

2024 -- H 7225 SUBSTITUTE A AS AMENDED

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LC004143/SUB A
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

A N A C T

MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE STATE FOR THE FISCAL
YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025

Introduced By: Representative Marvin L. Abney

Date Introduced: January 18, 2024

Referred To: House Finance

(Governor)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

- 1 ARTICLE 1 RELATING TO MAKING APPROPRIATIONS IN SUPPORT OF FY 2025
- 2 ARTICLE 2 RELATING TO STATE FUNDS
- 3 ARTICLE 3 RELATING TO GOVERNMENT REFORM AND REORGANIZATION
- 4 ARTICLE 4 RELATING TO DEBT MANAGEMENT ACT JOINT RESOLUTIONS
- 5 ARTICLE 5 RELATING TO CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
- 6 ARTICLE 6 RELATING TO TAXES AND FEES
- 7 ARTICLE 7 RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING
- 8 ARTICLE 8 RELATING TO EDUCATION
- 9 ARTICLE 9 RELATING TO MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
- 10 ARTICLE 10 RELATING TO LEASES
- 11 ARTICLE 11 RELATING TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
- 12 ARTICLE 12 RELATING TO PENSIONS
- 13 ARTICLE 13 RELATING TO MAKING REVISED APPROPRIATIONS IN SUPPORT
- 14 OF FY 2024
- 15 ARTICLE 14 RELATING TO EFFECTIVE DATE

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LC004143/SUB A
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ARTICLE 1 AS AMENDED

RELATING TO MAKING APPROPRIATIONS IN SUPPORT OF FY 2025

SECTION 1. Subject to the conditions, limitations and restrictions hereinafter contained in this act, the following general revenue amounts are hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated to be expended during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. The amounts identified for federal funds and restricted receipts shall be made available pursuant to § 35-4-22 and chapter 41 of title 42. For the purposes and functions hereinafter mentioned, the state controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw the state controller's orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of such sums or such portions thereof as may be required from time to time upon receipt by the state controller of properly authenticated vouchers.

Administration

Central Management

General Revenues	3,654,794
Federal Funds	
Federal Funds	33,000,000
Federal Funds - State Fiscal Recovery Fund	
Public Health Response Warehouse Support	778,347
Health Care Facilities	10,000,000
Community Learning Center Programming Support Grant	2,000,000
Total - Central Management	49,433,141

Legal Services

General Revenues	2,491,594
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Accounts and Control

General Revenues	5,355,257
Restricted Receipts - OPEB Board Administration	155,811
Restricted Receipts - Grants Management Administration	2,477,997
Total - Accounts and Control	7,989,065

Office of Management and Budget

General Revenues	9,915,379
Federal Funds	

1	Federal Funds	101,250
2	Federal Funds – Capital Projects Fund	
3	CPF Administration	484,149
4	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund	
5	Pandemic Recovery Office	1,345,998
6	Restricted Receipts	300,000
7	Other Funds	617,223
8	Total - Office of Management and Budget	12,763,999
9	<i>Purchasing</i>	
10	General Revenues	4,232,292
11	Restricted Receipts	461,480
12	Other Funds	571,626
13	Total - Purchasing	5,265,398
14	<i>Human Resources</i>	
15	General Revenues	943,668
16	<i>Personnel Appeal Board</i>	
17	General Revenues	159,290
18	<i>Information Technology</i>	
19	General Revenues	1,838,147
20	Restricted Receipts	3,379,840
21	Total - Information Technology	5,217,987
22	<i>Library and Information Services</i>	
23	General Revenues	1,949,487
24	Federal Funds	1,606,151
25	Restricted Receipts	6,990
26	Total - Library and Information Services	3,562,628
27	<i>Planning</i>	
28	General Revenues	1,175,750
29	Federal Funds	3,050
30	Restricted Receipts	50,000
31	Other Funds	
32	Air Quality Modeling	24,000
33	Federal Highway - PL Systems Planning	3,597,529
34	State Transportation Planning Match	454,850

1	FTA - Metro Planning Grant	1,453,240
2	Total - Planning	6,758,419
3	<i>General</i>	
4	General Revenues	
5	Miscellaneous Grants/Payments	510,405
6	Torts Court Awards	1,350,000
7	Wrongful Conviction Awards	811,446
8	Resource Sharing and State Library Aid	11,855,428
9	Library Construction Aid	2,232,819
10	Restricted Receipts	700,000
11	Other Funds	
12	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
13	Security Measures State Buildings	975,000
14	Energy Efficiency Improvements	1,000,000
15	Cranston Street Armory	250,000
16	State House Renovations	2,209,000
17	Zambarano Buildings and Campus	4,740,000
18	Replacement of Fueling Tanks	700,000
19	Environmental Compliance	725,000
20	Big River Management Area	754,154
21	Shepard Building Upgrades	435,000
22	RI Convention Center Authority	3,590,000
23	Pastore Center Power Plant	250,000
24	Accessibility - Facility Renovations	288,928
25	DoIT Enterprise Operations Center	6,550,000
26	Cannon Building	700,000
27	Old State House	2,000,000
28	State Office Building	675,000
29	State Office Reorganization & Relocation	250,000
30	William Powers Building	2,400,000
31	Pastore Center Non-Hospital Buildings Asset Protection	10,405,000
32	Washington County Government Center	800,000
33	Chapin Health Laboratory	350,000
34	560 Jefferson Blvd Asset Protection	1,600,000

1	Arrigan Center	75,000
2	Civic Center	3,550,000
3	Pastore Center Buildings Demolition	9,900,000
4	Veterans Auditorium	400,000
5	Pastore Center Hospital Buildings Asset Protection	2,400,000
6	Pastore Campus Infrastructure	22,195,000
7	Community Facilities Asset Protection	925,000
8	Zambarano LTAC Hospital	7,099,677
9	Medical Examiners - New Facility	50,000
10	Group Home Replacement & Rehabilitation	5,000,000
11	Hospital Reorganization	25,000,000
12	Expo Center	1,220,000
13	Group Homes Consolidation	4,325,000
14	Statewide Facility Master Plan	500,000
15	Total - General	141,746,857
16	<i>Debt Service Payments</i>	
17	General Revenues	164,837,664
18	Other Funds	
19	Transportation Debt Service	32,887,674
20	Investment Receipts - Bond Funds	100,000
21	Total - Debt Service Payments	197,825,338
22	<i>Energy Resources</i>	
23	General Revenues	500,000
24	Provided that \$250,000 is allocated to support the electric bicycle rebate program and	
25	\$250,000 is for the electric leaf blower rebate program.	
26	Federal Funds	15,042,632
27	Restricted Receipts	25,217,475
28	Other Funds	4,064,322
29	Total - Energy Resources	44,824,429
30	<i>Rhode Island Health Benefits Exchange</i>	
31	General Revenues	3,529,116
32	Federal Funds	10,758,473
33	Restricted Receipts	16,139,854
34	Total - Rhode Island Health Benefits Exchange	30,427,443

1	<i>Division of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion</i>	
2	General Revenues	2,152,119
3	Other Funds	110,521
4	Total - Division of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion	2,262,640
5	<i>Capital Asset Management and Maintenance</i>	
6	General Revenues	9,931,679
7	<i>Statewide Personnel and Operations</i>	
8	FEMA Contingency Reserve	
9	General Revenues	5,000,000
10	Pension Plan Revisions	
11	General Revenues	20,600,000
12	Federal Funds	3,600,000
13	Restricted Receipts	1,100,000
14	Other Funds	2,200,000
15	Total - Statewide Personnel and Operations	32,500,000
16	Grand Total - Administration	554,103,575
17	Business Regulation	
18	<i>Central Management</i>	
19	General Revenues	3,999,763
20	<i>Banking Regulation</i>	
21	General Revenues	1,904,080
22	Restricted Receipts	63,000
23	Total - Banking Regulation	1,967,080
24	<i>Securities Regulation</i>	
25	General Revenues	880,722
26	<i>Insurance Regulation</i>	
27	General Revenues	4,844,248
28	Restricted Receipts	1,872,951
29	Total - Insurance Regulation	6,717,199
30	<i>Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner</i>	
31	General Revenues	3,058,281
32	Federal Funds	403,180
33	Restricted Receipts	527,468
34	Total - Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner	3,988,929

1	<i>Board of Accountancy</i>	
2	General Revenues	5,490
3	<i>Commercial Licensing and Gaming and Athletics Licensing</i>	
4	General Revenues	949,709
5	Restricted Receipts	1,046,895
6	Total - Commercial Licensing and Gaming and Athletics Licensing	1,996,604
7	<i>Building, Design and Fire Professionals</i>	
8	General Revenues	8,449,335
9	Federal Funds	345,863
10	Restricted Receipts	1,948,472
11	Other Funds	
12	Quonset Development Corporation	67,300
13	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
14	Fire Academy Expansion	7,056,000
15	Total - Building, Design and Fire Professionals	17,866,970
16	<i>Office of Cannabis Regulation</i>	
17	Restricted Receipts	6,697,782
18	Grand Total - Business Regulation	44,120,539
19	Executive Office of Commerce	
20	<i>Central Management</i>	
21	General Revenues	2,264,703
22	<i>Quasi-Public Appropriations</i>	
23	General Revenues	
24	Rhode Island Commerce Corporation	8,506,041
25	Airport Impact Aid	1,010,036
26	Sixty percent (60%) of the first \$1,000,000 appropriated for airport impact aid shall be	
27	distributed to each airport serving more than 1,000,000 passengers based upon its percentage of the	
28	total passengers served by all airports serving more than 1,000,000 passengers. Forty percent (40%)	
29	of the first \$1,000,000 shall be distributed based on the share of landings during calendar year 2024	
30	at North Central Airport, Newport-Middletown Airport, Block Island Airport, Quonset Airport,	
31	T.F. Green International Airport and Westerly Airport, respectively. The Rhode Island commerce	
32	corporation shall make an impact payment to the towns or cities in which the airport is located	
33	based on this calculation. Each community upon which any part of the above airports is located	
34	shall receive at least \$25,000.	

1	STAC Research Alliance	900,000
2	Innovative Matching Grants/Internships	1,000,000
3	I-195 Redevelopment District Commission	1,245,050
4	Polaris Manufacturing Grant	500,000
5	East Providence Waterfront Commission	50,000
6	Urban Ventures	140,000
7	Chafee Center at Bryant	476,200
8	Blackstone Valley Visitor Center	75,000
9	Municipal Infrastructure Grant Program	3,000,000
10	Infrastructure Bank – Statewide Coastal Resiliency Plan	750,000
11	Industrial Recreational Building Authority Obligations	452,553
12	Other Funds	
13	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
14	I-195 Redevelopment District Commission	646,180
15	I-195 Park Improvements	3,000,000
16	Quonset Carrier Pier	2,250,000
17	Quonset Infrastructure	2,500,000
18	Total - Quasi-Public Appropriations	26,501,060
19	<i>Economic Development Initiatives Fund</i>	
20	General Revenues	
21	Innovation Initiative	1,000,000
22	Rebuild RI Tax Credit Fund	10,085,000
23	Small Business Promotion	750,000
24	Destination Marketing	1,400,000
25	Federal Funds	
26	Federal Funds	20,000,000
27	Federal Funds - State Fiscal Recovery Fund	
28	Assistance to Impacted Industries	2,000,000
29	Total - Economic Development Initiatives Fund	35,235,000
30	<i>Commerce Programs</i>	
31	General Revenues	
32	Wavemaker Fellowship	4,076,400
33	Provided that at least \$500,000 shall be reserved for awards for medical doctor, nurse	
34	practitioner, and physician assistant healthcare applicants who provide primary care services as	

1	defined in § 42-64.26-3.	
2	Air Service Development Fund	1,200,000
3	Main Street RI Streetscape Improvement Fund	1,000,000
4	Minority Business Accelerator	500,000
5	Total - Commerce Programs	6,776,400
6	Grand Total - Executive Office of Commerce	70,777,163
7	Housing	
8	General Revenues	9,840,596
9	Federal Funds	
10	Federal Funds	18,530,670
11	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund	
12	Homelessness Assistance Program	17,300,000
13	Restricted Receipts	12,664,150
14	Grand Total - Housing	58,335,416
15	Labor and Training	
16	<i>Central Management</i>	
17	General Revenues	1,563,445
18	Restricted Receipts	305,765
19	Total - Central Management	1,869,210
20	<i>Workforce Development Services</i>	
21	General Revenues	1,109,430
22	Provided that \$200,000 of this amount is used to support Year Up.	
23	Federal Funds	23,836,453
24	Total - Workforce Development Services	24,945,883
25	<i>Workforce Regulation and Safety</i>	
26	General Revenues	4,833,768
27	<i>Income Support</i>	
28	General Revenues	3,692,213
29	Federal Funds	18,875,141
30	Restricted Receipts	2,721,683
31	Other Funds	
32	Temporary Disability Insurance Fund	278,906,931
33	Employment Security Fund	222,700,000
34	Total - Income Support	526,895,968

1	<i>Injured Workers Services</i>	
2	Restricted Receipts	10,630,130
3	<i>Labor Relations Board</i>	
4	General Revenues	541,797
5	<i>Governor's Workforce Board</i>	
6	General Revenues	6,050,000
7	Provided that \$600,000 of these funds shall be used for enhanced training for direct care	
8	and support services staff to improve resident quality of care and address the changing health care	
9	needs of nursing facility residents due to higher acuity and increased cognitive impairments	
10	pursuant to § 23-17.5-36.	
11	Restricted Receipts	18,304,506
12	Total - Governor's Workforce Board	24,354,506
13	Grand Total - Labor and Training	594,071,262
14	Department of Revenue	
15	<i>Director of Revenue</i>	
16	General Revenues	2,883,605
17	<i>Office of Revenue Analysis</i>	
18	General Revenues	1,015,848
19	<i>Lottery Division</i>	
20	Other Funds	
21	Other Funds	422,981,930
22	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
23	Lottery Building Enhancements	690,000
24	Total - Lottery Division	423,671,930
25	<i>Municipal Finance</i>	
26	General Revenues	2,241,697
27	<i>Taxation</i>	
28	General Revenues	35,972,773
29	Restricted Receipts	4,826,512
30	Other Funds	
31	Motor Fuel Tax Evasion	175,000
32	Total - Taxation	40,974,285
33	<i>Registry of Motor Vehicles</i>	
34	General Revenues	31,206,744

1	Federal Funds	805,667
2	Restricted Receipts	3,659,640
3	Total - Registry of Motor Vehicles	35,672,051
4	<i>State Aid</i>	
5	General Revenues	
6	Distressed Communities Relief Fund	12,384,458
7	Payment in Lieu of Tax Exempt Properties	49,201,412
8	Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Payments	234,712,307
9	Property Revaluation Program	1,887,448
10	Tangible Tax Exemption Program	28,000,000
11	Restricted Receipts	995,120
12	Total - State Aid	327,180,745
13	<i>Collections</i>	
14	General Revenues	965,438
15	Grand Total - Revenue	834,605,599
16	Legislature	
17	General Revenues	53,358,280
18	Restricted Receipts	2,431,651
19	Grand Total - Legislature	55,789,931
20	Lieutenant Governor	
21	General Revenues	1,447,015
22	Secretary of State	
23	<i>Administration</i>	
24	General Revenues	5,076,740
25	Provided that \$100,000 be allocated to support the Rhode Island Council for the	
26	Humanities for grant making to civic and cultural organizations, and \$50,000 to support Rhode	
27	Island's participation in the We the People Civics Challenge.	
28	<i>Corporations</i>	
29	General Revenues	2,807,730
30	<i>State Archives</i>	
31	General Revenues	349,562
32	Restricted Receipts	384,347
33	Other Funds	
34	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	

1	Rhode Island Archives and History Center	500,000
2	Total - State Archives	1,233,909
3	<i>Elections and Civics</i>	
4	General Revenues	2,689,990
5	Federal Funds	2,001,207
6	Total - Elections and Civics	4,691,197
7	<i>State Library</i>	
8	General Revenues	649,250
9	Provided that \$125,000 be allocated to support the Rhode Island Historical Society and	
10	\$18,000 be allocated to support the Newport Historical Society, pursuant to §§ 29-2-1 and 29-2-2,	
11	and \$25,000 be allocated to support the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society.	
12	<i>Office of Public Information</i>	
13	General Revenues	888,969
14	Receipted Receipts	25,000
15	Total - Office of Public Information	913,969
16	Grand Total - Secretary of State	15,372,795
17	General Treasurer	
18	<i>Treasury</i>	
19	General Revenues	
20	General Revenues	3,022,950
21	Medical Debt Relief	1,000,000
22	Provided that unexpended or unencumbered balances as of June 30, 2025 are hereby	
23	reappropriated to the following fiscal year.	
24	Federal Funds	335,037
25	Other Funds	
26	Temporary Disability Insurance Fund	247,266
27	Tuition Savings Program - Administration	353,760
28	Total -Treasury	4,959,013
29	<i>State Retirement System</i>	
30	Restricted Receipts	
31	Admin Expenses - State Retirement System	11,808,078
32	Retirement - Treasury Investment Operations	2,149,961
33	Defined Contribution - Administration	287,609
34	Total - State Retirement System	14,245,648

1	<i>Unclaimed Property</i>	
2	Restricted Receipts	2,981,837
3	<i>Crime Victim Compensation</i>	
4	General Revenues	892,383
5	Federal Funds	427,993
6	Restricted Receipts	380,000
7	Total - Crime Victim Compensation	1,700,376
8	Grand Total - General Treasurer	23,886,874
9	Board of Elections	
10	General Revenues	5,682,615
11	Rhode Island Ethics Commission	
12	General Revenues	2,234,502
13	Office of Governor	
14	General Revenues	
15	General Revenues	8,321,265
16	Contingency Fund	150,000
17	Grand Total - Office of Governor	8,471,265
18	Commission for Human Rights	
19	General Revenues	2,055,616
20	Federal Funds	450,110
21	Grand Total - Commission for Human Rights	2,505,726
22	Public Utilities Commission	
23	Federal Funds	711,984
24	Restricted Receipts	13,895,536
25	Grand Total - Public Utilities Commission	14,607,520
26	Office of Health and Human Services	
27	<i>Central Management</i>	
28	General Revenues	58,336,613
29	Provided that \$250,000 will be available for the Hospital Care Transitions Initiative if the	
30	program receives approval for Medicaid match and \$275,000 to assist nonprofit nursing facilities	
31	transition licensed occupancy availability from nursing home beds to assisted living ones, of which	
32	\$200,000 shall be provided to Linn Health & Rehabilitation.	
33	Federal Funds	210,410,919
34	Restricted Receipts	47,669,671

1 Provided that \$5.0 million is for Children’s Mobile Response and Stabilization Services
 2 (MRSS) subject to CMS approval. Children’s MRSS program provides on-demand crisis
 3 intervention services in any setting in which a behavioral health crisis is occurring including homes,
 4 schools and hospital emergency departments. This state sanctioned mobile crisis service for
 5 children and youth ages 2-21 shall be delivered through Care Coordination Agreements with an
 6 organization that is certified as an Emergency Service Provider pursuant to Title 40.1, Chapter 5-
 7 6(a)(2) of the General Laws of Rhode Island and 214-RICR-40-00-6 and has previously
 8 participated in the state’s Children’s MRSS pilot program, and \$250,000 shall be for the executive
 9 office to develop an Olmstead Plan.

10	Total - Central Management	316,417,203
11	<i>Medical Assistance</i>	
12	General Revenues	
13	Managed Care	456,944,195
14	Hospitals	124,241,089
15	Nursing Facilities	173,311,380
16	Home and Community Based Services	97,185,377
17	Other Services	162,460,512
18	Pharmacy	96,904,515
19	Rhody Health	247,034,551
20	Federal Funds	
21	Managed Care	613,138,381
22	Hospitals	242,897,784
23	Nursing Facilities	220,488,620
24	Home and Community Based Services	124,018,299
25	Other Services	789,376,252
26	Pharmacy	(404,515)
27	Rhody Health	312,007,950
28	Other Programs	31,921,606
29	Restricted Receipts	9,808,674
30	Total - Medical Assistance	3,701,334,670
31	Grand Total - Office of Health and Human Services	4,017,751,873

32 **Children, Youth and Families**

33 *Central Management*

34	General Revenues	15,565,996
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1 The director of the department of children, youth and families shall provide to the speaker
 2 of the house and president of the senate at least every sixty (60) days beginning September 1, 2021,
 3 a report on its progress implementing the accreditation plan filed in accordance with § 42-72-5.3
 4 and any projected changes needed to effectuate that plan. The report shall, at minimum, provide
 5 data regarding recruitment and retention efforts including attaining and maintaining a diverse
 6 workforce, documentation of newly filled and vacated positions, and progress towards reducing
 7 worker caseloads.

8 Federal Funds

9 Federal Funds 8,718,289

10 Federal Funds - State Fiscal Recovery Fund

11 Provider Workforce Stabilization 1,200,000

12 Total - Central Management 25,484,285

13 *Children's Behavioral Health Services*

14 General Revenues 7,732,064

15 Federal Funds 9,693,607

16 Total - Children's Behavioral Health Services 17,425,671

17 *Youth Development Services*

18 General Revenues 22,893,954

19 Federal Funds 224,837

20 Restricted Receipts 144,986

21 Other Funds

22 Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds

23 Training School Asset Protection 250,000

24 Residential Treatment Facility 15,000,000

25 Total - Youth Development Services 38,513,777

26 *Child Welfare*

27 General Revenues 214,966,186

28 Federal Funds 101,906,773

29 Restricted Receipts 558,571

30 Total - Child Welfare 317,431,530

31 *Higher Education Incentive Grants*

32 General Revenues 200,000

33 Provided that these funds and any unexpended or unencumbered previous years' funding
 34 are to be used exclusively to fund awards to eligible youth.

