

2018 -- S 2669

LC005099

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

SENATE RESOLUTION

CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND EVALUATE THE
IMPACT OF "PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators DiPalma, Seveney, Coyne, Calkin, and Goldin

Date Introduced: March 20, 2018

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

1 WHEREAS, In 2012, the Rhode Island General Assembly enacted legislation to
2 implement "Project Sustainability" within the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral
3 Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals (BHDDH); and

4 WHEREAS, The goal of the Project was to bring predictability, efficiency, and
5 transparency to the way in which the state pays for services for the developmentally disabled; and

6 WHEREAS, Project Sustainability implemented a nationally recognized tool, the
7 Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) in order to establish a new rate structure; and

8 WHEREAS, Recently, BHDDH migrated to the SIS-A tool in order to assess its clients;
9 now, therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created
11 consisting of seventeen (17) members: three (3) of whom shall be members of the Senate, not
12 more than two (2) from the same political party, to be appointed by the President of the Senate;
13 one of whom shall be the Secretary of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services
14 (EOHHS), or designee; one of whom shall be the Medicaid Director of the EOHHS, or designee;
15 one of whom shall be the Director of the BHDDH, or designee; one of whom shall be the
16 BHDDH Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), or designee; one of
17 whom shall be the BHDDH Finance Director of the DDD, or designee; one of whom shall be the
18 BHDDH Consent Decree Coordinator, or designee; one of whom shall be the Executive Director
19 of the Community Provider Network of Rhode Island (CPNRI), or designee; one of whom shall

1 be the President of Our Providers Council, or designee; one of whom shall be the Executive
2 Director of the Rhode Island Disability Law Center, or designee; one of whom shall be the
3 BHDDH Associate Director of the DDD, or designee; one of whom shall be Director of the Paul
4 V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities, or designee; and three (3) of whom shall be provider
5 representatives with relevant systems or fiscal expertise, to be appointed by the President of the
6 Senate.

7 In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a permanent advisory
8 commission, a legislative study commission, or any commission created by a General Assembly
9 resolution, the appointing authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu
10 of a legislator, provided that the majority leader or the minority leader of the political party which
11 is entitled to the appointment consent to the member of the general public.

12 The purpose of said commission shall be to study and evaluate the impact of Project
13 Sustainability and make recommendations for improvements in its implementation, including, but
14 not limited to, the rate payment methodology.

15 Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at
16 the call of the President of the Senate and organize and shall select, from among the legislators, a
17 chairperson. Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like manner as the original
18 appointment.

19 The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

20 All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice and information,
21 documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or
22 desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

23 The Joint Committee on Legislative Services is hereby authorized and directed to provide
24 suitable quarters for said commission; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the
26 Senate no later than October 31, 2018, and said commission shall expire on June 30, 2019.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
SENATE RESOLUTION
CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND EVALUATE THE
IMPACT OF "PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

1 This resolution would create a seventeen (17) member special legislative commission
2 whose purpose it would be to make a comprehensive study and provide recommendations on the
3 impact of "Project Sustainability", and who would report back to the Senate no later than October
4 31, 2018, and whose life would expire on June 30, 2019.

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