WHEREAS, On April 14, 2021, the 2021 Act on Climate was signed into law, establishing a statewide greenhouse gas emission reduction mandate and setting mandatory, enforceable climate emissions reduction goals; and

WHEREAS, The Act on Climate requires the creation of a Climate Dashboard to foster public transparency on the implementation of the Act by developing public metrics and an online public dashboard that tracks both emissions reductions and sources of energy consumed by the state; and

WHEREAS, The Dashboard is an essential planning tool for ongoing work to build a climate-resilient Rhode Island and fulfills its mission in the face of impacts of climate change mandated in the Act on Climate. Under the direction of the EC4, the dashboard would be built with the participation and input and direction of the Council members; and

WHEREAS, The Climate Dashboard is a tool for use by government, business and communities that enables Rhode Island to understand projected potential risks from flooding and heat under both today's climate and a future changed climate. The Dashboard would compile climate, physical, and socioeconomic data and create map visualizations in a public online searchable website; and

WHEREAS, The metrics and the Dashboard would need to be updated at least annually and in order to maximize transparency and consider the effects of climate change, the Dashboard needs to include additional metrics to meet the mandates of the Act and be built on best practices
and be available for all Rhode Islanders; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the Climate Dashboard needs to identify vulnerabilities including heat islands, regions prone to flooding, erosion, droughts and storms in Rhode Island and develop a baseline for measuring plans for meeting mandates in the Act; and

WHEREAS, The Dashboard would include:

- The purpose of the impact report be stated clearly;
- The mandated targets clearly defined (level and timescale);
- Sector by sector greenhouse gas emissions data, tracking increases or reductions by sector over time;
- Sector-by-sector actions taken to achieve the targets should be documented along with progress towards taking supplemental actions that would also be effective in reducing emissions;
- The metrics/evidence reported should allow a simple assessment of progress, or not, towards targets; and
- A tool to collect ongoing public comment on strategies and proposed actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2022-2023, the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars ($250,000) to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management to lead the effort of building the Dashboard; and the state controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of said sum, or so much thereof as may be from time to time required, upon receipt of properly authenticated vouchers.

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This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of $250,000 to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management for the creation of a climate dashboard.