1	Grand Total - Children, Youth and Families	399,055,263
2	Health	
3	<i>Central Management</i>	
4	General Revenues	
5	General Revenues	3,569,508
6	Primary Care Training Sites Program	2,700,000
7	Provided that unexpended or unencumbered balances as of June 30, 2025 are hereby	
8	reappropriated to the following fiscal year.	
9	Federal Funds	9,348,930
10	Restricted Receipts	18,260,961
11	Provided that the disbursement of any indirect cost recoveries on federal grants budgeted	
12	in this line item that are derived from grants authorized under The Coronavirus Preparedness and	
13	Response Supplemental Appropriations Act (P.L. 116-123); The Families First Coronavirus	
14	Response Act (P.L. 116-127); The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (P.L. 116-	
15	136); The Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (P.L. 116-139); the	
16	Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260); and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021	
17	(P.L. 117-2), are hereby subject to the review and prior approval of the director of management and	
18	budget. No obligation or expenditure of these funds shall take place without such approval.	
19	Total - Central Management	33,879,399
20	<i>Community Health and Equity</i>	
21	General Revenues	1,151,326
22	Federal Funds	83,451,102
23	Restricted Receipts	80,924,334
24	Total - Community Health and Equity	165,526,762
25	<i>Environmental Health</i>	
26	General Revenues	7,155,472
27	Federal Funds	11,442,251
28	Restricted Receipts	968,283
29	Total - Environmental Health	19,566,006
30	<i>Health Laboratories and Medical Examiner</i>	
31	General Revenues	13,340,120
32	Federal Funds	2,515,810
33	Other Funds	
34	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	

1	Health Laboratories & Medical Examiner Equipment	800,000
2	New Health Laboratory Building	2,221,762
3	Total - Health Laboratories and Medical Examiner	18,877,692
4	<i>Customer Services</i>	
5	General Revenues	8,969,365
6	Federal Funds	7,882,616
7	Restricted Receipts	6,103,607
8	Total - Customer Services	22,955,588
9	<i>Policy, Information and Communications</i>	
10	General Revenues	998,588
11	Federal Funds	4,095,600
12	Restricted Receipts	1,812,550
13	Total - Policy, Information and Communications	6,906,738
14	<i>Preparedness, Response, Infectious Disease & Emergency Services</i>	
15	General Revenues	2,169,568
16	Federal Funds	17,503,333
17	Total - Preparedness, Response, Infectious Disease & Emergency Services	19,672,901
18	<i>COVID-19</i>	
19	Federal Funds	68,869,887
20	Grand Total - Health	356,254,973

21 **Human Services**

22 *Central Management*

23 General Revenues 6,793,641

24 Of this amount, \$400,000 is to support the domestic violence prevention fund to provide
25 direct services through the Coalition Against Domestic Violence, \$25,000 for the Center for
26 Southeast Asians, \$450,000 to support Project Reach activities provided by the RI Alliance of Boys
27 and Girls Clubs, \$300,000 is for outreach and supportive services through Day One, \$800,000 is
28 for food collection and distribution through the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, \$500,000 for
29 services provided to the homeless at Crossroads Rhode Island, \$600,000 for the Community Action
30 Fund, \$250,000 is for the Institute for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence's Reduction Strategy,
31 \$200,000 to provide operational support to the United Way's 211 system, \$125,000 is to support
32 services provided to the immigrant and refugee population through Higher Ground International,
33 and \$50,000 is for services provided to refugees through the Refugee Dream Center and \$100,000
34 for the Substance Use and Mental Health Leadership Council of RI.

1 The director of the department of human services shall provide to the speaker of the house,
2 president of the senate, and chairs of the house and senate finance committees at least every sixty
3 (60) days beginning August 1, 2022, a report on its progress in recruiting and retaining customer
4 serving staff. The report shall include: documentation of newly filled and vacated positions,
5 including lateral transfers, position titles, civil service information, including numbers of eligible
6 and available candidates, plans for future testing and numbers of eligible and available candidates
7 resulting from such testing, impacts on caseload backlogs and call center wait times, as well as
8 other pertinent information as determined by the director.

9 Federal Funds 8,012,780

10 Of this amount, \$3.0 million is to sustain Early Head Start and Head Start programs.

11 Restricted Receipts 300,000

12 Total - Central Management 15,106,421

13 *Child Support Enforcement*

14 General Revenues 4,624,506

15 Federal Funds 9,988,214

16 Restricted Receipts 3,823,859

17 Total - Child Support Enforcement 18,436,579

18 *Individual and Family Support*

19 General Revenues 44,747,836

20 Federal Funds 130,770,837

21 Restricted Receipts 705,708

22 *Other Funds*

23 Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds

24 Blind Vending Facilities 165,000

25 Food Stamp Bonus Funding 298,874

26 Total - Individual and Family Support 176,688,255

27 *Office of Veterans Services*

28 General Revenues 32,935,642

29 Of this amount, \$200,000 is to provide support services through veterans' organizations,
30 \$50,000 is to support Operation Stand Down, and \$100,000 is to support the Veterans Services
31 Officers (VSO) program through the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

32 Federal Funds 16,618,112

33 Restricted Receipts 1,360,000

34 *Other Funds*

1	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
2	Veterans Home Asset Protection	760,000
3	Veterans Memorial Cemetery Asset Protection	500,000
4	Total - Office of Veterans Services	52,173,754
5	<i>Health Care Eligibility</i>	
6	General Revenues	10,634,812
7	Federal Funds	16,821,865
8	Total - Health Care Eligibility	27,456,677
9	<i>Supplemental Security Income Program</i>	
10	General Revenues	16,588,320
11	<i>Rhode Island Works</i>	
12	General Revenues	10,139,902
13	Federal Funds	97,508,826
14	Total - Rhode Island Works	107,648,728
15	<i>Other Programs</i>	
16	General Revenues	2,102,900
17	Federal Funds	361,440,000
18	Restricted Receipts	8,000
19	Total - Other Programs	363,550,900
20	<i>Office of Healthy Aging</i>	
21	General Revenues	14,223,241
22	Of this amount, \$325,000 is to provide elder services, including respite, through the	
23	Diocese of Providence; \$40,000 is for ombudsman services provided by the Alliance for Long	
24	Term Care in accordance with chapter 66.7 of title 42; \$85,000 is for security for housing for the	
25	elderly in accordance with § 42-66.1-3; and \$1,400,000 is for Senior Services Support and	
26	\$680,000 is for elderly nutrition, of which \$630,000 is for Meals on Wheels.	
27	Federal Funds	18,548,799
28	Restricted Receipt	46,200
29	Other Funds	
30	Intermodal Surface Transportation Fund	4,273,680
31	The Office shall reimburse the Rhode Island public transit authority for the elderly/disabled	
32	transportation program expenses no later than fifteen (15) days of the authority's submission of a	
33	request for payment.	
34	Total - Office of Healthy Aging	37,091,920

1	Grand Total - Human Services	814,741,554
2	Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals	
3	<i>Central Management</i>	
4	General Revenues	2,780,069
5	Federal Funds	1,276,605
6	Total - Central Management	4,056,674
7	<i>Hospital and Community System Support</i>	
8	General Revenues	1,463,642
9	Federal Funds	400,294
10	Restricted Receipts	167,548
11	Total - Hospital and Community System Support	2,031,484
12	<i>Services for the Developmentally Disabled</i>	
13	General Revenues	210,802,707
14	Provided that of this general revenue funding, an amount certified by the department shall	
15	be expended on certain community-based department of behavioral healthcare, developmental	
16	disabilities and hospitals (BHDDH) developmental disability private provider and self-directed	
17	consumer direct care service worker raises and associated payroll costs as authorized by BHDDH	
18	and to finance the new services rates implemented by BHDDH pursuant to the Consent Decree	
19	Addendum. Any increase for direct support staff and residential or other community-based setting	
20	must first receive the approval of BHDDH.	
21	Federal Funds	262,600,057
22	Provided that of this federal funding, an amount certified by the department shall be	
23	expended on certain community-based department of behavioral healthcare, developmental	
24	disabilities and hospitals (BHDDH) developmental disability private provider and self-directed	
25	consumer direct care service worker raises and associated payroll costs as authorized by BHDDH	
26	and to finance the new services rates implemented by BHDDH pursuant to the Consent Decree	
27	Addendum. Any increase for direct support staff and residential or other community-based setting	
28	must first receive the approval of BHDDH.	
29	Restricted Receipts	1,444,204
30	Other Funds	
31	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
32	DD Residential Support	100,000
33	Total - Services for the Developmentally Disabled	474,946,968
34	<i>Behavioral Healthcare Services</i>	

1	General Revenues	4,118,531
2	Federal Funds	
3	Federal Funds	33,919,356
4	Provided that \$250,000 from Social Services Block Grant funds is awarded to The	
5	Providence Center to coordinate with Oasis Wellness and Recovery Center for its support and	
6	services program offered to individuals with behavioral health issues.	
7	Federal Funds - State Fiscal Recovery Fund	
8	9-8-8 Hotline	1,875,000
9	Restricted Receipts	6,759,883
10	Provided that \$500,000 from the opioid stewardship fund is distributed equally to the seven	
11	regional substance abuse prevention task forces to fund priorities determined by each Task Force.	
12	Total - Behavioral Healthcare Services	46,672,770
13	<i>Hospital and Community Rehabilitative Services</i>	
14	General Revenues	53,030,624
15	Federal Funds	53,088,129
16	Restricted Receipts	4,535,481
17	Other Funds	
18	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
19	Hospital Equipment	500,000
20	Total - Hospital and Community Rehabilitative Services	111,154,234
21	<i>State of RI Psychiatric Hospital</i>	
22	General Revenues	33,499,422
23	Grand Total - Behavioral Healthcare,	
24	Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals	672,361,552
25	Office of the Child Advocate	
26	General Revenues	1,891,426
27	Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	
28	General Revenues	782,651
29	Restricted Receipts	131,533
30	Grand Total - Comm. On Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing	914,184
31	Governor's Commission on Disabilities	
32	General Revenues	
33	General Revenues	765,088
34	Livable Home Modification Grant Program	765,304

1 Provided that this will be used for home modification and accessibility enhancements to
 2 construct, retrofit, and/or renovate residences to allow individuals to remain in community settings.
 3 This will be in consultation with the executive office of health and human services. All unexpended
 4 or unencumbered balances, at the end of the fiscal year, shall be reappropriated to the ensuing fiscal
 5 year, and made immediately available for the same purpose.

6	Federal Funds	340,000
7	Restricted Receipts	66,539
8	Grand Total - Governor’s Commission on Disabilities	1,936,931

9 **Office of the Mental Health Advocate**

10	General Revenues	981,608
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11 **Elementary and Secondary Education**

12 *Administration of the Comprehensive Education Strategy*

13	General Revenues	39,044,536
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14 Provided that \$90,000 be allocated to support the hospital school at Hasbro Children’s
 15 Hospital pursuant to § 16-7-20 and that \$395,000 be allocated to support child opportunity zones
 16 through agreements with the department of elementary and secondary education to strengthen
 17 education, health and social services for students and their families as a strategy to accelerate
 18 student achievement and further provided that \$450,000 and 3.0 full-time equivalent positions be
 19 allocated to support a special education function to facilitate individualized education program
 20 (IEP) and 504 services; and further provided that \$130,000 be allocated to City Year for the Whole
 21 School Whole Child Program, which provides individualized support to at-risk students.

22	Federal Funds	
23	Federal Funds	268,294,480

24 Provided that \$684,000 from the department’s administrative share of Individuals with
 25 Disabilities Education Act funds be allocated to the Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities to
 26 support the Rhode Island Vision Education and Services Program.

27 Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund

28	Adult Education Providers	127,822
29	Restricted Receipts	
30	Restricted Receipts	1,654,727
31	HRIC Adult Education Grants	3,500,000
32	Total - Admin. of the Comprehensive Ed. Strategy	312,621,565

33 *Davies Career and Technical School*

34	General Revenues	18,131,389
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1	Federal Funds	1,782,145
2	Restricted Receipts	4,667,353
3	Other Funds	
4	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
5	Davies School HVAC	1,050,000
6	Davies School Asset Protection	750,000
7	Davies School Healthcare Classroom Renovations	6,886,250
8	Davies School Wing Renovation	32,000,000
9	Total - Davies Career and Technical School	65,267,137
10	<i>RI School for the Deaf</i>	
11	General Revenues	8,675,430
12	Federal Funds	304,316
13	Restricted Receipts	570,169
14	Other Funds	
15	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
16	School for the Deaf Asset Protection	167,648
17	Total - RI School for the Deaf	9,717,563
18	<i>Metropolitan Career and Technical School</i>	
19	General Revenues	11,131,142
20	Federal Funds	500,000
21	Other Funds	
22	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
23	MET School Asset Protection	2,000,000
24	Total - Metropolitan Career and Technical School	13,631,142
25	<i>Education Aid</i>	
26	General Revenues	1,219,745,842
27	Provided that the criteria for the allocation of early childhood funds shall prioritize pre-	
28	kindergarten seats and classrooms for four-year-olds whose family income is at or below one	
29	hundred eighty-five percent (185%) of federal poverty guidelines and who reside in communities	
30	with higher concentrations of low performing schools and that at least \$2.0 million of the allocation	
31	of career and technical funds shall be coordinated with the career and technical education board of	
32	trustees to be directed to new programs to provide workforce training for jobs which there are no	
33	active programs.	
34	Federal Funds	46,450,000

1	Restricted Receipts	42,626,878
2	Total - Education Aid	1,308,822,720
3	<i>Central Falls School District</i>	
4	General Revenues	53,634,574
5	Federal Funds	1,000,000
6	Total - Central Falls School District	54,634,574
7	<i>School Construction Aid</i>	
8	General Revenues	
9	School Housing Aid	106,198,555
10	<i>Teachers' Retirement</i>	
11	General Revenues	132,268,922
12	Grand Total - Elementary and Secondary Education	2,003,162,178
13	Public Higher Education	
14	<i>Office of Postsecondary Commissioner</i>	
15	General Revenues	30,122,180
16	Provided that \$455,000 shall be allocated to Onward We Learn pursuant to § 16-70-5,	
17	\$75,000 shall be allocated to Best Buddies Rhode Island to support its programs for children with	
18	developmental and intellectual disabilities. It is also provided that \$7,378,650 shall be allocated to	
19	the Rhode Island promise scholarship program; \$151,410 shall be used to support Rhode Island's	
20	membership in the New England Board of Higher Education; \$3,375,500 shall be allocated to the	
21	Rhode Island hope scholarship program, and \$200,000 shall be allocated to the Rhode Island	
22	School for Progressive Education to support access to higher education opportunities for teachers	
23	of color.	
24	Federal Funds	
25	Federal Funds	4,900,773
26	Guaranty Agency Administration	60,000
27	Federal Funds - State Fiscal Recovery Fund	
28	Foster Care Youth Scholarship	1,021,859
29	Restricted Receipts	7,854,557
30	Other Funds	
31	Tuition Savings Program - Scholarships and Grants	3,500,000
32	Nursing Education Center - Operating	3,120,498
33	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
34	WEC Expansion - Annex Site	1,220,000

1	Total - Office of Postsecondary Commissioner	51,799,867
2	<i>University of Rhode Island</i>	
3	General Revenues	
4	General Revenues	110,775,396
5	Provided that in order to leverage federal funding and support economic development,	
6	\$700,000 shall be allocated to the small business development center, \$125,000 shall be allocated	
7	to the Institute for Labor Studies & Research and that \$50,000 shall be allocated to Special	
8	Olympics Rhode Island to support its mission of providing athletic opportunities for individuals	
9	with intellectual and developmental disabilities.	
10	Debt Service	31,664,061
11	RI State Forensics Laboratory	1,784,983
12	Other Funds	
13	University and College Funds	794,703,980
14	Debt - Dining Services	744,765
15	Debt - Education and General	6,850,702
16	Debt - Health Services	118,345
17	Debt - Housing Loan Funds	14,587,677
18	Debt - Memorial Union	91,202
19	Debt - Ryan Center	2,377,246
20	Debt - Parking Authority	531,963
21	URI Restricted Debt Service - Energy Conservation	524,431
22	URI Debt Service - Energy Conservation	1,914,069
23	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
24	Asset Protection	14,006,225
25	Mechanical, Electric, and Plumbing Improvements	7,858,588
26	Fire Protection Academic Buildings	3,311,666
27	Bay Campus	6,000,000
28	Athletics Complex	8,882,689
29	Provided that total Rhode Island capital plan funds provide no more than 80.0 percent of	
30	the total project.	
31	Stormwater Management	2,221,831
32	Fine Arts Center Renovation	8,000,000
33	PFAS Removal Water Treatment Plant	1,015,192
34	Total - University of Rhode Island	1,017,965,011

1 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 35-3-15, all unexpended or unencumbered balances as
 2 of June 30, 2025 relating to the university of Rhode Island are hereby reappropriated to fiscal year
 3 2026.

4 *Rhode Island College*

5 General Revenues

6	General Revenues	67,902,836
7	Debt Service	8,178,392
8	Rhode Island Vision Education and Services Program	1,800,000

9 Other Funds

10	University and College Funds	107,027,705
11	Debt - Education and General	714,519
12	Debt - Student Union	207,150
13	Debt - G.O. Debt Service	1,602,610
14	Debt - Energy Conservation	742,700
15	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
16	Asset Protection	5,785,000
17	Infrastructure Modernization	5,675,000
18	Master Plan Phase III	5,000,000
19	Phase IV: Whipple Hall	500,000
20	Total - Rhode Island College	205,135,912

21 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 35-3-15, all unexpended or unencumbered balances as
 22 of June 30, 2025, relating to Rhode Island college are hereby reappropriated to fiscal year 2026.

23 *Community College of Rhode Island*

24 General Revenues

25	General Revenues	61,231,829
26	Debt Service	1,054,709
27	Restricted Receipts	814,584

28 Other Funds

29	University and College Funds	104,016,119
30	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
31	Asset Protection	2,719,452
32	Data, Cabling, and Power Infrastructure	4,200,000
33	Flanagan Campus Renovations	5,700,000
34	CCRI Renovation and Modernization Phase I	16,000,000

1	CCRI Accessibility Improvements	200,000
2	Total - Community College of RI	195,936,693

3 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 35-3-15, all unexpended or unencumbered balances as
4 of June 30, 2025, relating to the community college of Rhode Island are hereby reappropriated to
5 fiscal year 2026.

6	Grand Total - Public Higher Education	1,470,837,483
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7 **RI State Council on the Arts**

8	General Revenues	
9	Operating Support	1,205,211
10	Grants	1,190,000

11 Provided that \$400,000 be provided to support the operational costs of WaterFire
12 Providence art installations.

13	Federal Funds	996,126
14	Other Funds	
15	Art for Public Facilities	585,000
16	Grand Total - RI State Council on the Arts	3,976,337

17 **RI Atomic Energy Commission**

18	General Revenues	1,180,419
19	Restricted Receipts	25,036
20	Other Funds	
21	URI Sponsored Research	338,456
22	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
23	Asset Protection	50,000
24	Grand Total - RI Atomic Energy Commission	1,593,911

25 **RI Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission**

26	General Revenues	1,898,100
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27 Provided that \$30,000 support the operational costs of the Fort Adams Trust’s restoration
28 activities and that \$25,000 shall be allocated to Rhode Island Slave History Medallions.

