

2017 -- H 5757

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LC001501
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

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

**MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$1.9 MILLION TO THE RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR COMPLETION OF THE GANO STREET
GATEWAY PROJECT AT INDIA POINT PARK**

Introduced By: Representative Christopher R. Blazejewski

Date Introduced: March 01, 2017

Referred To: House Finance

1 WHEREAS, The Gano Street Gateway Project at India Point Park, or Gano Gateway,
2 was part of the Rhode Island Department of Transportation's 2011 plan for the I-195 bridge
3 realignment; and

4 WHEREAS, The Gano Gateway, where Gano Street meets India Street in Providence, is
5 a lynchpin to secure the overall success of Providence's emerging waterfront, economic
6 development of the I-195 parcels, and access to its park and recreational activities; and

7 WHEREAS, The Gano Gateway, through a public process during which taxpayer dollars
8 were expended and the community extensively weighed in, was agreed upon and promised by the
9 Department of Transportation as part of its 2011 bridge realignment plan in order to keep traffic
10 moving smoothly, create safe spaces for pedestrians and bicyclists, provide much-needed parking,
11 and promote economic development by offering a more attractive first impression of the state, the
12 city and its waterfront to the many people who enter Providence via I-195; and

13 WHEREAS, The Gano Gateway is a critical thoroughfare for residents, commercial
14 traffic, and visitors traveling between Downtown, the Waterfront, and Fox Point and the East
15 Side of Providence and for out-of-state and in-state travelers coming to Providence; and

16 WHEREAS, The Gano Gateway is an important access area for residents and visitors
17 seeking to enjoy India Point Park, the city's waterfront, the already-successful ferry operations at
18 India Point, and other city attractions, whether traveling by car, by bicycle, or by walking; and

19 WHEREAS, The additional parking included in the plan would allow more visitors from

1 across the state to access the park and attend events such as the fireworks on the fourth of July,
2 the Cape Verdean Independence Festival, and the summer concert series, among others, each of
3 which draws thousands of visitors each year; and

4 WHEREAS, The Gano Gateway is key to making the city look cleaner, greener and more
5 inviting; and

6 WHEREAS, The Department of Transportation originally set aside \$2.9 million for the
7 completion of the Gano Gateway; and

8 WHEREAS, The Department of Transportation transferred \$1.9 million of the \$2.9
9 million set aside for completion of the Gano Gateway in order to complete the Providence
10 Pedestrian Bridge Project; and

11 WHEREAS, The current status of the Gano Gateway, where travelers encounter bumper-
12 to-bumper traffic at a cramped four-way intersection with a 90-degree hairpin turn from India
13 Street onto Gano Street, undermines state and city efforts to promote economic development and
14 recreational activities along the waterfront and on the I-195 parcels; and

15 WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of the State and City that the Gano Gateway project
16 be completed in conformity with the Department of Transportation's 2011 plan; and

17 WHEREAS, Completion of the Gano Gateway in conformity with the Department of
18 Transportation's 2011 plan requires restoration of \$1.9 million in funding in combination with the
19 \$1 million remaining as set aside by the Department of Transportation; now, therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not
21 otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2017-2018, the sum of one million nine hundred dollars
22 (\$1,900,000) to the Department of Transportation for the completion of the Gano Street Gateway
23 Project at India Point Park in conformity with the 2011 plan; and the state controller is hereby
24 authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of said sum,
25 or so much thereof as may be from time required, upon receipt of properly authenticated
26 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 \$1.9 MILLION TO THE RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR COMPLETION OF THE GANO STREET
GATEWAY PROJECT AT INDIA POINT PARK

- 1 This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$1,900,000 to the
- 2 department of transportation for completion of the Gano Gateway Project at India Point Park.

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