

2022 -- H 7452

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LC004698
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

JOINT RESOLUTION

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 TO MYSTIC AQUARIUM FOR EXPANSION
OF THE STEM ADVANTAGE PROGRAM

Introduced By: Representatives Barros, Giraldo, Amore, Alzate, and Messier

Date Introduced: February 11, 2022

Referred To: House Finance

1 WHEREAS, The RI STEM Advantage program is conducted through the Mystic
2 Aquarium, a nonprofit organization. The program was designed to "close the opportunity gap for
3 vulnerable youth in grades K-12 by providing STEM skills and experiences that are engaging and
4 relevant to RI youth and educators"; and

5 WHEREAS, The program is requesting funds for a one-time expansion to combat
6 COVID learning loss and social isolation for more than 1,000 youth from the communities of
7 Cranston, Providence, East Providence, North Providence, Pawtucket, Central Falls, Warwick,
8 Newport, Westerly, Woonsocket, and the Narragansett Tribe; and

9 WHEREAS, The program includes in-person and online professional development and
10 ongoing training and technical assistance as well as curriculum, digital resources, and supplies for
11 young people and peer mentors to participate and work together on a variety of topics and careers
12 with a focus on community-based environmental stewardship, including renewable energy,
13 watersheds, endangered species and careers in STEM; now, therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not
15 otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2022-2023, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars
16 (\$500,000) to the Mystic Aquarium to expand the Stem Advantage Program; and the state
17 controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the
18 payment of said sum, or so much thereof as may be from time to time required, upon receipt of

1 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 \$500,000 TO MYSTIC AQUARIUM FOR EXPANSION
OF THE STEM ADVANTAGE PROGRAM

- 1 This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$500,000 to expand the
- 2 Stem Advantage Program.

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