29	Federal Funds	1,267,431
30	Restricted Receipts	419,300
31	Other Funds	
32	RIDOT Project Review	142,829
33	Grand Total - RI Historical Preservation and Heritage Comm.	3,727,660

34 **Attorney General**

1	<i>Criminal</i>	
2	General Revenues	21,173,986
3	Federal Funds	3,231,773
4	Restricted Receipts	1,473,682
5	Total - Criminal	25,879,441
6	<i>Civil</i>	
7	General Revenues	7,005,430
8	Restricted Receipts	3,616,629
9	Total - Civil	10,622,059
10	<i>Bureau of Criminal Identification</i>	
11	General Revenues	2,164,423
12	Federal Funds	33,332
13	Restricted Receipts	2,847,793
14	Total - Bureau of Criminal Identification	5,045,548
15	<i>General</i>	
16	General Revenues	4,759,579
17	Other Funds	
18	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
19	Building Renovations and Repairs	150,000
20	Total - General	4,909,579
21	Grand Total - Attorney General	46,456,627
22	Corrections	
23	<i>Central Management</i>	
24	General Revenues	22,522,753
25	The department of corrections shall conduct a study to evaluate recidivism trends and	
26	outcomes of existing correctional programs intended to promote rehabilitation and reduce	
27	recidivism. The report shall include, but not be limited to, historical recidivism rates including	
28	demographic data, and regional comparisons; prison population projections and driving factors; an	
29	inventory of evidence-based rehabilitative practices and programs; and a review of correctional	
30	industries and its alignment to workforce needs. On or before March 1, 2025, the department of	
31	corrections must submit a report to the governor, the speaker of the house and the president of the	
32	senate including a summary, relevant data and findings, and recommendations to reduce recidivism.	
33	<i>Parole Board</i>	
34	General Revenues	1,526,785

1	<i>Custody and Security</i>	
2	General Revenues	163,902,830
3	Federal Funds	1,333,277
4	Other Funds	
5	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
6	Intake Service Center HVAC	23,946,648
7	Total - Custody and Security	189,182,755
8	<i>Institutional Support</i>	
9	General Revenues	34,243,329
10	Other Funds	
11	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
12	Asset Protection	4,100,000
13	Correctional Facilities – Renovations	3,179,677
14	Total - Institutional Support	41,523,006
15	<i>Institutional Based Rehab/Population Management</i>	
16	General Revenues	14,780,027
17	Provided that \$1,050,000 be allocated to Crossroads Rhode Island for sex offender	
18	discharge planning.	
19	The director of the department of corrections shall provide to the speaker of the house and	
20	president of the senate at least every ninety (90) days beginning September 1, 2022, a report on	
21	efforts to modernize the correctional industries program. The report shall, at minimum, provide	
22	data on the past ninety (90) days regarding program participation; changes made in programming	
23	to more closely align with industry needs; new or terminated partnerships with employers,	
24	nonprofits, and advocacy groups; current program expenses and revenues; and the employment	
25	status of all persons on the day of discharge from department care who participated in the	
26	correctional industries program.	
27	Federal Funds	455,919
28	Restricted Receipts	44,800
29	Total - Institutional Based Rehab/Population Mgt.	15,280,746
30	<i>Healthcare Services</i>	
31	General Revenues	34,782,837
32	Restricted Receipts	1,331,555
33	Total - Healthcare Services	36,114,392
34	<i>Community Corrections</i>	

1	General Revenues	21,987,526
2	Federal Funds	30,639
3	Restricted Receipts	10,488
4	Total - Community Corrections	22,028,653
5	Grand Total - Corrections	328,179,090
6	Judiciary	
7	<i>Supreme Court</i>	
8	General Revenues	
9	General Revenues	35,952,258
10	Provided however, that no more than \$1,375,370 in combined total shall be offset to the	
11	public defender's office, the attorney general's office, the department of corrections, the department	
12	of children, youth and families, and the department of public safety for square-footage occupancy	
13	costs in public courthouses and further provided that \$500,000 be allocated to the Rhode Island	
14	Coalition Against Domestic Violence for the domestic abuse court advocacy project pursuant to §	
15	12-29-7 and that \$90,000 be allocated to Rhode Island Legal Services, Inc. to provide housing and	
16	eviction defense to indigent individuals.	
17	Defense of Indigents	6,075,432
18	Federal Funds	123,424
19	Restricted Receipts	4,182,232
20	Other Funds	
21	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
22	Judicial Complexes - HVAC	500,000
23	Judicial Complexes Asset Protection	2,250,000
24	Judicial Complexes Fan Coil Unit Replacements	500,000
25	Garrahy Courthouse Restoration	1,125,000
26	Total - Supreme Court	50,708,346
27	<i>Judicial Tenure and Discipline</i>	
28	General Revenues	174,997
29	<i>Superior Court</i>	
30	General Revenues	27,995,998
31	Restricted Receipts	665,000
32	Total - Superior Court	28,660,998
33	<i>Family Court</i>	
34	General Revenues	26,940,842

1	Federal Funds	3,678,496
2	Total - Family Court	30,619,338
3	<i>District Court</i>	
4	General Revenues	16,384,243
5	Federal Funds	616,036
6	Restricted Receipts	60,000
7	Total - District Court	17,060,279
8	<i>Traffic Tribunal</i>	
9	General Revenues	10,812,491
10	<i>Workers' Compensation Court</i>	
11	Restricted Receipts	9,931,788
12	Grand Total - Judiciary	147,968,237
13	Military Staff	
14	General Revenues	3,276,320
15	Federal Funds	86,857,534
16	Restricted Receipts	
17	RI Military Family Relief Fund	55,000
18	Other Funds	
19	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
20	Aviation Readiness Center	3,294,818
21	Asset Protection	1,799,185
22	Quonset Airport Runway Reconstruction	1,339,988
23	Quonset Air National Guard HQ Facility	3,000,000
24	Counter-Drug Training Facility	2,000,000
25	Grand Total - Military Staff	101,622,845

26 **Public Safety**

27 *Central Management*

28 General Revenues 13,318,898

29 Provided that \$400,000 shall be allocated to support the Family Service of Rhode Island's
30 GO Team program of on-scene support to children who are victims of violence and other traumas.
31 It is also provided that \$11,500,000 shall be allocated as the state contribution for the statewide
32 body-worn camera program, subject to all program and reporting rules, regulations, policies, and
33 guidelines prescribed in the Rhode Island General Laws. Notwithstanding the provision of § 35-
34 3-15 of the general laws, all unexpended or unencumbered balances as of June 30, 2025 from this

1	appropriation are hereby reappropriated to fiscal year 2026.	
2	Federal Funds	
3	Federal Funds	15,542,257
4	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund	
5	Support for Survivors of Domestic Violence	10,000,000
6	Restricted Receipts	309,252
7	Total - Central Management	39,170,407
8	<i>E-911 Emergency Telephone System</i>	
9	Restricted Receipts	11,103,966
10	<i>Security Services</i>	
11	General Revenues	30,711,397
12	<i>Municipal Police Training Academy</i>	
13	General Revenues	299,114
14	Federal Funds	417,455
15	Total - Municipal Police Training Academy	716,569
16	<i>State Police</i>	
17	General Revenues	91,080,925
18	Federal Funds	6,784,981
19	Restricted Receipts	1,096,000
20	Other Funds	
21	Airport Corporation Assistance	150,630
22	Road Construction Reimbursement	3,354,650
23	Weight and Measurement Reimbursement	248,632
24	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
25	DPS Asset Protection	3,425,000
26	Southern Barracks	21,500,000
27	Training Academy Upgrades	1,550,000
28	Statewide Communications System Network	245,048
29	Total - State Police	129,435,866
30	Grand Total - Public Safety	211,138,205
31	Office of Public Defender	
32	General Revenues	16,585,559
33	Federal Funds	85,035
34	Grand Total - Office of Public Defender	16,670,594

1	Emergency Management Agency	
2	General Revenues	7,007,474
3	Federal Funds	28,880,583
4	Restricted Receipts	412,371
5	Other Funds	
6	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
7	RI Statewide Communications Infrastructure	140,000
8	State Emergency Ops Center	80,000
9	Grand Total - Emergency Management Agency	36,520,428
10	Environmental Management	
11	<i>Office of the Director</i>	
12	General Revenues	9,024,403
13	Of this general revenue amount, \$180,000 is appropriated to the conservation districts and	
14	\$100,000 is appropriated to the Wildlife Rehabilitators Association of Rhode Island for a	
15	veterinarian at the Wildlife Clinic of Rhode Island.	
16	Federal Funds	40,100
17	Restricted Receipts	4,894,237
18	Total - Office of the Director	13,958,740
19	<i>Natural Resources</i>	
20	General Revenues	32,344,157
21	Provided that of this general revenue amount, \$150,000 is to be used for marine mammal	
22	response activities in conjunction with matching federal funds.	
23	Federal Funds	23,602,130
24	Restricted Receipts	6,078,419
25	Other Funds	
26	DOT Recreational Projects	762,000
27	Blackstone Bike Path Design	1,000,000
28	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
29	Dam Repair	5,386,000
30	Fort Adams Rehabilitation	300,000
31	Port of Galilee	13,300,000
32	Newport Pier Upgrades	500,000
33	Recreation Facilities Asset Protection	750,000
34	Recreational Facilities Improvements	5,729,077

1	Natural Resources Office and Visitor's Center	250,000
2	Fish & Wildlife Maintenance Facilities	200,000
3	Marine Infrastructure/Pier Development	950,000
4	Total - Natural Resources	91,151,783
5	<i>Environmental Protection</i>	
6	General Revenues	15,870,312
7	Federal Funds	12,377,846
8	Restricted Receipts	10,332,134
9	Other Funds	
10	Transportation MOU	41,769
11	Total - Environmental Protection	38,622,061
12	Grand Total - Environmental Management	143,732,584
13	Coastal Resources Management Council	
14	General Revenues	3,607,384
15	Federal Funds	2,319,579
16	Restricted Receipts	250,000
17	Grand Total - Coastal Resources Mgmt. Council	6,176,963
18	Transportation	
19	<i>Central Management</i>	
20	Federal Funds	15,122,388
21	Other Funds	
22	Gasoline Tax	8,265,215
23	Total - Central Management	23,387,603
24	<i>Management and Budget</i>	
25	Other Funds	
26	Gasoline Tax	4,243,682
27	<i>Infrastructure Engineering</i>	
28	Federal Funds	
29	Federal Funds	402,650,393
30	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund	
31	Municipal Roads Grant Program	7,000,000
32	RIPTA Operating Grant	15,000,000
33	The Rhode Island public transit authority shall conduct a thorough review of its transit	
34	operations and administration. The aim of this review is to uncover ways to enhance efficiency and	

1 streamline costs, ensuring a more effective use of resources. This evaluation shall encompass a
 2 range of areas, including but not limited to, a comprehensive analysis of the fixed-route service.
 3 Analysis should include operating expenses, ridership figures, cost per rider, and other pertinent
 4 data across all routes and serviced regions. A review focusing on the cost-effectiveness of the
 5 agency’s diverse transit services will be a key component of this study. Additionally, the study
 6 shall explore different transit service delivery models, incorporating successful strategies from
 7 other transit systems; financial planning strategies; agency management structure, capital plan
 8 development, and funding strategies; project management; and transit master plan scope and
 9 schedule. By March 1, 2025, the Rhode Island public transit authority shall compile and present a
 10 report to the governor, the speaker of the house, and the president of the senate. This report will
 11 summarize the findings of the study and include recommendations aimed at fostering sustainable
 12 and effective transit operations.

13	Washington Bridge Project	35,000,000
14	Restricted Receipts	6,116,969
15	Other Funds	
16	Gasoline Tax	71,061,818
17	Land Sale Revenue	6,568,333
18	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
19	Highway Improvement Program	141,102,060
20	Bike Path Asset Protection	400,000
21	RIPTA - Land and Buildings	11,214,401
22	RIPTA - Pawtucket/Central Falls Bus Hub Passenger Facility	3,424,529
23	Total - Infrastructure Engineering	699,538,503

24 *Infrastructure Maintenance*

25	Other Funds	
26	Gasoline Tax	39,244,619

27 The department of transportation will establish a municipal roadway database, which will
 28 include information concerning the name, condition, length, roadway infrastructure, and pedestrian
 29 features of each municipal roadway, updated annually by municipalities. The database will serve
 30 as a comprehensive and transparent list of municipal roadway conditions.

31	Rhode Island Highway Maintenance Account	119,070,245
32	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds	
33	Maintenance Capital Equipment Replacement	1,800,000
34	Maintenance Facilities Improvements	500,000

1	Welcome Center	150,000
2	Salt Storage Facilities	1,150,000
3	Train Station Asset Protection	475,585
4	Total - Infrastructure Maintenance	162,390,449
5	Grand Total - Transportation	889,560,237
6	Statewide Totals	
7	General Revenues	5,594,861,257
8	Federal Funds	5,066,548,689
9	Restricted Receipts	463,143,051
10	Other Funds	2,838,671,543
11	Statewide Grand Total	13,963,224,540

12 SECTION 2. Each line appearing in section 1 of this article shall constitute an
13 appropriation.

14 SECTION 3. Upon the transfer of any function of a department or agency to another
15 department or agency, the governor is hereby authorized by means of executive order to transfer or
16 reallocate, in whole or in part, the appropriations and the full-time equivalent limits affected
17 thereby; provided, however, in accordance with § 42-6-5, when the duties or administrative
18 functions of government are designated by law to be performed within a particular department or
19 agency, no transfer of duties or functions and no re-allocation, in whole or part, or appropriations
20 and full-time equivalent positions to any other department or agency shall be authorized.

21 SECTION 4. From the appropriation for contingency shall be paid such sums as may be
22 required at the discretion of the governor to fund expenditures for which appropriations may not
23 exist. Such contingency funds may also be used for expenditures in the several departments and
24 agencies where appropriations are insufficient, or where such requirements are due to unforeseen
25 conditions or are non-recurring items of an unusual nature. Said appropriations may also be used
26 for the payment of bills incurred due to emergencies or to any offense against public peace and
27 property, in accordance with the provisions of titles 11 and 45, as amended. All expenditures and
28 transfers from this account shall be approved by the governor.

29 SECTION 5. The general assembly authorizes the state controller to establish the internal
30 service accounts shown below, and no other, to finance and account for the operations of state
31 agencies that provide services to other agencies, institutions and other governmental units on a cost
32 reimbursed basis. The purpose of these accounts is to ensure that certain activities are managed in
33 a businesslike manner; promote efficient use of services by making agencies pay the full costs
34 associated with providing the services; and allocate the costs of central administrative services

1 across all fund types, so that federal and other non-general fund programs share in the costs of
2 general government support. The controller is authorized to reimburse these accounts for the cost
3 of work or services performed for any other department or agency subject to the following
4 expenditure limitations:

5 Account	Expenditure Limit
6 State Assessed Fringe Benefit Internal Service Fund	36,946,270
7 Administration Central Utilities Internal Service Fund	30,029,111
8 State Central Mail Internal Service Fund	8,419,019
9 State Telecommunications Internal Service Fund	3,748,530
10 State Automotive Fleet Internal Service Fund	15,496,081
11 Surplus Property Internal Service Fund	44,789
12 Health Insurance Internal Service Fund	272,804,635
13 Other Post-Employment Benefits Fund	63,854,008
14 Capitol Police Internal Service Fund	1,466,975
15 Corrections Central Distribution Center Internal Service Fund	7,659,339
16 Correctional Industries Internal Service Fund	8,247,332
17 Secretary of State Record Center Internal Service Fund	1,166,547
18 Human Resources Internal Service Fund	17,669,248
19 DCAMM Facilities Internal Service Fund	53,327,083
20 Information Technology Internal Service Fund	62,092,295

21 SECTION 6. The director of the department of administration shall exercise his powers
22 under chapter 11 of title 42 to centralize state fleet operations under the department as it relates to
23 light and medium duty vehicle management, in accordance with best practices.

24 SECTION 7. Legislative Intent - The general assembly may provide a written "statement
25 of legislative intent" signed by the chairperson of the house finance committee and by the
26 chairperson of the senate finance committee to show the intended purpose of the appropriations
27 contained in section 1 of this article. The statement of legislative intent shall be kept on file in the
28 house finance committee and in the senate finance committee.

29 At least twenty (20) days prior to the issuance of a grant or the release of funds, which
30 grant or funds are listed on the legislative letter of intent, all department, agency, and corporation
31 directors shall notify in writing the chairperson of the house finance committee and the chairperson
32 of the senate finance committee of the approximate date when the funds are to be released or
33 granted.

34 SECTION 8. Appropriation of Temporary Disability Insurance Funds -- There is hereby

1 appropriated pursuant to §§ 28-39-5 and 28-39-8 all funds required to be disbursed for the benefit
2 payments from the temporary disability insurance fund and temporary disability insurance reserve
3 fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

4 SECTION 9. Appropriation of Employment Security Funds -- There is hereby appropriated
5 pursuant to § 28-42-19 all funds required to be disbursed for benefit payments from the employment
6 security fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

7 SECTION 10. Appropriation of Lottery Division Funds -- There is hereby appropriated to
8 the lottery division any funds required to be disbursed by the lottery division for the purposes of
9 paying commissions or transfers to the prize fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

10 SECTION 11. Appropriation of CollegeBoundSaver Funds - There is hereby appropriated
11 to the office of the general treasurer designated funds received under the collegeboundsaver
12 program for transfer to the division of higher education assistance within the office of the
13 postsecondary commissioner to support student financial aid for the fiscal year ending June 30,
14 2025.

15 SECTION 12. Departments and agencies listed below may not exceed the number of full-
16 time equivalent (FTE) positions shown below in any pay period. Full-time equivalent positions do
17 not include limited period positions or, seasonal or intermittent positions whose scheduled period
18 of employment does not exceed twenty-six consecutive weeks or whose scheduled hours do not
19 exceed nine hundred and twenty-five (925) hours, excluding overtime, in a one-year period. Nor
20 do they include individuals engaged in training, the completion of which is a prerequisite of
21 employment. Provided, however, that the governor or designee, speaker of the house of
22 representatives or designee, and the president of the senate or designee may authorize an adjustment
23 to any limitation. Prior to the authorization, the state budget officer shall make a detailed written
24 recommendation to the governor, the speaker of the house, and the president of the senate. A copy
25 of the recommendation and authorization to adjust shall be transmitted to the chairman of the house
26 finance committee, senate finance committee, the house fiscal advisor, and the senate fiscal advisor.

27 State employees whose funding is from non-state general revenue funds that are time
28 limited shall receive limited term appointment with the term limited to the availability of non-state
29 general revenue funding source.

30 FY 2025 FTE POSITION AUTHORIZATION

31 Departments and Agencies	Full-Time Equivalent
32 Administration	683.6

33 Provided that no more than 419.1 of the total authorization would be limited to positions
34 that support internal service fund programs.

1	Business Regulation	181.0
2	Executive Office of Commerce	5.0
3	Housing	38.0
4	Labor and Training	461.7
5	Revenue	599.5
6	Legislature	298.5
7	Office of the Lieutenant Governor	8.0
8	Office of the Secretary of State	62.0
9	Office of the General Treasurer	91.0
10	Board of Elections	13.0
11	Rhode Island Ethics Commission	12.0
12	Office of the Governor	45.0
13	Commission for Human Rights	15.0
14	Public Utilities Commission	57.0
15	Office of Health and Human Services	233.0
16	Children, Youth and Families	714.5
17	Health	572.6
18	Human Services	779.0
19	Office of Veterans Services	267.0
20	Office of Healthy Aging	33.0
21	Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals	1,221.4
22	Provided that 18.0 of the total authorization would be limited to independent facilitators	
23	positions to comply with the Consent Decree Addendum.	
24	Office of the Child Advocate	13.0
25	Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	4.0
26	Governor's Commission on Disabilities	5.0
27	Office of the Mental Health Advocate	6.0
28	Elementary and Secondary Education	156.1
29	Provided that 3.0 of the total authorization would be available only for positions that are	
30	supported by the healthy environments advance learning grant at the school building authority.	
31	School for the Deaf	61.0
32	Davies Career and Technical School	123.0
33	Office of Postsecondary Commissioner	46.0
34	Provided that 1.0 of the total authorization would be available only for positions that are	

1 supported by third-party funds, 12.0 would be available only for positions at the state's higher
2 education centers located in Woonsocket and Westerly, 10.0 would be available only for positions
3 at the nursing education center, and 7.0 would be available for the longitudinal data systems
4 program.

5 University of Rhode Island 2,571.0

6 Provided that 353.8 of the total authorization would be available only for positions that are
7 supported by third-party funds.

8 Rhode Island College 949.2

9 Provided that 76.0 of the total authorization would be available only for positions that are
10 supported by third-party funds.

11 Community College of Rhode Island 849.1

12 Provided that 89.0 of the total authorization would be available only for positions that are
13 supported by third-party funds.

14 Rhode Island State Council on the Arts 10.0

15 RI Atomic Energy Commission 8.6

16 Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission 15.6

17 Office of the Attorney General 264.1

18 Corrections 1,461.0

19 Judicial 745.3

20 Military Staff 93.0

21 Emergency Management Agency 38.0

22 Public Safety 633.0

23 Office of the Public Defender 104.0

24 Environmental Management 439.0

25 Coastal Resources Management Council 32.0

26 Transportation 755.0

27 **Total** 15,772.8

28 No agency or department may employ contracted employee services where contract
29 employees would work under state employee supervisors without determination of need by the
30 director of administration acting upon positive recommendations by the budget officer and the
31 personnel administrator and fifteen (15) days after a public hearing.

32 Nor may any agency or department contract for services replacing work done by state
33 employees at that time without determination of need by the director of administration acting upon
34 the positive recommendations of the state budget officer and the personnel administrator and thirty

1 (30) days after a public hearing.

2 SECTION 13. The amounts reflected in this article include the appropriation of Rhode
3 Island capital plan funds for fiscal year 2025 and supersede appropriations provided for FY 2025
4 within Pub. L. 2023, ch. 79, art. 1, § 12.

5 The following amounts are hereby appropriated out of any money in the State’s Rhode
6 Island capital plan fund not otherwise appropriated to be expended during the fiscal years ending
7 June 30, 2026, June 30, 2027, June 30, 2028, and June 30, 2029. These amounts supersede
8 appropriations provided within Pub. L. 2023, ch. 79, art. 1, § 12.

9 For the purposes and functions hereinafter mentioned, the state controller is hereby
10 authorized and directed to draw the controller's orders upon the general treasurer for the payment
11 of such sums and such portions thereof as may be required by the controller upon receipt of properly
12 authenticated vouchers.

