

2022 -- H 8034

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LC005584
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

JOINT RESOLUTION

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$1,500,000 FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS TO THE RHODE ISLAND TURNPIKE AND BRIDGE AUTHORITY TO COMMISSION A STUDY TO EVALUATE OPTIONS TO PREVENT AND ADDRESS THE RISK OF SUICIDES ON RHODE ISLAND'S BRIDGES

Introduced By: Representatives Solomon, Donovan, Craven, Cortvriend, Ruggiero, and Shallcross Smith

Date Introduced: March 23, 2022

Referred To: House Finance

1 WHEREAS, Isolation and fear from the COVID-19 pandemic has brought on rising
2 anxiety and depression, and exacerbated the risk factors associated with suicidal behaviors; and

3 WHEREAS, In addition, studies have shown that survivors of COVID-19 have reported
4 symptoms of depression months after recovery; and

5 WHEREAS, Prioritizing a comprehensive strategy for the prevention and mitigation of
6 suicide in Rhode Island is an urgent public health problem; and

7 WHEREAS, A study is necessary in order to provide additional insight, and preventative
8 options and measures to lessen the risk of suicides on Rhode Island's state bridges; now, therefore
9 be it

10 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money from the American
11 Rescue Plan Act in the treasury not otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2022-2023, the sum
12 of one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) to the Rhode Island Turnpike and
13 Bridge Authority to commission a study to evaluate options to prevent and address the risk of
14 suicides on Rhode Island's bridges; and the state controller is hereby authorized and directed to
15 draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of said sum, or so much thereof as
16 may be from time to time required, upon receipt of properly authenticated vouchers.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

J O I N T R E S O L U T I O N

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$1,500,000 FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN
ACT FUNDS TO THE RHODE ISLAND TURNPIKE AND BRIDGE AUTHORITY TO
COMMISSION A STUDY TO EVALUATE OPTIONS TO PREVENT AND ADDRESS THE
RISK OF SUICIDES ON RHODE ISLAND'S BRIDGES

- 1 This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$1,500,000 to the Rhode
- 2 Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority for a study to recommend options to address suicide risks
- 3 on Rhode Island's bridges.

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