **Allow Volunteer Firefighters to Purchase Motor Vehicles via the State Purchasing Provisions (HOUSE PASSED)** * RI Infrastructure Investments: DEM Forestry Management * DCYF Reforms and Staffing * Eleanor Slater Oversight * Require Fiscal Appropriation Comparison Reports * Executive Powers Reform *

*Requested / Awarded Independent Study of IGT 20-Year, No-Bid Deal, Confirming Outlandish Taxpayer Overpayments * **Fought Amended 20-Year, No-Bid Insider IGT/Twin River Joint Gaming Contract, with \$800M Taxpayer Overpayment** * **House Minority Leader Blake Filippi Sues General Assembly Leadership Over Unlawful Practices In Staff Hires/Fires and Improper Spend of \$46M Taxpayer Dollars Under Purview of the Joint Committee on Legislative Services - JCLS (LAWSUIT STILL PENDING)** *

PROTECTING LIBERTIES

*RI Beach Access * Continued Advocacy for Electronic Data Privacy * **Designated Support - Patient's Right To Access A Family Member or Friend (HOUSE PASSED)** *

EDUCATION

The Civics Literacy Act (PASSED) * School Choice for Families in Failing Schools * Taxation of University Endowments to Help Fund Local Education * Language Academies for ESL Learners * ESA for Homeschooling * In-person Learning School Choice for Students Relegated to Remote Learning * Access to Learning for Children With Disabilities *

NO NEW TAXES - TAXATION REFORM

Challenged Wasteful Increases to Corporate Welfare Programs * Legislation to Require Nonprofit Entities Exempt From Real Property Tax to Provide Assessor With Info Every 5 Years Relating to the Usage of the Land/Building/Structures * **Authorize City and Town Tax Assessors to Use Last Revaluation to Levy Taxes (PASSED)** * **PPP Loan Extended Tax Return Date (PASSED)** *

SMALL BUSINESS

* **Permit Dockside Sales for Commercial Fisheries (PASSED)** * Proposed Small Business Assistance Grants Through Redirection of Motion Picture Tax Credits and ReBuild RI Grants *

CONSTITUENT SERVICES

* **16,215 Constituent Interactions** * Including Unemployment Assistance, DMV Appointments, Citations, Solemnization of Marriage, COVID Testing and Vaccination Appointments * Taxation Concerns * Issue Advocacy * Medicaid/Medicare Assistance *