	FY Ending	FY Ending	FY Ending	FY Ending
13 Project	06/30/2026	06/30/2027	06/30/2028	06/30/2029
14 DOA – Civic Center	3,800,000	1,250,000	1,075,000	1,500,000
15 DOA - DoIT Enterprise Operations Center	2,050,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
16 DOA – Group Homes Consolidation	4,325,000	4,325,000	4,426,000	5,450,000
17 DOA – Old State House	600,000	600,000	100,000	100,000
18 DOA - Pastore Campus Infrastructure	20,000,000	20,000,000	15,000,000	8,500,000
19 DOA - Pastore Center Non-Hospital Buildings	7,750,000	3,100,000	3,200,000	3,200,000
20 DOA - Pastore Power Plant Rehabilitation	250,000	5,250,000	0	0
21 DOA - RI Convention Center Authority	2,800,000	2,825,000	2,500,000	2,000,000
22 DOA - State House Renovations	1,759,000	17,379,000	16,000,000	31,940,000
23 DOA – Veterans’ Auditorium	380,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
24 DOA - William Powers Building	2,200,000	2,350,000	1,850,000	1,700,000
25 DOA - Zambarano Buildings and Campus	2,850,000	250,000	900,000	900,000
26 DOA – Zambarano LTAC Hospital	26,065,740	23,804,439	24,427,656	24,155,740
27 DBR – Fire Academy Expansion	675,000	0	0	0
28 EOC – I-195 Redevelopment Commission	700,000	700,000	700,000	0
29 EOC – Quonset Infrastructure	2,500,000	2,500,000	0	0
30 SOS – Rhode Island Archives and History				
31 Center	0	4,500,000	0	0
32 DCYF - Residential Treatment Facility	15,000,000	0	0	0
33 DOH – New Health Laboratory Building	8,363,883	0	0	0

1	ELSEC - Davies School Wing Renovation	2,500,000	0	0	0
2	URI - Asset Protection	14,606,536	15,236,863	15,528,074	15,885,220
3	URI - Athletics Complex	51,532,096	0	0	0
4	URI - Bay Campus Phase II	12,500,000	12,500,000	0	0
5	URI – PFAS Removal Water Treatment Plant	14,102,455	4,369,853	0	0
6	URI – Mechanical, Electric and Plumbing				
7	Improvements	8,607,757	86,605	0	0
8	URI – Stormwater Management	2,221,831	0	0	0
9	RIC - Asset Protection	5,950,000	6,025,000	6,157,000	6,375,000
10	RIC - Infrastructure Modernization	5,675,000	5,675,000	5,925,000	5,925,000
11	CCRI - Asset Protection	2,719,452	2,719,452	2,780,000	2,870,000
12	CCRI – Data, Cabling, & Power Infrastructure	5,150,000	4,894,885	3,300,000	0
13	CCRI – Flanagan Campus Renewal	3,200,000	2,734,505	0	0
14	CCRI – Renovation and Modernization Phase I	16,000,000	7,784,928	4,000,000	0
15	CCRI – Renovation and Modernization				
16	Phase II -IV	5,000,000	0	0	0
17	DOC – Asset Protection	4,100,000	4,100,000	4,100,000	4,100,000
18	DOC – Correctional Facilities – Renovations	7,419,248	0	0	0
19	DOC – HVAC	10,272,500	0	0	0
20	Military Staff – Asset Protection	962,185	1,301,316	863,505	1,357,288
21	Military Staff – Counter Drug Training				
22	Facility	1,025,250	0	0	0
23	Military Staff – Repair Squadron Ops				
24	Facility	600,000	0	0	0
25	Military Staff - Quonset Airport				
26	Runway Reconstruction	446,663	0	0	0
27	DPS – Asset Protection	1,205,000	1,335,000	285,000	300,000
28	DPS - Southern Barracks	16,750,000	0	0	0
29	DPS – Training Academy Upgrades	1,820,000	640,000	150,000	150,000
30	DPS – Statewide Communications				
31	System Network	245,048	0	0	0
32	DEM – Dam Repair	11,615,000	2,265,000	1,015,000	1,015,000
33	DEM – Natural Resources Offices and				
34	Visitor's Center	1,836,709	1,836,709	0	0

1	DEM – Port of Galilee	16,500,000	14,113,820	2,800,000	
2	DEM – Recreational Facilities Improvements	2,900,000	3,338,551	3,260,000	2,750,000
3	CRMC – Confined Aquatic Dredged				
4	Material Disposal Cells	20,600,000	0	0	0
5	DOT - Highway Improvement Program	52,200,000	27,200,000	27,200,000	27,200,000
6	DOT - Maintenance Capital Equipment				
7	Replacement	1,800,000	1,800,000	1,800,000	1,800,000
8	DOT - Salt Storage Facilities	1,150,000	1,150,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
9	DOT - RIPTA Land and Buildings	4,561,885	500,000	500,000	500,000
10	DOT - RIPTA Pawtucket/Central Falls				
11	Bus Hub Passenger Facility	627,977	0	0	0

12 SECTION 14. Reappropriation of Funding for Rhode Island capital plan fund projects.
13 Any unexpended and unencumbered funds from Rhode Island capital plan fund project
14 appropriations shall be reappropriated in the ensuing fiscal year and made available for the same
15 purpose. However, any such reappropriations are subject to final approval by the general assembly
16 as part of the supplemental appropriations act. Any unexpended funds of less than five hundred
17 dollars (\$500) shall be reappropriated at the discretion of the state budget officer.

18 SECTION 15. For the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2025, the Rhode Island housing and
19 mortgage finance corporation shall provide from its resources such sums as appropriate in support
20 of the Neighborhood Opportunities Program. The corporation shall provide a report detailing the
21 amount of funding provided to this program, as well as information on the number of units of
22 housing provided as a result to the director of administration, the chair of the housing resources
23 commission, the chair of the house finance committee, the chair of the senate finance committee,
24 and the state budget officer.

25 SECTION 16. Appropriation of Economic Activity Taxes in accordance with the city of
26 Pawtucket downtown redevelopment statute -- There is hereby appropriated for the fiscal year
27 ending June 30, 2025, all state economic activity taxes to be collected pursuant to § 45-33.4-4, as
28 amended (including, but not limited to, the amount of tax revenues certified by the commerce
29 corporation in accordance with § 45-33.4-1(13)), for the purposes of paying debt service on bonds,
30 funding debt service reserves; paying costs of infrastructure improvements in and around the
31 ballpark district, arts district, and the growth center district; funding future debt service on bonds;
32 and funding a redevelopment revolving fund established in accordance with § 45-33-1.

33 SECTION 17. The appropriations from federal funds contained in section 1 shall not be
34 construed to mean any federal funds or assistance appropriated, authorized, allocated or

1 apportioned to the State of Rhode Island from the state fiscal recovery fund and capital projects
2 fund enacted pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2 for fiscal year 2025
3 except for those instances specifically designated.

4 The State fiscal recovery fund and capital projects Fund appropriations herein shall be
5 made in support of the following projects:

6 **Federal Funds - State Fiscal Recovery Fund**

7 **Department of Administration (DOA)**

8 Pandemic Recovery Office. These funds shall be allocated to finance the pandemic
9 recovery office established within the department of administration.

10 DOA - Public Health Response Warehouse Support. These funds shall be allocated to the
11 proper storage of PPE and other necessary COVID-19 response related supplies.

12 DOA - Health Care Facilities. These funds shall address the ongoing staffing needs of
13 nursing facilities related to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Ten million dollars
14 (\$10,00,000) shall be distributed to nursing facilities based on the number of Medicaid beds days
15 from the 2022 facility cost reports, provided at least eighty percent (80%) is dedicated to direct care
16 workers.

17 DOA - Community Learning Center Programming Support Grant. These funds shall be
18 distributed to municipalities that have approved community learning center projects under the
19 coronavirus capital projects fund community learning center municipal grant program. An equal
20 amount of funding will be allocated to each approved community learning center project that
21 reaches substantial completion as defined by the U.S. Department of Treasury by October 31, 2026.
22 These funds must be used to support the establishment of U.S. Department of the Treasury
23 compliant health monitoring, work, and or education programming that will take place in a
24 community learning center.

25 **Executive Office of Commerce (EOC)**

26 EOC - Assistance to Impacted Industries. These funds shall be allocated to provide
27 assistance to the tourism, hospitality, and events industries for outdoor and public space capital
28 improvements and event programming.

29 **Department of Housing**

30 Housing – Homelessness Assistance Program. These funds shall support a program to
31 expand housing navigation, behavioral health, and stabilization services to address pandemic-
32 related homelessness. The program will support services for people transitioning from
33 homelessness to housing, including individuals transitioning out of the adult correctional
34 institutions.

1 **Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF)**

2 DCYF – Provider Workforce Stabilization. These funds shall be allocated to support
3 workforce stabilization supplemental wage payments and sign-on bonuses to eligible direct care
4 and supporting care staff of contracted service providers.

5 **Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals**
6 **(BHDDH)**

7 BHDDH - 9-8-8 Hotline. These funds shall be allocated for the creation and operation of a
8 9-8-8 hotline to maintain compliance with the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020
9 and the Federal Communications Commission-adopted rules to assure that all citizens receive a
10 consistent level of 9-8-8 and crisis behavioral health services.

11 **Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (ELSEC)**

12 RIDE - Adult Education Providers. These funds shall be directly distributed through the
13 office of adult education to nonprofit adult education providers to expand access to educational
14 programs and literary services.

15 **Office of Postsecondary Commissioner (OPC)**

16 OPC – Foster Care Youth Scholarship. These funds shall support a last dollar scholarship
17 program for DCYF foster care youth exiting the system to attend Rhode Island college and would
18 fully fund tuition, room and board, and/or support services, including during the summer months.
19 Funding would be distributed through the Rhode Island college foundation.

20 **Department of Public Safety (DPS)**

21 DPS – Support for Survivors of Domestic Violence. These funds shall be allocated to
22 invest in the nonprofit community to provide additional housing, clinical and mental health services
23 to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. This includes increased investments for therapy
24 and counseling, housing assistance, job training, relocation aid and case management.

25 **Department of Transportation (DOT)**

26 DOT - Municipal Roads Grant Program. These funds shall support a program to distribute
27 grants with a required local match for the replacement, rehabilitation, preservation, and
28 maintenance of existing roads, sidewalks, and bridges. These funds shall be distributed equally to
29 each city and town provided that each municipality is required to provide a sixty-seven percent
30 (67%) match.

31 DOT - RIPTA Operating Grant. These funds shall provide operating support to the Rhode
32 Island public transit authority.

33 DOT - Washington Bridge Project. These funds shall support the non-federal share or
34 matching requirement on federal funds for priority transportation projects, including but not limited

1 to the Washington Bridge project.

2 **Federal Funds - Capital Projects Fund**

3 **Department of Administration (DOA)**

4 DOA - CPF Administration. These funds shall be allocated to the department of
5 administration to oversee the implementation of the capital projects fund award from the American
6 Rescue Plan Act.

7 SECTION 18. Reappropriation of Funding for State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Capital
8 Projects Fund. Notwithstanding any provision of general law, any unexpended and unencumbered
9 federal funds from the state fiscal recovery fund and capital projects fund shall be reappropriated
10 in the ensuing fiscal year and made available for the same purposes. However, any such
11 reappropriations are subject to final approval by the general assembly as part of the supplemental
12 appropriations act.

13 SECTION 19. The pandemic recovery office shall monitor the progress and performance
14 of all programs financed by the state fiscal recovery fund and the capital projects fund. On or before
15 October 31, 2023, and quarterly thereafter until and including October 31, 2026, the office shall
16 provide a report to the speaker of the house and senate president, with copies to the chairpersons
17 of the house and senate finance committees, identifying programs that are at risk of significant
18 underspending or noncompliance with federal or state requirements. The report, at a minimum must
19 include an assessment of how programs that are at risk can be remedied. In the event that any state
20 fiscal recovery fund program would put the state at risk of forfeiture of federal funds, the governor
21 may propose to reallocate funding from the at-risk program to the unemployment insurance trust
22 fund. This proposal will be referred to the General Assembly within the first ten (10) days of
23 November to go into effect thirty (30) days hence, unless rejected by formal action of the house
24 and senate acting concurrently within that time.

25 SECTION 20. Notwithstanding any general laws to the contrary, the state controller shall
26 transfer (\$100,000) to the Group Home Facility Improvement Fund restricted receipt account by
27 July 15, 2024.

28 SECTION 21. This article shall take effect as of July 1, 2024, except as otherwise provided
29 herein.

ARTICLE 2 AS AMENDED

RELATING TO STATE FUNDS

SECTION 1. Chapter 35-4 of the General Laws entitled "State Funds" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

35-4-21.1. Medical debt relief program.

(a) There is hereby established a medical debt relief program to be administered by the general treasurer who has the authority to enter into a contract for the purchase, cancellation and forgiveness of medical debts upon the following conditions:

(1) That the debt was incurred in order to obtain medical services, products, and/or devices;

(2) That the debts are in collection or have been sold or assigned by the original provider;

and

(3) That the debt is owed by a citizen of the state whose federal adjusted gross income is four hundred percent (400%) or less than the federal poverty line or whose debt is more than five percent (5%) of the citizen's adjusted gross income as measured by the prior tax return or the estimated return in the current year.

(b) Any citizen of this state whose debt is discharged, cancelled or forgiven under this section shall be provided notice of the cancellation of the debt, but shall not have the amount cancelled included in the computation of taxable income for the purpose of state income taxes.

(c) For the purposes of this section, the definition of medical debts shall be liberally construed so as to not reduce the types of debt that may be subject to cancellation so long as they arise from medical transport, evaluation, diagnosis, treatment and/or rehabilitation.

(d) The general treasurer shall provide quarterly updates on the program to the chairpersons of the house and senate committees on finance beginning January 1, 2025.

(e) The general treasurer may promulgate regulations as necessary to effectuate the provisions of this section.

SECTION 2. Section 35-4-27 of the General Laws in Chapter 35-4 entitled "State Funds" is hereby amended to read as follows:

35-4-27. Indirect cost recoveries on restricted receipt accounts.

Indirect cost recoveries of ten percent (10%) of cash receipts shall be transferred from all restricted-receipt accounts, to be recorded as general revenues in the general fund. However, there

1 shall be no transfer from cash receipts with restrictions received exclusively: (1) From contributions
2 from nonprofit charitable organizations; (2) From the assessment of indirect cost-recovery rates on
3 federal grant funds; or (3) Through transfers from state agencies to the department of administration
4 for the payment of debt service. These indirect cost recoveries shall be applied to all accounts,
5 unless prohibited by federal law or regulation, court order, or court settlement. The following
6 restricted receipt accounts shall not be subject to the provisions of this section:

7 Executive Office of Health and Human Services
8 Organ Transplant Fund
9 HIV Care Grant Drug Rebates
10 Health System Transformation Project
11 Rhode Island Statewide Opioid Abatement Account
12 HCBS Support-ARPA
13 HCBS Admin Support-ARPA
14 Department of Human Services
15 Veterans' home — Restricted account
16 Veterans' home — Resident benefits
17 Pharmaceutical Rebates Account
18 Demand Side Management Grants
19 Veteran's Cemetery Memorial Fund
20 Donations — New Veterans' Home Construction
21 [Commodity Supplemental Food Program-Claims](#)
22 Department of Health
23 Pandemic medications and equipment account
24 Miscellaneous Donations/Grants from Non-Profits
25 State Loan Repayment Match
26 Healthcare Information Technology
27 Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals
28 Eleanor Slater non-Medicaid third-party payor account
29 Hospital Medicare Part D Receipts
30 RICLAS Group Home Operations
31 [Group Home Facility Improvement Fund](#)
32 Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
33 Emergency and public communication access account
34 Department of Environmental Management

1 National heritage revolving fund
2 Environmental response fund II
3 Underground storage tanks registration fees
4 De Coppet Estate Fund
5 Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission
6 Historic preservation revolving loan fund
7 Historic Preservation loan fund — Interest revenue
8 Department of Public Safety
9 E-911 Uniform Emergency Telephone System
10 Forfeited property — Retained
11 Forfeitures — Federal
12 Forfeited property — Gambling
13 Donation — Polygraph and Law Enforcement Training
14 Rhode Island State Firefighter’s League Training Account
15 Fire Academy Training Fees Account
16 Attorney General
17 Forfeiture of property
18 Federal forfeitures
19 Attorney General multi-state account
20 Forfeited property — Gambling
21 Department of Administration
22 OER Reconciliation Funding
23 Health Insurance Market Integrity Fund
24 RI Health Benefits Exchange
25 Information Technology restricted receipt account
26 Restore and replacement — Insurance coverage
27 Convention Center Authority rental payments
28 Investment Receipts — TANS
29 OPEB System Restricted Receipt Account
30 Car Rental Tax/Surcharge-Warwick Share
31 Grants Management Administration
32 RGGI-Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council Projects
33 [Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Operating and Maintenance Account](#)
34 ~~Executive Office of Commerce~~ [Department of Housing](#)

1 Housing Resources ~~Commission~~ and Homelessness Restricted Receipt Account
2 Housing Production Fund
3 Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Fund
4 Department of Revenue
5 DMV Modernization Project
6 Jobs Tax Credit Redemption Fund
7 Legislature
8 Audit of federal assisted programs
9 Department of Children, Youth and Families
10 Children's Trust Accounts — SSI
11 Military Staff
12 RI Military Family Relief Fund
13 RI National Guard Counterdrug Program
14 Treasury
15 Admin. Expenses — State Retirement System
16 Retirement — Treasury Investment Options
17 Defined Contribution — Administration - RR
18 Violent Crimes Compensation — Refunds
19 Treasury Research Fellowship
20 Business Regulation
21 Banking Division Reimbursement Account
22 Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner Reimbursement Account
23 Securities Division Reimbursement Account
24 Commercial Licensing and Racing and Athletics Division Reimbursement Account
25 Insurance Division Reimbursement Account
26 Historic Preservation Tax Credit Account
27 Marijuana Trust Fund
28 Social Equity Assistance Fund
29 Judiciary
30 Arbitration Fund Restricted Receipt Account
31 Third-Party Grants
32 RI Judiciary Technology Surcharge Account
33 Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
34 Statewide Student Transportation Services Account

1 School for the Deaf Fee-for-Service Account
2 School for the Deaf — School Breakfast and Lunch Program
3 Davies Career and Technical School Local Education Aid Account
4 Davies — National School Breakfast & Lunch Program
5 School Construction Services
6 Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner
7 Higher Education and Industry Center
8 IGT STEM Scholarships
9 Department of Labor and Training
10 Job Development Fund
11 Rhode Island Council on the Arts
12 Governors' Portrait Donation Fund
13 Statewide records management system account

14 SECTION 3. Sections 37-7-13 and 37-7-15 of the General Laws in Chapter 37-7 entitled
15 "Management and Disposal of Property" are hereby amended to read as follows:

16 **37-7-13. Surplus group homes.**

17 Any group home purchased or built by the state of Rhode Island and licensed pursuant to
18 ~~house~~ § 40.1-24-3, which is no longer used to house persons with disabilities and is vacant for a
19 period of one year must be offered for sale on the private housing market forthwith and shall
20 thereafter remain under the jurisdiction of the zoning enforcement officer and the zoning code of
21 that municipality in which the home is located. The zoning enforcement officer and zoning code
22 shall govern the use thereof. The group home shall not acquire any rights of a nonconforming use.
23 [Proceeds from the sale of group homes owned by the State of Rhode Island shall be transferred to](#)
24 [the group home facility improvement fund, pursuant to § 40.1-1-22.](#)

25 **37-7-15. Sale of state-owned land, buildings and improvements thereon and other real**
26 **property.**

27 (a) Total annual proceeds from the sale of any land and the buildings and improvements
28 thereon, and other real property, title to which is vested in the state of Rhode Island or title to which
29 will be vested in the state upon completion of any condemnation or other proceedings, [except for](#)
30 [the sale of group homes as referenced in § 37-7-13](#), shall be transferred to the information
31 technology restricted receipt account (ITRR account) and made available for the purposes outlined
32 in § 42-11-2.5(a), unless otherwise prohibited by federal law.

33 (b) Provided, however, this shall not include proceeds from the sale of any land and the
34 buildings and improvements thereon that will be created by the relocation of interstate route 195,

1 which is sometimes collectively referred to as the “I-195 Surplus Land,” which land is identified
2 in the “Rhode Island Interstate 195 Relocation Surplus Land: Redevelopment and Market Analysis”
3 prepared by CKS Architecture & Urban Design dated 2009, and such term means those certain
4 tracts or parcels of land situated in the city of Providence, county of Providence, state of Rhode
5 Island, delineated on that certain plan of land captioned “Improvements to Interstate Route 195,
6 Providence, Rhode Island, Proposed Development Parcel Plans 1 through 10, Scale: 1”=20’, May
7 2010, Bryant Associates, Inc., Engineers-Surveyors-Construction Managers, Lincoln, Rhode
8 Island, Maguire Group, Inc., Architects/Engineers/Planners, Providence, Rhode Island.”

9 (c) Provided, however, the transfer of proceeds in subsection (a) of this section shall not
10 include proceeds from the sale of state-owned group homes or “community residences” as that term
11 is defined in § 40.1-24-1(2) and licensed by the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental
12 disabilities and hospitals. Proceeds from the sale of these properties will be transferred to the group
13 home facility improvement fund, pursuant to § 40.1-1-22.

14 ~~(e)~~(d) Subject to the approval of the director of the department of administration, the state
15 controller is authorized to offset any currently recorded outstanding liability on the part of
16 developmental disability organizations (DDOs) to repay previously authorized startup capital
17 advances against the proceeds from the sale of group homes within a fiscal year prior to any sale
18 proceeds being deposited into the information technology investment fund.

19 SECTION 4. Chapter 40.1-1 of the General Laws entitled "Department of Behavioral
20 Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals" is hereby amended by adding thereto the
21 following section:

22 **40.1-1-22. Group home facility improvement fund.**

23 There is created within the general fund of the state a restricted receipt account to be known
24 as the “group home facility improvement fund.” Money transferred to this fund shall include, but
25 is not limited to, the proceeds from the surplus of state-owned group home facilities or “community
26 residences” as that term is defined in § 40.1-24-1(2) and licensed by the department of behavioral
27 healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals; and notwithstanding the provisions of §§ 37-
28 7-1 and 37-7-9, rents collected from provider agencies providing services in state-owned group
29 homes or “community residences” as that term is defined in § 40.1-24-1(2) and licensed by the
30 department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals. All money in the
31 account shall be utilized by the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and
32 hospitals (“department”) to fund the ongoing upkeep and maintenance of state-owned facilities as
33 defined by § 40.1-24-1(6). Use of the funds will be directed by the department’s strategic priorities.
34 The group home facility improvement fund shall be exempt from the indirect cost recovery

1 [provisions of § 35-4-27.](#)

2 SECTION 5. Section 42-6.2-3.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-6.2 entitled "2021 Act
3 on Climate" is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 **42-6.2-3.1. Funding for the council.**

5 There is hereby established a restricted receipt account in the general fund of the state and
6 housed in the budget of the department of administration entitled "RGGI-executive climate change
7 coordinating council projects." The express purpose of this account is to record receipts and
8 expenditures allocated pursuant to § 23-82-6(a)(7), and (8). [The state budget officer is hereby](#)
9 [authorized to create restricted receipt sub-accounts in any department of state government that](#)
10 [receives such funding as directed by the executive climate change coordinating council.](#)

11 The Rhode Island executive climate change coordinating council shall report annually to
12 the governor and general assembly within one hundred twenty (120) days of the end of each
13 calendar year how the funds were used to achieve the statutory objectives of the 2021 Act on
14 Climate.

15 SECTION 6. Section 42-11-2.5 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-11 entitled "Department
16 of Administration" is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 **42-11-2.5. Information technology restricted receipt account and large systems**
18 **initiatives fund.**

19 (a) All sums from the sale of any land and the buildings and improvements thereon, and
20 other real property, title to which is vested in the state, except as provided in ~~§§ 37-7-15(b) and 37-~~
21 ~~7-15(e)~~ [§ 37-7-15\(b\) through \(d\)](#), shall be transferred to an information technology restricted receipt
22 account (ITRR account) that is hereby established. This ITRR account shall consist of such sums
23 from the sale of any land and the buildings and improvements thereon, and other real property, title
24 to which is vested in the state, except as provided in ~~§§ 37-7-15(b) and 37-7-15(e)~~ [§ 37-7-15\(b\)](#)
25 [through \(d\)](#), as well as a share of first response surcharge revenues collected under the provisions
26 of § 39-21.1-14. This ITRR account may also consist of such sums as the state may from time to
27 time appropriate; as well as money received from the disposal of information technology hardware,
28 loan, interest, and service charge payments from benefiting state agencies; as well as interest
29 earnings, money received from the federal government, gifts, bequest, donations, or otherwise from
30 any public or private source. Any such funds shall be exempt from the indirect cost recovery
31 provisions of § 35-4-27.

