LC003115

### 2018 -- H 7058

### STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

### IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### **JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018**

### AN ACT

## RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - VETERANS' SMALL BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAM

Introduced By: Representatives Lancia, Nardolillo, Mendonca, Vella-Wilkinson, and McLaughlin Date Introduced: January 03, 2018

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Chapter 42-64 of the General Laws entitled "Rhode Island Commerce
- 2 Corporation" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:
  - 42-64-42. Transitioning veterans' small business loan program.
- 4 (a) The director of the Rhode Island commerce corporation and/or the director's successor
- 5 <u>as secretary of commerce shall develop a transitioning veterans' small business loan program.</u>
- 6 (b) The transitioning veterans' small business loan program shall:
- 7 (1) Provide transitioning veterans with business plan assistance;
- 8 (2) Provide transitioning veterans with an ongoing mentorship in business development
- 9 <u>and execution;</u>

3

- 10 (3) Promote small business loans to transitioning veterans;
- 11 (4) Provide small business loans not to exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per
- 12 veteran not exceeding one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in total per year; and
- 13 (5) Partner with the United States Small Business Administration and private lenders to
- 14 leverage the funds available to transitioning veterans seeking to start a small business in Rhode
- 15 Island.
- 16 (c) For the purpose of this section, a "transitioning veteran" means a veteran who has left
- 17 <u>active duty and is transitioning back into the civilian workforce.</u>

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### **EXPLANATION**

### BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

### OF

### AN ACT

## RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - VETERANS' SMALL BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAM

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1 This act would create a transitioning veterans' small business loan program through the

2 commerce corporation.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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