32 (1) This ITRR account shall be used for the purpose of acquiring information technology
33 improvements, including, but not limited to: hardware, software, consulting services, and ongoing
34 maintenance and upgrade contracts for state departments and agencies.

1 (2) The division of enterprise technology strategy and services of the Rhode Island
2 department of administration shall adopt rules and regulations consistent with the purposes of this
3 chapter and chapter 35 of this title, in order to provide for the orderly and equitable disbursement
4 of funds from this ITRR account.

5 (3) For all requests for proposals that are issued for information technology projects, a
6 corresponding information technology project manager shall be assigned.

7 (b) There is also hereby established a special fund to be known as the large systems
8 initiatives fund (LSI fund), separate and apart from the general fund of the state, to be administered
9 by the chief information officer within the department of administration for the purpose of
10 implementing and maintaining enterprise-wide software projects for executive branch departments.
11 The LSI fund shall consist of such sums as the state may from time to time directly appropriate to
12 the LSI fund. After the completion of any project, the chief digital officer shall inform the state
13 controller of unexpended sums previously transferred to the LSI Fund for that project and the state
14 controller shall subsequently transfer any such unexpended funds to the information technology
15 restricted receipt account.

16 (c) For any new project initiated using sums expended from the LSI Fund, as part of its
17 budget submission pursuant to § 35-3-4 relative to state fiscal year 2025 and thereafter, the
18 department of administration shall include a statement of project purpose and the estimated project
19 cost.

20 SECTION 7. Section 42-66-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-66 entitled "Office of
21 Healthy Aging" is hereby amended to read as follows:

22 **42-66-4. Duties of the division.**

23 (a) The division shall be the principal agency of the state to mobilize the human, physical,
24 and financial resources available to plan, develop, and implement innovative programs to ensure
25 the dignity and independence of elderly persons, including the planning, development, and
26 implementation of a home- and long-term-care program for the elderly in the communities of the
27 state.

28 (b)(1) The division shall serve as an advocate for the needs of the adult with a disability as
29 these needs and services overlap the needs and services of elderly persons.

30 (2) The division shall serve as the state's central agency for the administration and
31 coordination of a long-term-care entry system, using community-based access points, that will
32 provide the following services related to long-term care: information and referral; initial screening
33 for service and benefits eligibility; and a uniform assessment program for state-supported long-
34 term care.

- 1 (3) The division shall investigate reports of elder abuse, neglect, exploitation, or self-
2 neglect and shall provide and/or coordinate protective services.
- 3 (c) To accomplish these objectives, the director is authorized:
- 4 (1) To provide assistance to communities in solving local problems with regard to elderly
5 persons including, but not limited to, problems in identifying and coordinating local resources to
6 serve the needs of elderly persons;
- 7 (2) To facilitate communications and the free flow of information between communities
8 and the offices, agencies, and employees of the state;
- 9 (3) To encourage and assist communities, agencies, and state departments to plan, develop,
10 and implement home- and long-term care programs;
- 11 (4) To provide and act as a clearinghouse for information, data, and other materials relative
12 to elderly persons;
- 13 (5) To initiate and carry out studies and analyses that will aid in solving local, regional,
14 and statewide problems concerning elderly persons;
- 15 (6) To coordinate those programs of other state agencies designed to assist in the solution
16 of local, regional, and statewide problems concerning elderly persons;
- 17 (7) To advise and inform the governor on the affairs and problems of elderly persons in the
18 state;
- 19 (8) To exercise the powers and discharge the duties assigned to the director in the fields of
20 health care, nutrition, homemaker services, geriatric day care, economic opportunity, local and
21 regional planning, transportation, and education and pre-retirement programs;
- 22 (9) To further the cooperation of local, state, federal, and private agencies and institutions
23 providing for services or having responsibility for elderly persons;
- 24 (10) To represent and act on behalf of the state in connection with federal grant programs
25 applicable to programs for elderly persons in the functional areas described in this chapter;
- 26 (11) To seek, accept, and otherwise take advantage of all federal aid available to the
27 division, and to assist other agencies of the state, local agencies, and community groups in taking
28 advantage of all federal grants and subventions available for elderly persons and to accept other
29 sources of funds with the approval of the director of administration that shall be deposited as general
30 revenues;
- 31 (12) To render advice and assistance to communities and other groups in the preparation
32 and submission of grant applications to state and federal agencies relative to programs for elderly
33 persons;
- 34 (13) To review and coordinate those activities of agencies of the state and of any political

1 subdivision of the state at the request of the subdivision, that affect the full and fair utilization of
2 community resources for programs for elderly persons, and initiate programs that will help ensure
3 such utilization;

4 (14) To encourage the formation of councils on aging and to assist local communities in
5 the development of the councils;

6 (15) To promote and coordinate daycare facilities for the frail elderly who are in need of
7 supportive care and supervision during the daytime;

8 (16) To provide and coordinate the delivery of in-home services to the elderly, as defined
9 under the rules and regulations adopted by the office of healthy aging;

10 (17) To advise and inform the public of the risks of accidental hypothermia;

11 (18) To establish a clearinghouse for information and education of the elderly citizens of
12 the state, including, but not limited to, and subject to available funding, a web-based caregiver
13 support information center;

14 (19) **[As amended by P.L. 2019, ch. 110, § 2].** To establish and operate, in collaboration
15 with the departments of behavioral health, developmental disabilities and hospitals; human
16 services; and children youth and families regular community agencies supporting caregivers, a
17 statewide family-caregiver support association and a family-caregiver resource network to provide
18 and coordinate family-caregiver training and support services to include counseling and elder
19 caregiver respite services, which shall be subject to available funding, and include home
20 health/homemaker care, adult day services, assisted living, and nursing facility care; and

21 (19) **[As amended by P.L. 2019, ch. 130, § 2].** To establish and operate, in collaboration
22 with the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals; the
23 department of human services; the department of children, youth and families, and community
24 agencies supporting caregivers, a statewide family-caregiver support association and a family-
25 caregiver resource network to provide and coordinate family-caregiver training and support
26 services to include counseling and caregiver respite services, which shall be subject to available
27 funding, and include home health/homemaker care, adult day services, assisted living, and nursing
28 facility care; and

29 (20) To supervise the citizens' commission for the safety and care of the elderly created
30 pursuant to the provisions of chapter 1.4 of title 12.

31 (d) In order to assist in the discharge of the duties of the division, the director may request
32 from any agency of the state information pertinent to the affairs and problems of elderly persons.

33 (e) There is hereby established within the general fund of the state and housed within the
34 budget of the office of healthy aging a restricted receipt account entitled "commodity supplemental

1 food program-claims” to account for funds collected in payment of claims for donated food losses,
2 pursuant to united states department of agriculture guidelines under the commodity supplemental
3 food program. Expenditures from this account shall be utilized by the office solely for the following
4 purposes:

- 5 (i) Purchase of replacement foods;
- 6 (ii) Payment of administrative costs;
- 7 (iii) Replacement of lost or improperly used funds;
- 8 (iv) For use as a salvage account in compliance with federal regulations.

9 SECTION 8. Chapter 42-140 of the General Laws entitled "Rhode Island Energy
10 Resources Act" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

11 **42-140-11. Electric vehicle charging stations operating and maintenance fund.**

12 (a) There is established a restricted receipts account within the general fund of the state, to
13 be known as the "electric vehicle charging stations operating and maintenance account”, to be
14 administered by the office of energy resources for the purposes of installing, operating, and
15 maintaining electric vehicle charging stations on state properties.

16 (b) Effective January 1, 2025, the office of energy resources shall establish electric vehicle
17 charging station fees for electric vehicle charging stations operating on state properties.

18 (c) The office of energy resources shall post the proposed charging station fees on its
19 website and solicit public comment for a period of thirty (30) days.

20 (d) Funds deposited into the electric vehicle charging stations operating and maintenance
21 account shall be exempt from the indirect cost recovery provisions of § 35-4-27.

22 SECTION 9. Section 5 shall take effect as of July 1, 2023. The remainder of the article
23 takes effect on July 1, 2024.

ARTICLE 3

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT REFORM AND REORGANIZATION

SECTION 1. Section 13-7-15 of the General Laws in Chapter 13-7 entitled "Prisoner Made Goods" is hereby amended to read as follows:

13-7-15. Business operations and budget.

Correctional industries shall maintain an accurate and timely accounting of monies received from the sale of products or services of committed offenders. Monies accredited into the correctional industries fund shall be used for the purchase of materials, supervision, and other requirements necessary to support the production of goods and services. [Entities that place orders with correctional industries are required to pay correctional industries fifty percent \(50%\) of their quoted material costs once the items have been ordered.](#) All expenditures from the correctional industry fund shall be subject to the approval of the director of corrections or his or her designee, who may employ those funds to defray all operating expenses. All net profits for the fiscal year shall be reinvested into the correctional industries fund to support capital purchases, and the general expansion and development of correctional industries. All additional profits will revert to the general treasury.

SECTION 2. Chapter 13-7 of the General Laws entitled "Prisoner Made Goods" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

13-7-8.2. Requisition of goods by nonprofits.

[The department of corrections may accept orders from any 501\(c\)\(3\) for any articles, services or materials similar to those produced at the adult correctional institutions.](#)

SECTION 3. Section 23-1-5.5 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-1 entitled "Department of Health" is hereby amended to read as follows:

23-1-5.5. Annual report.

The department of health shall prepare and issue an annual report on the status of private well water contamination in the state. The report shall be submitted to the governor and the general assembly by ~~January 15th~~ [July 1](#) of each year and shall be made available to the public.

SECTION 4. Section 23-1-9 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-1 entitled "Department of Health" is hereby repealed.

~~**23-1-9. Annual report to general assembly.**~~

1 ~~The director of health shall make an annual report to the general assembly of his or her~~
2 ~~proceedings during the year ending on the thirty first (31st) day of December next preceding, with~~
3 ~~any suggestions in relation to the sanitary laws and interests of the state that he or she shall deem~~
4 ~~important.~~

5 SECTION 5. Section 23-1.1-3 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-1.1 entitled "Division of
6 Occupational Health" is hereby repealed.

7 **23-1.1-3. Annual report.**

8 ~~The director of health shall annually furnish information regarding the activities of the~~
9 ~~division of occupational health to the director of labor and training for inclusion in the director of~~
10 ~~labor and training's annual report to the governor and to the general assembly. The director of~~
11 ~~health shall also provide information to the director of labor and training for reports to be submitted~~
12 ~~to the United States Secretary of Labor in the form and from time to time that the secretary of labor~~
13 ~~and training may require.~~

14 SECTION 6. Section 23-6.4-8 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-6.4 entitled "Life-Saving
15 Allergy Medication — Stock Supply of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors — Emergency Administration"
16 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 **23-6.4-8. Reporting.**

18 An authorized entity that possesses and makes available epinephrine auto-injectors shall
19 submit to the department of health, on a form developed by the department of health, a report of
20 each incident on the authorized entity's premises that involves the administration of an epinephrine
21 auto-injector. ~~The department of health shall annually publish a report that summarizes and~~
22 ~~analyzes all reports submitted to it under this section.~~

23 SECTION 7. Section 23-12.7-3 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-12.7 entitled "The
24 Breast Cancer Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

25 **23-12.7-3. Program established.**

26 (a) Through funding from the Rhode Island Cancer Council, the Rhode Island department
27 of health is required to establish a program of free mammography screening according to American
28 Cancer Society standards, and, where required, follow-up, diagnostic testing, and case management
29 for women in the state who are uninsured or underinsured.

30 (b) The screening program shall:

31 (1) Secure radiology facilities to participate in the screening program;

32 (2) Pay for screening mammograms;

33 (3) Ensure that screening results are sent by mail, electronically, or otherwise, to the patient
34 in a timely manner;

1 (4) Provide diagnostic tests as required to diagnose breast cancer;
2 (5) Provide case management facilitating appropriate contact to breast surgeons, medical
3 oncologists, and radiation oncologists; and

4 (6) Provide follow-up support to women who are found to have breast cancer as a result of
5 this screening program.

6 (c) The director of the Rhode Island department of health is required to provide ~~a quarterly~~
7 an annual report due to the general assembly on May 15 on the program of free mammography
8 screening, follow-up diagnostic testing and case management, and public education. An advisory
9 committee concerned with advocacy, outreach, and public education shall meet on a quarterly basis
10 and report to the director.

11 SECTION 8. Section 23-13.7-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-13.7 entitled "The
12 Rhode Island Family Home-Visiting Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 **23-13.7-2. Home-visiting system components.**

14 (a) The Rhode Island department of health shall coordinate the system of early childhood
15 home-visiting services in Rhode Island and shall work with the department of human services and
16 department of children, youth and families to identify effective, evidence-based, home-visiting
17 models that meet the needs of vulnerable families with young children.

18 (b) The Rhode Island department of health shall implement a statewide home-visiting
19 system that uses evidence-based models proven to improve child and family outcomes. Evidence-
20 based, home-visiting programs must follow with fidelity a program model with comprehensive
21 standards that ensure high-quality service delivery, use research-based curricula, and have
22 demonstrated significant positive outcomes in at least two (2) of the following areas:

- 23 (1) Improved prenatal, maternal, infant, or child health outcomes;
24 (2) Improved safety and reduced child maltreatment and injury;
25 (3) Improved family economic security and self-sufficiency;
26 (4) Enhanced early childhood development (social-emotional, language, cognitive,
27 physical) to improve children's readiness to succeed in school.

28 (c) The Rhode Island department of health shall implement a system to identify and refer
29 families prenatally, or as early after the birth of a child as possible, to voluntary, evidence-based,
30 home-visiting programs. The referral system shall prioritize families for services based on risk
31 factors known to impair child development, including:

- 32 (1) Adolescent parent(s);
33 (2) History of prenatal drug or alcohol abuse;
34 (3) History of child maltreatment, domestic abuse, or other types of violence;

- 1 (4) Incarcerated parent(s);
- 2 (5) Reduced parental cognitive functioning or significant disability;
- 3 (6) Insufficient financial resources to meet family needs;
- 4 (7) History of homelessness; or
- 5 (8) Other risk factors as determined by the department.

6 (d) ~~Beginning on or before October 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the~~ The Rhode Island
7 department of health shall issue a state home-visiting report due annually by March 1 of each year
8 that outlines the components of the state's family home-visiting system that shall be made publicly
9 available on the department's website. The report shall include:

- 10 (1) The number of families served by each evidence-based model; and
- 11 (2) Demographic data on families served; and
- 12 (3) Duration of participation of families; and
- 13 (4) Cross-departmental coordination; and
- 14 (5) Outcomes related to prenatal, maternal, infant and child health, child maltreatment,
15 family economic security, and child development and school readiness; and
- 16 (6) An annual estimate of the number of children born to Rhode Island families who face
17 significant risk factors known to impair child development, and a plan including the fiscal costs
18 and benefits to gradually expand access to the existing evidence-based, family home-visiting
19 programs in Rhode Island to all vulnerable families.

20 (e) State appropriations for this purpose shall be combined with federal dollars to fund the
21 expansion of evidence-based, home-visiting programs, with the goal of offering the program to all
22 the state's pregnant and parenting teens; families with a history of involvement with the child
23 welfare system; and other vulnerable families.

24 SECTION 9. Section 23-18.16-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-18.16 entitled
25 "Newspaper Recyclability" is hereby amended to read as follows:

26 **23-18.16-4. Reporting — Determination of compliance — Orders — Appeals.**

27 ~~(a) The department shall annually report to the governor and the general assembly, all~~
28 ~~findings regarding publications both in compliance and not in compliance with the requirements of~~
29 ~~this chapter.~~

30 ~~(b) The department must by July 1 of each year produce a written determination on any~~
31 ~~publication that does not comply with the provision of this chapter.~~

32 ~~(c)~~ (e) All publications will report on an annual basis their annual rate of purchase of post
33 consumer materials to the department of environmental management. A person adversely affected
34 or aggrieved by the issuance of an order under the provisions of this section may seek judicial

1 review of an order in the superior courts.

2 SECTION 10. Section 23-19.10-11 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-19.10 entitled
3 "Hazardous Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Treatment Research and Demonstration Act of 1986"
4 is hereby repealed.

5 ~~**23-19.10-11. Report to the governor and the general assembly.**~~

6 ~~(a) The department shall annually report to the governor and the general assembly on the
7 status, funding, and results of all demonstration and research projects awarded grants.~~

8 ~~(b) This report shall include recommendations for legislation and shall identify those state
9 and federal economic and financial incentives which can best accelerate and maximize the research,
10 development, and demonstration of hazardous waste reduction, recycling, and treatment
11 technologies.~~

12 SECTION 11. Section 23-20.11-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-20.11 entitled
13 "Reduced Cigarette Ignition Propensity and Firefighter Protection" is hereby amended to read as
14 follows:

15 **23-20.11-4. Standards for cigarette fire safety.**

16 (a) No cigarettes may be sold or offered for sale in this state or offered for sale or sold to
17 persons located in this state unless such cigarettes have been tested in accordance with the test
18 method and meet the performance standard specified in this subsection; and a written certification
19 has been filed by the manufacturer with the director in accordance with § 23-20.11-5 of this act;
20 and the cigarettes have been marked in accordance with § 23-20.11-6 of this act.

21 (1) Testing of cigarettes shall be conducted in accordance with the American Society of
22 Testing and Materials ("ASTM") standard E2187-04 "Standard Test Method for Measuring the
23 Ignition Strength of Cigarettes."

24 (2) Testing shall be conducted on ten (10) layers of filter paper.

25 (3) No more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the cigarettes tested in a test trial in
26 accordance with this subsection shall exhibit full-length burns. Forty (40) replicate tests shall
27 comprise a complete test trial for each cigarette tested.

28 (4) The performance standard required by this subsection shall only be applied to a
29 complete test trial.

30 (5) Written certifications shall be based upon testing conducted by a laboratory that has
31 been accredited pursuant to Standard ISO/IEC 17025 of the International Organization for
32 Standardization ("ISO"), or other comparable accreditation standard required by the director.

33 (6) Laboratories conducting testing in accordance with this subsection shall implement a
34 quality control and quality assurance program that includes a procedure to determine the

1 repeatability of the testing results. The repeatability value shall be no greater than nineteen
2 hundredths (0.19).

3 (7) This section does not require additional testing if cigarettes are tested consistent with
4 this chapter for any other purpose.

5 (8) Testing performed or sponsored by the director to determine a cigarette's compliance
6 with the performance standard required by this section shall be conducted in accordance with this
7 section.

8 (b) Each cigarette listed in a certification submitted pursuant to § 23-20.11-5 of this act that
9 uses lowered permeability bands in the cigarette paper to achieve compliance with the performance
10 standard set forth in this section shall have at least two (2) nominally identical bands on the paper
11 surrounding the tobacco column. At least one complete band shall be located at least fifteen (15)
12 millimeters from the lighting end of the cigarette. For cigarettes on which the bands are positioned
13 by design, there shall be at least two (2) bands fully located at least fifteen (15) millimeters from
14 the lighting end and ten (10) millimeters from the filter end of the tobacco column, or ten (10)
15 millimeters from the labeled end of the tobacco column for a nonfiltered cigarette.

16 (c) The manufacturer or manufacturers of a cigarette that the director determines cannot be
17 tested in accordance with the test method prescribed in subsection 23-20.11-4(a) shall propose a
18 test method and performance standard for such cigarette to the director. Upon approval of the
19 proposed test method and a determination by the director that the performance standard proposed
20 by the manufacturer or manufacturers is equivalent to the performance standard prescribed in
21 subsection 23-20.11-4(a), the manufacturer or manufacturers may employ such test method and
22 performance standard to certify such cigarette pursuant to § 23-20.11-5 of this act. If the director
23 determines that another state has enacted reduced cigarette ignition propensity standards that
24 include a test method and performance standard that are the same as those contained in this section,
25 and the director finds that the officials responsible for implementing those requirements have
26 approved the proposed alternative test method and performance standard for a particular cigarette
27 proposed by a manufacturer as meeting the reduced cigarette ignition propensity standards of that
28 state's law or regulation under a legal provision comparable to this subsection, then the director
29 shall authorize that manufacturer to employ the alternative test method and performance standard
30 to certify that cigarette for sale in this state, unless the director demonstrates a reasonable basis why
31 the alternative test should not be accepted under this chapter. All other applicable requirements of
32 this section shall apply to such manufacturer or manufacturers.

33 (d) Each manufacturer shall maintain copies of the reports of all tests conducted on all
34 cigarettes offered for sale for a period of three (3) years, and shall make copies of these reports

1 available to the director and the attorney general upon written request. Any manufacturer who fails
2 to make copies of these reports available within sixty (60) days of receiving a written request shall
3 be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each day after the
4 sixtieth (60th) day that the manufacturer does not make such copies available.

5 (e) The director may adopt a subsequent ASTM Standard Test Method for Measuring the
6 Ignition Strength of Cigarettes upon a finding that such subsequent method does not result in a
7 change in the percentage of full-length burns exhibited by any tested cigarette when compared to
8 the percentage of full-length burns the same cigarette would exhibit when tested in accordance with
9 ASTM Standard E2187-04 and the performance standard prescribed in subsection 23-20.11-4(a).

10 (f) ~~As of January 1, 2010, and at least every three (3) years thereafter, the director shall~~
11 ~~review of the effectiveness of this section and report to the legislature the director's finding's and,~~
12 ~~if appropriate, recommendations for legislation to improve the effectiveness of this section. The~~
13 ~~report and legislative recommendations shall be submitted no later than January 1 of each three (3)~~
14 ~~year period.~~

15 (g) This chapter shall be implemented in accordance with the implementation and
16 substance of the New York Fire Safety Standards for Cigarettes.

17 SECTION 12. Chapter 23-28.2 of the General Laws entitled "Office of State Fire Marshal"
18 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

19 **23-28.2-30. Deputy state fire marshals assigned to towns or fire districts.**

20 In the event any town or fire district does not have an assistant deputy state fire marshal
21 appointed by the state fire marshal pursuant to § 23-28.2-9 to perform fire prevention, protection,
22 inspection, and other duties under chapters 28.1 through 28.39 of title 23, the applicable town or
23 fire district shall provide written notice to the state fire marshal within ten (10) business days of
24 such absence. The notice shall include, at a minimum, the reason for the absence, the anticipated
25 duration, and a stated plan for appointment of an assistant deputy state fire marshal to perform such
26 services within the applicable town or fire district. Failure to provide such notice may result in the
27 assessment of additional fees. During the absence, the state fire marshal is authorized to assign and
28 appoint one or more deputy state fire marshals of the office of the state fire marshal to duty in the
29 applicable town or fire district. Each deputy state fire marshal assigned to duty as aforesaid shall
30 during the period of such duty continue to be a deputy state fire marshal of the office of the state
31 fire marshal, but the salary and expenses of each deputy state fire marshal so assigned, or such
32 prorated amount as determined by the state fire marshal, shall be reimbursed by the applicable town
33 or fire district. The state fire marshal shall have full power at all times to withdraw any deputy state
34 fire marshal assigned to duty in a town or fire district and assign another deputy state fire marshal

1 [to the deputy fire marshal's place or to discontinue such duty and to make no assignment to replace.](#)
2 [The office of the state fire marshal may promulgate forms, procedures, and/or regulations as](#)
3 [necessary to effectuate the provisions of this section.](#)

4 SECTION 13. Section 23-86-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-86 entitled "Women's
5 Cardiovascular Screening and Risk Reduction Pilot Program" is hereby repealed.

6 ~~**23-86-1. Women's cardiovascular screening and risk reduction pilot program.**~~

7 ~~(a) The department of health (hereinafter, "the department") shall develop a cardiovascular~~
8 ~~disease screening and lifestyle intervention pilot program at one site in one of Rhode Island's six~~
9 ~~(6) core cities for low-income, underinsured and uninsured women between forty (40) and sixty-~~
10 ~~four (64) years of age, inclusive, at risk for heart disease, diabetes and stroke, namely Pawtucket,~~
11 ~~Providence, Woonsocket, Newport, West Warwick or Central Falls.~~

12 ~~(b) The department shall develop the program based on the federal WISEWOMEN~~
13 ~~program administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The pilot program shall~~
14 ~~employ specified measures to gauge the impact and outcome of the program. These measures may~~
15 ~~include the number of women served, the number who receive lifestyle interventions, the number~~
16 ~~of follow-up visits per woman, an evaluation of the use of progress markers to reduce risk factors,~~
17 ~~and a research and evaluation component.~~

18 ~~(c) The department shall prepare an annual report and submit it to the legislature by January~~
19 ~~31 of each year summarizing the scope and reach of the pilot program. The final report shall include~~
20 ~~a fiscal analysis and a recommendation outlining the benefits and costs of expanding the pilot~~
21 ~~program throughout the state after the program has been in existence for three (3) years. The pilot~~
22 ~~program shall expire July 1, 2014.~~

23 ~~(d) Implementation of the Women's Cardiovascular screening and risk reduction pilot~~
24 ~~program shall be subject to appropriation.~~

25 SECTION 14. Title 23 of the General Laws entitled "HEALTH AND SAFETY" is hereby
26 amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

27 [CHAPTER 100](#)

28 [RHODE ISLAND HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE DATA COLLECTION ACT](#)

29 **23-100-1. Short title.**

30 [This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Rhode Island Healthcare Workforce](#)
31 [Data Collection Act."](#)

32 **23-100-2. Definitions.**

33 [\(1\) "Department" means the Rhode Island department of health.](#)

34 [\(2\) "Healthcare professional" means physicians, physician assistants, dentists, registered](#)

1 nurses, licensed practical nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, nursing assistants,
2 psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, and mental health counselors and marriage and
3 family therapists, and any other licensees as defined by the department.

4 (3) “Not currently working” means unemployed-not looking for a job, unemployed and
5 looking for a job; on extended leave, retired, or other.

6 (4) “Principal specialty” means the specialty the healthcare professional spends the most
7 time practicing.

8 **23-100-3. Healthcare workforce data collection authorized.**

9 The department is hereby authorized to collect healthcare workforce data on all healthcare
10 professionals licensed by the department as part of the department’s licensure and license renewal
11 process and to request all healthcare professionals to voluntarily provide the following healthcare
12 workforce data elements as a part of licensure and licensure renewal:

13 (1) Principal specialty;

14 (2) Education level;

15 (3) Current practice status in Rhode Island including, but not limited to, clinical practice,
16 medical administrative or legal services only, clinical teaching or clinical research only, not
17 currently working in the medical field, status as a provider of telemedicine, and other practice status
18 as determined by the department;

19 (4) Ethnicity;

20 (5) Race;

21 (6) Languages spoken other than English;

22 (7) Additional years planning to practice or anticipated retirement year;

23 (8) Total number of clinical/non-clinical hours per week providing services;

24 (9) Practice name(s), location(s), and contact information;

25 (10) Acceptance of Medicaid as a form of payment;

26 (11) Other data as defined by the department.

27 **23-100-4. Privacy.**

28 The department shall not make publicly available individual data acquired pursuant to §
29 23-100-3. Individualized healthcare workforce data elements shall remain confidential and shall
30 only be available as de-identified aggregate analysis to support healthcare planning, workforce
31 analysis and other health program and policy recommendations. Publicly available data may
32 include, but not be limited to:

33 (1) Aggregate de-identified data and information on current healthcare workforce capacity;

34 (2) Geographic distribution of healthcare professionals actively practicing;

1 [\(3\) Provider-to-population rates; and](#)

2 [\(4\) Projections of healthcare workforce need.](#)

3 **23-100-5. Rules and regulations.**

4 [The department shall promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to this chapter.](#)

5 SECTION 15. Section 37-2-13.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 37-2 entitled "State
6 Purchases" is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 **37-2-13.1. Procurement regulations — Request for proposal.**

8 (a) No request for proposal shall change to a master-price agreement unless the request for
9 proposal is cancelled and reissued as a master price agreement.

10 (b) No vendor, parent corporation, subsidiary, affiliate, or subcontractor of any state vendor
11 may bid on a request for proposal if that person or entity has or had any contractual, financial,
12 business, or beneficial interest with the state or with any official, officer, or agency in charge of the
13 request or if they participated or were consulted with respect to the requirements, technical aspects,
14 or any other part of the formation and promulgation of the request for proposals [except for in the](#)
15 [situations outlined in subsection \(f\) of this section.](#)

16 (c) Further, no person or entity who or that acts as an operator or vendor for the state may
17 participate in any request for proposal relating to any audit, examination, independent verification,
18 review, or evaluation of any of the person's or entity's work, financials or operations performed
19 for or on behalf of the state, or any official, officer, or agency.

20 ~~(d)~~ Persons or entities certified as "sole source" providers under § 37-2-21 shall be
21 exempt from the requirements of subsection (b) of this section.

22 ~~(e)~~ Any person or entity submitting a proposal in response to a request for proposal shall
23 make a written certification attesting under the penalty of perjury that the terms of subsection (b)
24 of this section have been complied with or that the person or entity is exempt under subsection
25 ~~(d)~~ of this section.

26 [\(f\) Requests for information formally issued by the division of purchases and emergency](#)
27 [procurements as defined in § 37-2-21 shall be exempt from subsection \(b\) of this section. Feasibility](#)
28 [studies and preliminary evaluations shall also be exempt from subsection \(b\) of this section if the](#)
29 [purchasing agent certifies in writing to the director of administration that a request for feasibility](#)
30 [studies or preliminary evaluations resulted in no responsive bids. However, the division of](#)
31 [purchases shall publicly disclose any final prior feasibility studies and/or evaluation reports](#)
32 [completed in a subsequent procurement regarding a project.](#)

33 SECTION 16. Section 37-2-9.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 37-2 entitled "State
34 Purchases" is hereby repealed.

1 ~~promoting, coordinating, documenting, and implementing efforts related to micro businesses.~~

2 ~~(5) "Registered" means those micro businesses that have provided their business name,~~
3 ~~address, owner contact information, number of employees, and annual gross sales to the department~~
4 ~~of administration.~~

5 ~~**37-14.2-4. Compilation and reporting of data on micro businesses.**~~

6 ~~(a) The department of administration shall compile and maintain data on the existence of~~
7 ~~registered micro businesses to facilitate the achievement of the purpose of this chapter. Within sixty~~
8 ~~(60) days of the effective date of this statute [July 20, 2016], the department of administration shall~~
9 ~~submit a report to the governor and general assembly that describes the methodology being used to~~
10 ~~compile such data and to report annual utilization of registered, micro businesses in state directed~~
11 ~~public construction programs and projects and in state purchases of goods and services. The report~~
12 ~~shall be made public contemporaneously with its submission to the governor and general assembly.~~

13 ~~(b) The department of administration shall maintain a micro business registration database~~
14 ~~that shall include the business name, address, owner contact information, number of employees,~~
15 ~~and annual gross sales. Such registration of micro businesses with the department of administration~~
16 ~~shall be on a voluntary basis, and does not supersede any mandated, business registration~~
17 ~~requirements with the secretary of state or other general offices, as well as with any city or town as~~
18 ~~applicable.~~

19 ~~(c) On or before January 1, 2017, and on or before the first day of January in all years~~
20 ~~thereafter, the department of administration shall submit a report to the governor and general~~
21 ~~assembly consisting of data concerning the registration of micro businesses in the state. The data~~
22 ~~shall include, but not be limited to: the number of registered micro businesses; the distribution of~~
23 ~~registered, micro businesses among the thirty nine (39) cities or towns in the state; the number of~~
24 ~~registered, micro businesses that are also Rhode Island certified minority business enterprises; and~~
25 ~~the number of registered, micro businesses that are also Rhode Island certified women business~~
26 ~~enterprises.~~

27 ~~(d) At the request of the director of the department of administration, the secretary of state,~~
28 ~~or all other general officers of the state, all agencies of the state and all cities and towns shall make~~
29 ~~reasonable modifications to their record keeping procedures to facilitate the compilation of data~~
30 ~~concerning the existence of micro businesses in Rhode Island.~~

31 SECTION 18. Section 41-5-23 of the General Laws in Chapter 41-5 entitled "Boxing and
32 Wrestling" is hereby repealed.

33 ~~**41-5-23. Annual report to general assembly.**~~

34 ~~The division of gaming and athletics licensing shall make an annual report to the general~~

~~1 assembly on or before the first Wednesday in February, together with any recommendations for
2 legislation, that it may deem desirable.~~

3 SECTION 19. Section 42-17.1-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-17.1 entitled
4 "Department of Environmental Management" is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 **42-17.1-2. Powers and duties.**

6 The director of environmental management shall have the following powers and duties:

7 (1) To supervise and control the protection, development, planning, and utilization of the
8 natural resources of the state, such resources, including, but not limited to: water, plants, trees, soil,
9 clay, sand, gravel, rocks and other minerals, air, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish,
10 shellfish, and other forms of aquatic, insect, and animal life;

11 (2) To exercise all functions, powers, and duties heretofore vested in the department of
12 agriculture and conservation, and in each of the divisions of the department, such as the promotion
13 of agriculture and animal husbandry in their several branches, including the inspection and
14 suppression of contagious diseases among animals; the regulation of the marketing of farm
15 products; the inspection of orchards and nurseries; the protection of trees and shrubs from injurious
16 insects and diseases; protection from forest fires; the inspection of apiaries and the suppression of
17 contagious diseases among bees; the prevention of the sale of adulterated or misbranded
18 agricultural seeds; promotion and encouragement of the work of farm bureaus, in cooperation with
19 the University of Rhode Island, farmers' institutes, and the various organizations established for
20 the purpose of developing an interest in agriculture; together with such other agencies and activities
21 as the governor and the general assembly may, from time to time, place under the control of the
22 department; and as heretofore vested by such of the following chapters and sections of the general
23 laws as are presently applicable to the department of environmental management and that were
24 previously applicable to the department of natural resources and the department of agriculture and
25 conservation or to any of its divisions: chapters 1 through 22, inclusive, as amended, in title 2
26 entitled "Agriculture and Forestry"; chapters 1 through 17, inclusive, as amended, in title 4 entitled
27 "Animals and Animal Husbandry"; chapters 1 through 19, inclusive, as amended, in title 20 entitled
28 "Fish and Wildlife"; chapters 1 through 32, inclusive, as amended, in title 21 entitled "Food and
29 Drugs"; chapter 7 of title 23, as amended, entitled "Mosquito Abatement"; and by any other general
30 or public law relating to the department of agriculture and conservation or to any of its divisions or
31 bureaus;

32 (3) To exercise all the functions, powers, and duties heretofore vested in the division of
33 parks and recreation of the department of public works by chapters 1, 2, and 5 in title 32 entitled
34 "Parks and Recreational Areas"; by chapter 22.5 of title 23, as amended, entitled "Drowning

1 Prevention and Lifesaving”; and by any other general or public law relating to the division of parks
2 and recreation;

3 (4) To exercise all the functions, powers, and duties heretofore vested in the division of
4 harbors and rivers of the department of public works, or in the department itself by such as were
5 previously applicable to the division or the department, of chapters 1 through 22 and sections
6 thereof, as amended, in title 46 entitled “Waters and Navigation”; and by any other general or public
7 law relating to the division of harbors and rivers;

8 (5) To exercise all the functions, powers, and duties heretofore vested in the department of
9 health by chapters 25, 18.9, and 19.5 of title 23, as amended, entitled “Health and Safety”; and by
10 chapters 12 and 16 of title 46, as amended, entitled “Waters and Navigation”; by chapters 3, 4, 5,
11 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 18, and 19 of title 4, as amended, entitled “Animals and Animal Husbandry”; and
12 those functions, powers, and duties specifically vested in the director of environmental
13 management by the provisions of § 21-2-22, as amended, entitled “Inspection of Animals and
14 Milk”; together with other powers and duties of the director of the department of health as are
15 incidental to, or necessary for, the performance of the functions transferred by this section;

16 (6) To cooperate with the Rhode Island commerce corporation in its planning and
17 promotional functions, particularly in regard to those resources relating to agriculture, fisheries,
18 and recreation;

19 (7) To cooperate with, advise, and guide conservation commissions of cities and towns
20 created under chapter 35 of title 45 entitled “Conservation Commissions”, as enacted by chapter
21 203 of the Public Laws, 1960;

22 (8) To assign or reassign, with the approval of the governor, any functions, duties, or
23 powers established by this chapter to any agency within the department, except as hereinafter
24 limited;

25 (9) To cooperate with the water resources board and to provide to the board facilities,
26 administrative support, staff services, and other services as the board shall reasonably require for
27 its operation and, in cooperation with the board and the statewide planning program, to formulate
28 and maintain a long-range guide plan and implementing program for development of major water-
29 sources transmission systems needed to furnish water to regional- and local-distribution systems;

30 (10) To cooperate with the solid waste management corporation and to provide to the
31 corporation such facilities, administrative support, staff services, and other services within the
32 department as the corporation shall reasonably require for its operation;

33 (11) To provide for the maintenance of waterways and boating facilities, consistent with
34 chapter 6.1 of title 46, by: (i) Establishing minimum standards for upland beneficial use and

1 disposal of dredged material; (ii) Promulgating and enforcing rules for water quality, ground water
2 protection, and fish and wildlife protection pursuant to § 42-17.1-24; (iii) Planning for the upland
3 beneficial use and/or disposal of dredged material in areas not under the jurisdiction of the council
4 pursuant to § 46-23-6(2); and (iv) Cooperating with the coastal resources management council in
5 the development and implementation of comprehensive programs for dredging as provided for in
6 §§ 46-23-6(1)(ii)(H) and 46-23-18.3; and (v) Monitoring dredge material management and disposal
7 sites in accordance with the protocols established pursuant to § 46-6.1-5(a)(3) and the
8 comprehensive program provided for in § 46-23-6(1)(ii)(H); no powers or duties granted herein
9 shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties granted to the coastal resources management
10 council under chapter 23 of title 46, as amended;

11 (12) To establish minimum standards, subject to the approval of the environmental
12 standards board, relating to the location, design, construction, and maintenance of all sewage-
13 disposal systems;

14 (13) To enforce, by such means as provided by law, the standards for the quality of air, and
15 water, and the design, construction, and operation of all sewage-disposal systems; any order or
16 notice issued by the director relating to the location, design, construction, or maintenance of a
17 sewage-disposal system shall be eligible for recordation under chapter 13 of title 34. The director
18 shall forward the order or notice to the city or town wherein the subject property is located and the
19 order or notice shall be recorded in the general index by the appropriate municipal official in the
20 land evidence records in the city or town wherein the subject property is located. Any subsequent
21 transferee of that property shall be responsible for complying with the requirements of the order or
22 notice. Upon satisfactory completion of the requirements of the order or notice, the director shall
23 provide written notice of the same, which notice shall be similarly eligible for recordation. The
24 original written notice shall be forwarded to the city or town wherein the subject property is located
25 and the notice of satisfactory completion shall be recorded in the general index by the appropriate
26 municipal official in the land evidence records in the city or town wherein the subject property is
27 located. A copy of the written notice shall be forwarded to the owner of the subject property within
28 five (5) days of a request for it, and, in any event, shall be forwarded to the owner of the subject
29 property within thirty (30) days after correction;

30 (14) To establish minimum standards for the establishment and maintenance of salutary
31 environmental conditions, including standards and methods for the assessment and the
32 consideration of the cumulative effects on the environment of regulatory actions and decisions,
33 which standards for consideration of cumulative effects shall provide for: (i) Evaluation of potential
34 cumulative effects that could adversely affect public health and/or impair ecological functioning;

1 (ii) Analysis of other matters relative to cumulative effects as the department may deem appropriate
2 in fulfilling its duties, functions, and powers; which standards and methods shall only be applicable
3 to ISDS systems in the town of Jamestown in areas that are dependent for water supply on private
4 and public wells, unless broader use is approved by the general assembly. The department shall
5 report to the general assembly not later than March 15, 2008, with regard to the development and
6 application of the standards and methods in Jamestown;

7 (15) To establish and enforce minimum standards for permissible types of septage,
8 industrial-waste disposal sites, and waste-oil disposal sites;

9 (16) To establish minimum standards, subject to the approval of the environmental
10 standards board, for permissible types of refuse disposal facilities; the design, construction,
11 operation, and maintenance of disposal facilities; and the location of various types of facilities;

12 (17) To exercise all functions, powers, and duties necessary for the administration of
13 chapter 19.1 of title 23 entitled "Rhode Island Hazardous Waste Management Act";

14 (18) To designate, in writing, any person in any department of the state government or any
15 official of a district, county, city, town, or other governmental unit, with that official's consent, to
16 enforce any rule, regulation, or order promulgated and adopted by the director under any provision
17 of law; provided, however, that enforcement of powers of the coastal resources management
18 council shall be assigned only to employees of the department of environmental management,
19 except by mutual agreement or as otherwise provided in chapter 23 of title 46;

20 (19) To issue and enforce the rules, regulations, and orders as may be necessary to carry
21 out the duties assigned to the director and the department by any provision of law; and to conduct
22 investigations and hearings and to issue, suspend, and revoke licenses as may be necessary to
23 enforce those rules, regulations, and orders. Any license suspended under the rules, regulations,
24 and/or orders shall be terminated and revoked if the conditions that led to the suspension are not
25 corrected to the satisfaction of the director within two (2) years; provided that written notice is
26 given by certified mail, return receipt requested, no less than sixty (60) days prior to the date of
27 termination.

28 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 42-35-9 to the contrary, no informal disposition of a
29 contested licensing matter shall occur where resolution substantially deviates from the original
30 application unless all interested parties shall be notified of the proposed resolution and provided
31 with opportunity to comment upon the resolution pursuant to applicable law and any rules and
32 regulations established by the director;

33 (20) To enter, examine, or survey, at any reasonable time, places as the director deems
34 necessary to carry out his or her responsibilities under any provision of law subject to the following

1 provisions:

2 (i) For criminal investigations, the director shall, pursuant to chapter 5 of title 12, seek a
3 search warrant from an official of a court authorized to issue warrants, unless a search without a
4 warrant is otherwise allowed or provided by law;

5 (ii)(A) All administrative inspections shall be conducted pursuant to administrative
6 guidelines promulgated by the department in accordance with chapter 35 of this title;

7 (B) A warrant shall not be required for administrative inspections if conducted under the
8 following circumstances, in accordance with the applicable constitutional standards:

9 (I) For closely regulated industries;

10 (II) In situations involving open fields or conditions that are in plain view;

11 (III) In emergency situations;

12 (IV) In situations presenting an imminent threat to the environment or public health, safety,
13 or welfare;

14 (V) If the owner, operator, or agent in charge of the facility, property, site, or location
15 consents; or

16 (VI) In other situations in which a warrant is not constitutionally required.

17 (C) Whenever it shall be constitutionally or otherwise required by law, or whenever the
18 director in his or her discretion deems it advisable, an administrative search warrant, or its
19 functional equivalent, may be obtained by the director from a neutral magistrate for the purpose of
20 conducting an administrative inspection. The warrant shall be issued in accordance with the
21 applicable constitutional standards for the issuance of administrative search warrants. The
22 administrative standard of probable cause, not the criminal standard of probable cause, shall apply
23 to applications for administrative search warrants;

24 (I) The need for, or reliance upon, an administrative warrant shall not be construed as
25 requiring the department to forfeit the element of surprise in its inspection efforts;

26 (II) An administrative warrant issued pursuant to this subsection must be executed and
27 returned within ten (10) days of its issuance date unless, upon a showing of need for additional
28 time, the court orders otherwise;

29 (III) An administrative warrant may authorize the review and copying of documents that
30 are relevant to the purpose of the inspection. If documents must be seized for the purpose of
31 copying, and the warrant authorizes the seizure, the person executing the warrant shall prepare an
32 inventory of the documents taken. The time, place, and manner regarding the making of the
33 inventory shall be set forth in the terms of the warrant itself, as dictated by the court. A copy of the
34 inventory shall be delivered to the person from whose possession or facility the documents were

1 taken. The seized documents shall be copied as soon as feasible under circumstances preserving
2 their authenticity, then returned to the person from whose possession or facility the documents were
3 taken;

4 (IV) An administrative warrant may authorize the taking of samples of air, water, or soil
5 or of materials generated, stored, or treated at the facility, property, site, or location. Upon request,
6 the department shall make split samples available to the person whose facility, property, site, or
7 location is being inspected;

8 (V) Service of an administrative warrant may be required only to the extent provided for
9 in the terms of the warrant itself, by the issuing court.

10 (D) *Penalties.* Any willful and unjustified refusal of right of entry and inspection to
11 department personnel pursuant to an administrative warrant shall constitute a contempt of court and
12 shall subject the refusing party to sanctions, which in the court's discretion may result in up to six
13 (6) months imprisonment and/or a monetary fine of up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per refusal;

14 (21) To give notice of an alleged violation of law to the person responsible therefor
15 whenever the director determines that there are reasonable grounds to believe that there is a
16 violation of any provision of law within his or her jurisdiction or of any rule or regulation adopted
17 pursuant to authority granted to him or her. Nothing in this chapter shall limit the authority of the
18 attorney general to prosecute offenders as required by law;

19 (i) The notice shall provide for a time within which the alleged violation shall be remedied,
20 and shall inform the person to whom it is directed that a written request for a hearing on the alleged
21 violation may be filed with the director within twenty (20) days after service of the notice. The
22 notice will be deemed properly served upon a person if a copy thereof is served the person
23 personally; or sent by registered or certified mail to the person's last known address; or if the person
24 is served with notice by any other method of service now or hereafter authorized in a civil action
25 under the laws of this state. If no written request for a hearing is made to the director within twenty
26 (20) days of the service of notice, the notice shall automatically become a compliance order;

27 (ii)(A) Whenever the director determines that there exists a violation of any law, rule, or
28 regulation within the director's jurisdiction that requires immediate action to protect the
29 environment, the director may, without prior notice of violation or hearing, issue an immediate-
30 compliance order stating the existence of the violation and the action he or she deems necessary.
31 The compliance order shall become effective immediately upon service or within such time as is
32 specified by the director in such order. No request for a hearing on an immediate-compliance order
33 may be made;

34 (B) Any immediate-compliance order issued under this section without notice and prior

1 hearing shall be effective for no longer than forty-five (45) days; provided, however, that for good
2 cause shown, the order may be extended one additional period not exceeding forty-five (45) days;

3 (iii) The director may, at his or her discretion and for the purposes of timely and effective
4 resolution and return to compliance, cite a person for alleged noncompliance through the issuance
5 of an expedited citation in accordance with § 42-17.6-3(c);

6 (iv) If a person upon whom a notice of violation has been served under the provisions of
7 this section or if a person aggrieved by any such notice of violation requests a hearing before the
8 director within twenty (20) days of the service of notice of violation, the director shall set a time
9 and place for the hearing, and shall give the person requesting that hearing at least five (5) days'
10 written notice thereof. After the hearing, the director may make findings of fact and shall sustain,
11 modify, or withdraw the notice of violation. If the director sustains or modifies the notice, that
12 decision shall be deemed a compliance order and shall be served upon the person responsible in
13 any manner provided for the service of the notice in this section;

14 (v) The compliance order shall state a time within which the violation shall be remedied,
15 and the original time specified in the notice of violation shall be extended to the time set in the
16 order;

17 (vi) Whenever a compliance order has become effective, whether automatically where no
18 hearing has been requested, where an immediate compliance order has been issued, or upon
19 decision following a hearing, the director may institute injunction proceedings in the superior court
20 of the state for enforcement of the compliance order and for appropriate temporary relief, and in
21 that proceeding, the correctness of a compliance order shall be presumed and the person attacking
22 the order shall bear the burden of proving error in the compliance order, except that the director
23 shall bear the burden of proving in the proceeding the correctness of an immediate compliance
24 order. The remedy provided for in this section shall be cumulative and not exclusive and shall be
25 in addition to remedies relating to the removal or abatement of nuisances or any other remedies
26 provided by law;

27 (vii) Any party aggrieved by a final judgment of the superior court may, within thirty (30)
28 days from the date of entry of such judgment, petition the supreme court for a writ of certiorari to
29 review any questions of law. The petition shall set forth the errors claimed. Upon the filing of the
30 petition with the clerk of the supreme court, the supreme court may, if it sees fit, issue its writ of
31 certiorari;

32 (22) To impose administrative penalties in accordance with the provisions of chapter 17.6
33 of this title and to direct that such penalties be paid into the account established by subsection (26);

34 (23) The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation of the provisions of this

1 chapter:

2 (i) **Director:** The term “director” shall mean the director of environmental management of
3 the state of Rhode Island or his or her duly authorized agent;

4 (ii) **Person:** The term “person” shall include any individual, group of individuals, firm,
5 corporation, association, partnership, or private or public entity, including a district, county, city,
6 town, or other governmental unit or agent thereof, and in the case of a corporation, any individual
7 having active and general supervision of the properties of the corporation;

8 (iii) **Service:**

9 (A) Service upon a corporation under this section shall be deemed to include service upon
10 both the corporation and upon the person having active and general supervision of the properties
11 of the corporation;

12 (B) For purposes of calculating the time within which a claim for a hearing is made
13 pursuant to subsection (21)(i), service shall be deemed to be the date of receipt of such notice or
14 three (3) days from the date of mailing of the notice, whichever shall first occur;

15 (24)(i) To conduct surveys of the present private and public camping and other recreational
16 areas available and to determine the need for and location of other camping and recreational areas
17 as may be deemed necessary and in the public interest of the state of Rhode Island and to report
18 back its findings on an annual basis to the general assembly on or before March 1 of every year;

19 (ii) Additionally, the director of the department of environmental management shall take
20 additional steps, including, but not limited to, matters related to funding as may be necessary to
21 establish such other additional recreational facilities and areas as are deemed to be in the public
22 interest;

23 (25)(i) To apply for and accept grants and bequests of funds, with the approval of the
24 director of administration, from other states, interstate agencies, and independent authorities, and
25 private firms, individuals, and foundations, for the purpose of carrying out his or her lawful
26 responsibilities. The funds shall be deposited with the general treasurer in a restricted receipt
27 account created in the natural resources program for funds made available for that program’s
28 purposes or in a restricted receipt account created in the environmental protection program for
29 funds made available for that program’s purposes. All expenditures from the accounts shall be
30 subject to appropriation by the general assembly, and shall be expended in accordance with the
31 provisions of the grant or bequest. In the event that a donation or bequest is unspecified, or in the
32 event that the trust account balance shows a surplus after the project as provided for in the grant or
33 bequest has been completed, the director may utilize the appropriated unspecified or appropriated
34 surplus funds for enhanced management of the department’s forest and outdoor public recreation

1 areas, or other projects or programs that promote the accessibility of recreational opportunities for
2 Rhode Island residents and visitors;

3 (ii) The director shall submit to the house fiscal advisor and the senate fiscal advisor, by
4 October 1 of each year, a detailed report on the amount of funds received and the uses made of such
5 funds;

6 (26) To establish fee schedules by regulation, with the approval of the governor, for the
7 processing of applications and the performing of related activities in connection with the
8 department's responsibilities pursuant to subsection (12); chapter 19.1 of title 23, as it relates to
9 inspections performed by the department to determine compliance with chapter 19.1 and rules and
10 regulations promulgated in accordance therewith; chapter 18.9 of title 23, as it relates to inspections
11 performed by the department to determine compliance with chapter 18.9 and the rules and
12 regulations promulgated in accordance therewith; chapters 19.5 and 23 of title 23; chapter 12 of
13 title 46, insofar as it relates to water-quality certifications and related reviews performed pursuant
14 to provisions of the federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.; the regulation and
15 administration of underground storage tanks and all other programs administered under chapter 12
16 of title 46 and § 2-1-18 et seq., and chapter 13.1 of title 46 and chapter 13.2 of title 46, insofar as
17 they relate to any reviews and related activities performed under the provisions of the Groundwater
18 Protection Act; chapter 24.9 of title 23 as it relates to the regulation and administration of mercury-
19 added products; and chapter 17.7 of this title, insofar as it relates to administrative appeals of all
20 enforcement, permitting and licensing matters to the administrative adjudication division for
21 environmental matters. Two (2) fee ranges shall be required: for "Appeal of enforcement actions,"
22 a range of fifty dollars (\$50) to one hundred dollars (\$100), and for "Appeal of application
23 decisions," a range of five hundred dollars (\$500) to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). The monies
24 from the administrative adjudication fees will be deposited as general revenues and the amounts
25 appropriated shall be used for the costs associated with operating the administrative adjudication
26 division.

27 There is hereby established an account within the general fund to be called the water and
28 air protection program. The account shall consist of sums appropriated for water and air pollution
29 control and waste-monitoring programs and the state controller is hereby authorized and directed
30 to draw his or her orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of the sums, or portions thereof,
31 as may be required, from time to time, upon receipt by him or her of properly authenticated
32 vouchers. All amounts collected under the authority of this subsection (26) for the sewage-disposal-
33 system program and freshwater wetlands program will be deposited as general revenues and the
34 amounts appropriated shall be used for the purposes of administering and operating the programs.

1 The director shall submit to the house fiscal advisor and the senate fiscal advisor by January 15 of
2 each year a detailed report on the amount of funds obtained from fines and fees and the uses made
3 of the funds;

4 (27) To establish and maintain a list or inventory of areas within the state worthy of special
5 designation as “scenic” to include, but not be limited to, certain state roads or highways, scenic
6 vistas, and scenic areas, and to make the list available to the public;

7 (28) To establish and maintain an inventory of all interests in land held by public and
8 private land trust and to exercise all powers vested herein to ensure the preservation of all identified
9 lands;

10 (i) The director may promulgate and enforce rules and regulations to provide for the orderly
11 and consistent protection, management, continuity of ownership and purpose, and centralized
12 records-keeping for lands, water, and open spaces owned in fee or controlled in full or in part
13 through other interests, rights, or devices such as conservation easements or restrictions, by private
14 and public land trusts in Rhode Island. The director may charge a reasonable fee for filing of each
15 document submitted by a land trust;

16 (ii) The term “public land trust” means any public instrumentality created by a Rhode
17 Island municipality for the purposes stated herein and financed by means of public funds collected
18 and appropriated by the municipality. The term “private land trust” means any group of five (5) or
19 more private citizens of Rhode Island who shall incorporate under the laws of Rhode Island as a
20 nonbusiness corporation for the purposes stated herein, or a national organization such as the nature
21 conservancy. The main purpose of either a public or a private land trust shall be the protection,
22 acquisition, or control of land, water, wildlife, wildlife habitat, plants, and/or other natural features,
23 areas, or open space for the purpose of managing or maintaining, or causing to be managed or
24 maintained by others, the land, water, and other natural amenities in any undeveloped and relatively
25 natural state in perpetuity. A private land trust must be granted exemption from federal income tax
26 under Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3) [26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3)] within two (2) years of its
27 incorporation in Rhode Island or it may not continue to function as a land trust in Rhode Island. A
28 private land trust may not be incorporated for the exclusive purpose of acquiring or accepting
29 property or rights in property from a single individual, family, corporation, business, partnership,
30 or other entity. Membership in any private land trust must be open to any individual subscribing to
31 the purposes of the land trust and agreeing to abide by its rules and regulations including payment
32 of reasonable dues;

33 (iii)(A) Private land trusts will, in their articles of association or their bylaws, as
34 appropriate, provide for the transfer to an organization, created for the same or similar purposes, of

1 the assets, lands and land rights, and interests held by the land trust in the event of termination or
2 dissolution of the land trust;

3 (B) All land trusts, public and private, will record in the public records, of the appropriate
4 towns and cities in Rhode Island, all deeds, conservation easements, or restrictions or other interests
5 and rights acquired in land and will also file copies of all such documents and current copies of
6 their articles of association, their bylaws, and their annual reports with the secretary of state and
7 with the director of the Rhode Island department of environmental management. The director is
8 hereby directed to establish and maintain permanently a system for keeping records of all private
9 and public land trust land holdings in Rhode Island;

10 (29) The director will contact in writing, not less often than once every two (2) years, each
11 public or private land trust to ascertain: that all lands held by the land trust are recorded with the
12 director; the current status and condition of each land holding; that any funds or other assets of the
13 land trust held as endowment for specific lands have been properly audited at least once within the
14 two-year (2) period; the name of the successor organization named in the public or private land
15 trust's bylaws or articles of association; and any other information the director deems essential to
16 the proper and continuous protection and management of land and interests or rights in land held
17 by the land trust. In the event that the director determines that a public or private land trust holding
18 land or interest in land appears to have become inactive, the director shall initiate proceedings to
19 effect the termination of the land trust and the transfer of its lands, assets, land rights, and land
20 interests to the successor organization named in the defaulting trust's bylaws or articles of
21 association or to another organization created for the same or similar purposes. Should such a
22 transfer not be possible, then the land trust, assets, and interest and rights in land will be held in
23 trust by the state of Rhode Island and managed by the director for the purposes stated at the time
24 of original acquisition by the trust. Any trust assets or interests other than land or rights in land
25 accruing to the state under such circumstances will be held and managed as a separate fund for the
26 benefit of the designated trust lands;

27 (30) Consistent with federal standards, issue and enforce such rules, regulations, and orders
28 as may be necessary to establish requirements for maintaining evidence of financial responsibility
29 for taking corrective action and compensating third parties for bodily injury and property damage
30 caused by sudden and non-sudden accidental releases arising from operating underground storage
31 tanks;

32 (31) To enforce, by such means as provided by law, the standards for the quality of air, and
33 water, and the location, design, construction, and operation of all underground storage facilities
34 used for storing petroleum products or hazardous materials; any order or notice issued by the

1 director relating to the location, design, construction, operation, or maintenance of an underground
2 storage facility used for storing petroleum products or hazardous materials shall be eligible for
3 recordation under chapter 13 of title 34. The director shall forward the order or notice to the city or
4 town wherein the subject facility is located, and the order or notice shall be recorded in the general
5 index by the appropriate municipal officer in the land-evidence records in the city or town wherein
6 the subject facility is located. Any subsequent transferee of that facility shall be responsible for
7 complying with the requirements of the order or notice. Upon satisfactory completion of the
8 requirements of the order or notice, the director shall provide written notice of the same, which
9 notice shall be eligible for recordation. The original, written notice shall be forwarded to the city
10 or town wherein the subject facility is located, and the notice of satisfactory completion shall be
11 recorded in the general index by the appropriate municipal official in the land-evidence records in
12 the city or town wherein the subject facility is located. A copy of the written notice shall be
13 forwarded to the owner of the subject facility within five (5) days of a request for it, and, in any
14 event, shall be forwarded to the owner of the subject facility within thirty (30) days after correction;

15 (32) To manage and disburse any and all funds collected pursuant to § 46-12.9-4, in
16 accordance with § 46-12.9-5, and other provisions of the Rhode Island Underground Storage Tank
17 Financial Responsibility Act, as amended;

18 (33) To support, facilitate, and assist the Rhode Island Natural History Survey, as
19 appropriate and/or as necessary, in order to accomplish the important public purposes of the survey
20 in gathering and maintaining data on Rhode Island natural history; making public presentations and
21 reports on natural history topics; ranking species and natural communities; monitoring rare species
22 and communities; consulting on open-space acquisitions and management plans; reviewing
23 proposed federal and state actions and regulations with regard to their potential impact on natural
24 communities; and seeking outside funding for wildlife management, land management, and
25 research;

26 (34) To promote the effective stewardship of lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams including,
27 but not limited to, collaboration with watershed organizations and associations of lakefront property
28 owners on planning and management actions that will prevent and mitigate water quality
29 degradation, reduce the loss of native habitat due to infestation of non-native species, abate
30 nuisance conditions that result from excessive growth of algal or non-native plant species as well
31 as promote healthy freshwater riverine ecosystems;

32 (35) In implementing the programs established pursuant to this chapter, to identify critical
33 areas for improving service to customers doing business with the department, and to develop and
34 implement strategies to improve performance and effectiveness in those areas. Key aspects of a

1 customer-service program shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following
2 components:

3 (i) Maintenance of an organizational unit within the department with the express purpose
4 of providing technical assistance to customers and helping customers comply with environmental
5 regulations and requirements;

6 (ii) Maintenance of an employee-training program to promote customer service across the
7 department;

8 (iii) Implementation of a continuous business process evaluation and improvement effort,
9 including process reviews to encourage development of quality proposals; ensure timely and
10 predictable reviews; and result in effective decisions and consistent follow up and implementation
11 throughout the department; and publish an annual report on such efforts;

12 (iv) Creation of a centralized location for the acceptance of permit applications and other
13 submissions to the department;

14 (v) Maintenance of a process to promote, organize, and facilitate meetings prior to the
15 submission of applications or other proposals in order to inform the applicant on options and
16 opportunities to minimize environmental impact; improve the potential for sustainable
17 environmental compliance; and support an effective and efficient review and decision-making
18 process on permit applications related to the proposed project;

19 (vi) Development of single permits under multiple authorities otherwise provided in state
20 law to support comprehensive and coordinated reviews of proposed projects. The director may
21 address and resolve conflicting or redundant process requirements in order to achieve an effective
22 and efficient review process that meets environmental objectives; and

23 (vii) Exploration of the use of performance-based regulations coupled with adequate
24 inspection and oversight, as an alternative to requiring applications or submissions for approval
25 prior to initiation of projects. ~~The department shall work with the office of regulatory reform to~~
26 ~~evaluate the potential for adopting alternative compliance approaches and provide a report to the~~
27 ~~governor and the general assembly by May 1, 2015;~~

28 (36) To formulate and promulgate regulations requiring any dock or pier longer than twenty
29 feet (20') and located on a freshwater lake or pond to be equipped with reflective materials, on all
30 sides facing the water, of an appropriate width and luminosity such that it can be seen by operators
31 of watercraft;

32 (37) To temporarily waive any control or prohibition respecting the use of a fuel or fuel
33 additive required or regulated by the department if the director finds that:

34 (i) Extreme or unusual fuel or fuel additive supply circumstances exist in the state or the

1 New England region that prevent the distribution of an adequate supply of the fuel or fuel additive
2 to consumers;

3 (ii) Extreme or unusual fuel or fuel additive supply circumstances are the result of a natural
4 disaster, an act of God, a pipeline or refinery equipment failure, or another event that could not
5 reasonably have been foreseen; and

6 (iii) It is in the public interest to grant the waiver.

7 Any temporary waiver shall be made in writing and shall be effective for twenty (20)
8 calendar days; provided, that the director may renew the temporary waiver, in writing, if it is
9 deemed necessary; and

10 (38)(i) To designate by rule certain waters of the state as shellfish or marine life project
11 management areas for the purpose of enhancing the cultivation and growth of marine species,
12 managing the harvest of marine species, facilitating the conduct by the department of experiments
13 in planting, cultivating, propagating, managing, and developing any and all kinds of marine life,
14 and any other related purpose.

15 (ii) Any such designation shall be by reference to fixed landmarks and include an explicit
16 description of the area to be designated.

17 (iii) Once so designated, the director may adopt rules and regulations addressing
18 restrictions on the quantities, types, or sizes of marine species which may be taken in any individual
19 management area, the times during which marine species may be taken, the manner or manners in
20 which marine species may be taken, the closure of such area to the taking of marine species, or any
21 other specific restrictions as may be deemed necessary. Such rules shall be exempt from the
22 requirements of §§ 42-35-2.7, 42-35-2.8, and 42-35-2.9.

23 (iv) The director, upon the designation of a management area, may place any stakes,
24 bounds, buoys, or markers with the words “Rhode Island department of environmental
25 management” plainly marked on them, as will approximate the management area. Failure to place
26 or maintain the stakes, bounds, buoys, or markers shall not be admissible in any judicial or
27 administrative proceeding.

28 (v) Nothing in this section shall prevent the director from implementing emergency rules
29 pursuant to § 42-35-2.10.

30 SECTION 20. This Article shall take effect upon passage.

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ARTICLE 4

RELATING TO DEBT MANAGEMENT ACT JOINT RESOLUTIONS

SECTION 1. This article shall serve as joint resolutions required pursuant to Rhode Island Laws 35-18-1, et seq.

SECTION 2. *University of Rhode Island – Utility Infrastructure Upgrade Phase III.*

WHEREAS, The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees and the University of Rhode Island (“University”) are proposing a project which involves the engineering and construction of upgrades and component replacements to five (5) municipal-level Kingston Campus utility systems;

WHEREAS, The University has engaged qualified engineering firms to examine its major infrastructure systems;

WHEREAS, Based on the condition and capabilities of these systems, the studies have concluded that replacement of components and reconfiguration is advisable for each of these extensive systems to ensure necessary steam, water, sanitary, and electrical support for the University’s campuses for the next twenty (20) to forty (40) years;

WHEREAS, The University has also developed the required Stormwater Management Plan for the Kingston Campus, which provides guidelines that are being incorporated into new building projects under development and are driving stand-alone stormwater infrastructure projects as well;

WHEREAS, The University has successfully completed many extremely important individual utility infrastructure projects in its continuing progression of work to upgrade and replace infrastructure systems, but now needs additional investments beyond annual capital resources;

WHEREAS, This project is the third phase in a phased implementation plan to upgrade and improve the reliability of infrastructure on the University’s campuses;

WHEREAS, The total project cost associated with the completion of this phase of the project and proposed financing method is nine million one hundred ninety-one thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$9,191,250), including cost of issuance, debt service payments would be supported by revenues derived from the University’s unrestricted general revenues, and total debt service on the bonds is not expected to exceed eight hundred five thousand dollars (\$805,000)

1 annually and sixteen million one hundred thousand dollars (\$16,100,000) in the aggregate based
2 on an average interest rate of six (6%) percent and a twenty (20) year term; now, therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That this General Assembly hereby approves financing in an amount not to
4 exceed nine million one hundred ninety-one thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$9,191,250) for
5 the Utility Infrastructure Upgrade Phase III project at the University; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That, this Joint Resolution shall take effect upon passage by this General
7 Assembly.

8 SECTION 3. Issuance of GARVEE Bonds.

9 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island department of transportation ("the department" or
10 "RIDOT") has completed a detailed review of available funding sources for transportation
11 reconstruction, maintenance, and repair and has determined that the funding available to carry out
12 an immediate program of bridge reconstruction and preventative maintenance (the "program") is
13 insufficient; and

14 WHEREAS, Congress has enacted the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA),
15 which increases the federal investment in repairing and reconstructing our nation's roads and
16 bridges; and

17 WHEREAS, The department has explored various options to finance the costs of a robust
18 infrastructure program and concluded that the federal-aid financing program authorized in federal
19 law by Section 311 of the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 and commonly
20 referred to as the Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle Program ("GARVEE program") represents
21 the best financing mechanism for the state of Rhode Island inasmuch as the GARVEE program
22 accelerates the funding available to ensure that the department may effectuate the expeditious
23 reconstruction of a critical component of Rhode Island's highway transportation infrastructure; and

24 WHEREAS, The GARVEE program allows a state to issue bonds ("GARVEE Bonds") or
25 other debt instruments backed by future appropriations for federal-aid transportation projects
26 whereby such amounts are used to cover an assortment of bond-related costs, including principal
27 and interest payments, issuance costs, insurance, and other costs incidental to financing; and

28 WHEREAS, Among other advantages, GARVEE Bonds may be issued as special revenue
29 bonds without a full faith and credit pledge by the state of Rhode Island; and

30 WHEREAS, This general assembly finds that the reconstruction, maintenance, and repair
31 of the transportation infrastructure of the state is critical for economic development and the general
32 welfare of both businesses and residents; and

33 WHEREAS, The current Washington Bridge (the "Current Washington Bridge"), which
34 carries approximately 90,000 vehicles per day and is one of the busiest sections of Interstate

1 highway in Rhode Island, serving the citizens, businesses and port facilities of the State of Rhode
2 Island both in the city of Providence and elsewhere, is in dire need of repair or reconstruction; and

3 WHEREAS, Based on studies and analysis of RIDOT, a newly constructed or
4 reconstructed Washington Bridge (the "New Washington Bridge"), as opposed to repair of the
5 Current Washington Bridge, is necessary for the continued economic success and viability of the
6 citizens, businesses, transportation and port facilities of the city of Providence and elsewhere and
7 otherwise in the best interests of the State of Rhode Island; and

8 WHEREAS, The general assembly has studied the issue of sustainable transportation
9 funding and has determined that no single approach, instrument or method is able to provide
10 sufficient revenue to construct the New Washington Bridge and to maintain the state transportation
11 system in a state of good repair; and

12 WHEREAS, The department has determined that GARVEE Bonds should be utilized to
13 fund the construction, replacement, or reconstruction of the New Washington Bridge in a timely
14 manner; and

15 WHEREAS, In connection with the issuance of GARVEE Bonds, the state of Rhode
16 Island, acting by and through RIDOT, may elect to receive in lieu of certain monies which would
17 otherwise have been received as reimbursement from FHWA for project costs for the New
18 Washington Bridge, debt service payments to repay indebtedness in the form of bonds or notes
19 issued to finance the costs of the construction and financing the New Washington Bridge; and

20 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island public corporation debt management act (chapter 18 of title
21 35) requires the general assembly to provide its consent to the issuance of certain obligations for
22 essential public facilities of the type referenced herein; and

23 WHEREAS, The design, construction, equipping and completion of these improvements
24 will be financed in whole or in part through revenue bonds issued pursuant to the GARVEE
25 program by the Rhode Island commerce corporation ("commerce corporation") or through revenue
26 bonds issued pursuant to the GARVEE program by another agency, instrumentality or quasi-public
27 corporation established by the state of Rhode Island now or hereafter and otherwise authorized and
28 empowered pursuant to law to issue bonds of the type referenced herein for the types of projects
29 described herein, with such issuance having an expected term of fifteen (15) years, and annual
30 revenues for the operation and maintenance of the New Washington Bridge to be included in the
31 annual operating budget of RIDOT; and

32 WHEREAS, The capital costs and anticipated bond issuance amounts associated with the
33 New Washington Bridge are estimated to be (a) a total additional capital cost of four hundred fifty-
34 five million two hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$455,220,000); (b) the total debt issuance of

1 GARVEE Bonds associated with payment of the capital costs, financing costs, costs of issuance or
2 insurance or credit enhancement would be an amount not to exceed three hundred thirty-four
3 million five hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$334,580,000); (c) total debt service payments on the
4 GARVEE Bonds over an expected fifteen (15) year period on the three hundred thirty-four million
5 five hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$334,580,000) issuance are projected to be five hundred
6 thirty eight million six hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$538,630,000) assuming an average coupon
7 rate of five percent (5%); and

8 WHEREAS, The state may utilize other sources of funds, including, but not limited to,
9 appropriations of State Fiscal Recovery Funds, Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds, Rhode Island
10 Highway Maintenance Account proceeds, and motor fuel tax revenue, as state matching funds to
11 the extent required to receive federal aid from the FHWA related to the New Washington Bridge
12 project; and

13 WHEREAS, If the state receives federal funds allocated for use on the New Washington
14 Bridge project that allow the state to complete the project and issue a lesser amount of debt than is
15 authorized hereunder, the state may issue such lesser amount as it determines is appropriate to
16 adequately finance and timely complete the project; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED AND ENACTED, That the New Washington Bridge is an essential public
18 facility and critical to ensure the economic viability of the citizens, businesses, transportation,
19 marine trades and port facilities of the state of Rhode Island and otherwise in the best interests of
20 the state of Rhode Island, and that this general assembly hereby approves the following financing:
21 the issuance of an amount not to exceed three hundred thirty-four million five hundred eighty
22 thousand dollars (\$334,580,000) in GARVEE Bonds, the repayment of which shall be derived from
23 and supported by FHWA funds due the state of Rhode Island, and total debt service on GARVEE
24 Bonds of five hundred thirty eight million six hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$538,630,000) as
25 specified above for bonds issued for the New Washington Bridge for the construction, design,
26 maintenance, completion, finance costs, including, but not limited to, costs of issuance, credit
27 enhancement, legal counsel and underwriter fees and expenses and other costs associated with the
28 New Washington Bridge; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the governor of the state of Rhode Island or the director of the
30 department of transportation or the director of the department of administration or the chief
31 executive officer or the chief operating officer of the commerce corporation each be and each
32 hereafter are, acting singly, authorized and empowered by the general assembly to enter into a
33 financing lease, guarantee, loan and trust agreement, indenture or other obligations or contracts or
34 agreements and to take such other actions as such official shall deem necessary or appropriate in

1 order to issue or facilitate the issuance of the GARVEE Bonds referenced herein and to provide the
2 commerce corporation or any subsidiary thereof or other instrumentality, agency or quasi-public
3 corporation otherwise authorized and empowered to issue the bonds specified in this Joint
4 Resolution and Act for the New Washington Bridge project with the necessary debt service
5 payments up to the amount specified above and the necessary security for such bonds consistent
6 with the provisions of this Joint Resolution and Act, including any action to pledge, assign or
7 otherwise transfer the right to receive all or any portion of future FHWA appropriations for federal-
8 aid transportation projects or other revenues permitted by the laws of the state of Rhode Island to
9 secure or provide for the payment of any such GARVEE Bonds; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That any issuance of bonds or notes authorized in the preceding paragraphs
11 may be effectuated in an aggregate principal amount representing the sum of the authorized
12 GARVEE Bonds; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That this Joint Resolution shall take effect upon passage.

14 SECTION 4. This article shall take effect upon passage.

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ARTICLE 5 AS AMENDED

RELATING TO CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

SECTION 1. Proposition to be submitted to the people. -- At the general election to be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November 2024, there shall be submitted to the people ("People") of the State of Rhode Island ("State"), for their approval or rejection, the following proposition:

"Shall the action of the general assembly, by an act passed at the January 2024 session, authorizing the issuance of bonds, refunding bonds, and temporary notes of the State of Rhode Island for the capital projects and in the amount with respect to each such project listed below be approved, and the issuance of bonds, refunding bonds, and temporary notes authorized in accordance with the provisions of said act?"

Project

(1) Higher Education Facilities \$160,500,000

Approval of this question will allow the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation bonds, refunding bonds, and/or temporary notes in an amount not to exceed one hundred sixty million, five hundred thousand dollars (\$160,500,000) for capital improvements to higher education facilities, to be allocated as follows:

(a) University of Rhode Island Biomedical Sciences Building \$87,500,000

Provides eighty-seven million, five hundred thousand dollars (\$87,500,000) for the construction of a biomedical sciences building to accelerate the education, research, and workforce development of life sciences for the state.

(b) Rhode Island College Cybersecurity Building \$73,000,000

Provides seventy-three million dollars (\$73,000,000) to fund the renovation of Whipple Hall and other improvements to support the Institute for Cybersecurity & Emerging Technologies.

(2) Housing and Community Opportunity \$120,000,000

Approval of this question will allow the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation bonds, refunding bonds, and/or temporary notes in an amount not to exceed one hundred and twenty million dollars (\$120,000,000) to increase ~~affordable and middle income~~ the availability of housing ~~production and infrastructure~~, support community revitalization, and promote home ownership to be allocated as follows:

1 (a) Affordable Housing ~~\$90,000,000~~ \$80,000,000

2 Provides ~~ninety~~ eighty million dollars (~~(\$90,000,000)~~ (\$80,000,000)) to increase and

3 preserve the availability of low and moderate income ~~affordable~~ housing ~~production~~. Of this

4 amount, up to ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) may be used to support a new program for public

5 housing development.

6 (b) Acquisition and Revitalization \$10,000,000

7 Provides ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) to support community revitalization through

8 property acquisition and the redevelopment of existing structures.

9 (c) Homeownership ~~\$10,000,000~~ \$20,000,000

10 Provides ~~ten~~ twenty million dollars (~~(\$10,000,000)~~ (\$20,000,000)) to increase production of

11 ~~affordable~~ low and moderate and middle- income housing intended for homeownership.

12 (d) Site Acquisition \$5,000,000

13 Provides five million dollars (\$5,000,000) to support the acquisition of properties for

14 redevelopment as affordable and supportive housing.

15 (e) Housing Related Infrastructure \$4,000,000

16 Provides four million dollars (\$4,000,000) to support pre-development and development

17 of site-related physical infrastructure necessary to produce additional affordable housing.

18 (f) Municipal Planning \$1,000,000

19 Provides one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to provide assistance to municipalities to plan

20 and implement changes that up-zone or otherwise enable additional housing development.

21 (3) Green Economy Bonds \$53,000,000

22 Approval of this question will allow the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation

23 bonds, refunding bonds, and/or temporary notes in an amount not to exceed fifty-three million

24 dollars (\$53,000,000) for environmental and recreational purposes, to be allocated as follows:

25 (a) Port of Davisville Infrastructure at Quonset \$15,000,000

26 Provides fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) for infrastructure projects that will support

27 the continued growth and modernization at the Port of Davisville. This investment will finance the

28 Port master plan. The work will include new port access roads, laydown area improvements, and

29 security upgrades to support the new Terminal Five Pier. These projects will upgrade World War

30 II-era infrastructure and position Davisville to accommodate offshore wind project cargo and

31 logistics staging while continuing to support the Port's existing businesses.

32 (b) Climate Resiliency \$2,000,000

33 Provides two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for up to seventy-five percent (75%) matching

34 grants to public and non-profit entities for restoring and/or improving resiliency of vulnerable

1 coastal habitats and restoring rivers and stream floodplains. These funds are expected to leverage
2 significant matching funds to support local programs to improve community resiliency and public
3 safety in the face of increased flooding, major storm events, and environmental degradation.

4 (c) Brownfields Remediation and Economic Development \$5,000,000

5 Provides five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for up to eighty percent (80%) matching grants
6 to public, private, and/or non-profit entities for brownfield remediation projects.

7 (d) Local Recreation Projects \$5,000,000

8 Provides five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for up to eighty percent (80%) matching grants
9 for municipalities to acquire, develop, or rehabilitate local recreational facilities to meet the
10 growing needs for active outdoor recreational facilities.

11 (e) Municipal Resiliency \$10,000,000

12 Provides ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) to provide financial assistance to municipalities
13 for restoring and/or improving resiliency of infrastructure, vulnerable coastal habitats, and restoring
14 rivers and stream floodplains. These funds will be prioritized to leverage significant matching funds
15 to support local programs to improve community resiliency and public safety in the face of
16 increased flooding, major storm events, and environmental degradation.

17 (f) Newport Cliff Walk \$3,000,000

18 Provides three million dollars (\$3,000,000) for restoring and improving the resiliency of
19 the historic statewide tourism infrastructure of the public access walkway known as the Newport
20 Cliff Walk located in Newport, Rhode Island.

21 (g) Agriculture Land Preservation Commission \$5,000,000

22 Provides five million dollars (\$5,000,000) to the agricultural land preservation commission
23 for farmland protection.

24 (h) Open Space Program \$3,000,000

25 Provides three million dollars (\$3,000,000) to the department of environmental
26 management to bring state open space program amounts back to historic levels.

27 (i) Forests and Habitat Management \$5,000,000

28 Provides five million dollars (\$5,000,000) to the department of environmental
29 management, division of agriculture and forest environment, to fund forests and habitat
30 management on state property.

31 (4) Cultural Economy Initiatives Bond \$10,000,000

32 Approval of this question will allow the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation
33 bonds, refunding bonds, and/or temporary notes in an amount not to exceed ten million dollars
34 (\$10,000,000) for purposes of funding for 1:1 matching grants to continue the Cultural Arts and

1 the Economy Grant Program administered by the Rhode Island state council on the arts (RISCA)
2 for capital improvement, preservation and renovation projects for public and nonprofit artistic,
3 performance centers, museums and cultural art centers located throughout the State of Rhode
4 Island, to be allocated as follows:

5 (a) Tomaquag Museum \$2,000,000

6 Provides two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to the Tomaquag Museum in Kingston on the
7 URI campus.

8 (b) Newport Contemporary Ballet \$2,000,000

9 Provides two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to support the Newport Contemporary Ballet to
10 build Newport's Center for Arts, Dance & Education.

11 (c) Trinity Repertory Company \$2,000,000

12 Provides two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to the Trinity Repertory Company to expand and
13 upgrade the Lederer Theater Center.

14 (d) Rhode Island state council on the arts \$4,000,000

15 Provides four million dollars (\$4,000,000) in funding for 1:1 matching grants to continue
16 the Cultural Arts and the Economy Grant Program administered by the Rhode Island State Council
17 on the Arts (RISCA) for capital improvement, preservation and renovation projects for public and
18 nonprofit artistic, performance centers, museums and cultural art centers located throughout the
19 State of Rhode Island.

20 SECTION 2. Ballot labels and applicability of general election laws. -- The Secretary
21 of State shall prepare and deliver to the State Board of Elections ballot labels for each of the projects
22 provided for in Section 1 hereof with the designations "approve" or "reject" provided next to the
23 description of each such project to enable voters to approve or reject each such proposition. The
24 general election laws, so far as consistent herewith, shall apply to this proposition.

25 SECTION 3. Approval of projects by the people. -- If a majority of the People voting on
26 the proposition in Section 1 hereof shall vote to approve any project stated therein, said project
27 shall be deemed to be approved by the People. The authority to issue bonds, refunding bonds and/or
28 temporary notes of the State shall be limited to the aggregate amount for all such projects as set
29 forth in the proposition, which has been approved by the People.

30 SECTION 4. Bonds for the capital development program. -- The General Treasurer is
31 hereby authorized and empowered, with the approval of the Governor, and in accordance with the
32 provisions of this Act to issue capital development bonds in serial form, in the name of and on
33 behalf of the State of Rhode Island, in amounts as may be specified by the Governor in an aggregate
34 principal amount not to exceed the total amount for all projects approved by the People and

1 designated as "capital development loan of 2024 bonds." Provided, however, that the aggregate
2 principal amount of such capital development bonds and of any temporary notes outstanding at any
3 one time issued in anticipation thereof pursuant to Section 7 hereof shall not exceed the total amount
4 for all such projects approved by the People. All provisions in this Act relating to "bonds" shall
5 also be deemed to apply to "refunding bonds."

6 Capital development bonds issued under this Act shall be in denominations of one thousand
7 dollars (\$1,000) each, or multiples thereof, and shall be payable in any coin or currency of the
8 United States which at the time of payment shall be legal tender for public and private debts. These
9 capital development bonds shall bear such date or dates, mature at specified time or times, but not
10 mature beyond the end of the twentieth (20th) State fiscal year following the fiscal year in which
11 they are issued; bear interest payable semi-annually at a specified rate or different or varying rates:
12 be payable at designated time or times at specified place or places; be subject to express terms of
13 redemption or recall, with or without premium; be in a form, with or without interest coupons
14 attached; carry such registration, conversion, reconversion, transfer, debt retirement, acceleration
15 and other provisions as may be fixed by the General Treasurer, with the approval by the Governor,
16 upon each issue of such capital development bonds at the time of each issue. Whenever the
17 Governor shall approve the issuance of such capital development bonds, the Governor's approval
18 shall be certified to the Secretary of State; the bonds shall be signed by the General Treasurer and
19 countersigned by Secretary of State and shall bear the seal of the State. The signature approval of
20 the Governor shall be endorsed on each bond.

21 SECTION 5. Refunding bonds for the 2024 capital development program. -- The
22 General Treasurer is hereby authorized and empowered, with the approval of the Governor, and in
23 accordance with the provisions of this Act, to issue bonds to refund the 2024 capital development
24 program bonds, in the name of and on behalf of the state, in amounts as may be specified by the
25 Governor in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed the total amount approved by the People,
26 to be designated as "capital development program loan of 2024 refunding bonds" (hereinafter
27 "Refunding Bonds").

28 The General Treasurer with the approval of the Governor shall fix the terms and form of
29 any Refunding Bonds issued under this Act in the same manner as the capital development bonds
30 issued under this Act, except that the Refunding Bonds may not mature more than twenty (20) years
31 from the date of original issue of the capital development bonds being refunded.

32 The proceeds of the Refunding Bonds, exclusive of any premium and accrual interest and
33 net the underwriters' cost, and cost of bond issuance, shall, upon their receipt, be paid by the
34 General Treasurer immediately to the paying agent for the capital development bonds which are to

1 be called and prepaid. The paying agent shall hold the Refunding Bond proceeds in trust until they
2 are applied to prepay the capital development bonds. While such proceeds are held in trust, the
3 proceeds may be invested for the benefit of the State in obligations of the United States of America
4 or the State of Rhode Island.

5 If the General Treasurer shall deposit with the paying agent for the capital development
6 bonds the proceeds of the Refunding Bonds, or proceeds from other sources, amounts that, when
7 invested in obligations of the United States or the State of Rhode Island, are sufficient to pay all
8 principal, interest, and premium, if any, on the capital development bonds until these bonds are
9 called for prepayment, then such capital development bonds shall not be considered debts of the
10 State of Rhode Island for any purpose starting from the date of deposit of such moneys with the
11 paying agent. The Refunding Bonds shall continue to be a debt of the State until paid.

12 The term "bond" shall include "note," and the term "refunding bonds" shall include
13 "refunding notes" when used in this Act.

14 SECTION 6. Proceeds of the capital development program. -- The General Treasurer is
15 directed to deposit the proceeds from the sale of capital development bonds issued under this Act,
16 exclusive of premiums and accrued interest and net the underwriters' cost, and cost of bond
17 issuance, in one or more of the depositories in which the funds of the State may be lawfully kept in
18 special accounts (hereinafter cumulatively referred to as "such capital development bond fund")
19 appropriately designated for each of the projects set forth in Section 1 hereof which shall have been
20 approved by the People to be used for the purpose of paying the cost of all such projects so
21 approved.

22 All monies in the capital development bond fund shall be expended for the purposes
23 specified in the proposition provided for in Section 1 hereof under the direction and supervision of
24 the Director of Administration (hereinafter referred to as "Director"). The Director or his or her
25 designee shall be vested with all power and authority necessary or incidental to the purposes of this
26 Act, including but not limited to, the following authority: (a) to acquire land or other real property
27 or any interest, estate or right therein as may be necessary or advantageous to accomplish the
28 purposes of this Act; (b) to direct payment for the preparation of any reports, plans and
29 specifications, and relocation expenses and other costs such as for furnishings, equipment
30 designing, inspecting and engineering, required in connection with the implementation of any
31 projects set forth in Section 1 hereof; (c) to direct payment for the costs of construction,
32 rehabilitation, enlargement, provision of service utilities, and razing of facilities, and other
33 improvements to land in connection with the implementation of any projects set forth in Section 1
34 hereof; and (d) to direct payment for the cost of equipment, supplies, devices, materials and labor

1 for repair, renovation or conversion of systems and structures as necessary for the 2024 capital
2 development program bonds or notes hereunder from the proceeds thereof. No funds shall be
3 expended in excess of the amount of the capital development bond fund designated for each project
4 authorized in Section 1 hereof. With respect to the bonds and temporary notes described in Section
5 1, the proceeds shall be used for the following purposes:

6 Question 1, relating to bonds in the amount of one hundred sixty million, five hundred
7 thousand dollars (\$160,500,000) to provide funding for higher education facilities to be allocated
8 as follows:

9 (a) University of Rhode Island Biomedical Sciences Building \$87,500,000

10 Provides eighty-seven million, five hundred thousand dollars (\$87,500,000) for the
11 construction of a biomedical sciences building to accelerate the education, research, and workforce
12 development of life sciences for the state.

13 (b) Rhode Island College Cybersecurity Building \$73,000,000

14 Provides seventy-three million dollars (\$73,000,000) to fund the renovation of Whipple
15 Hall and other improvements to support the Institute for Cybersecurity & Emerging Technologies.

16 Question 2, relating to bonds in the amount of one hundred twenty million dollars
17 (\$120,000,000) to increase the availability of housing ~~affordable and middle income housing~~
18 ~~production and infrastructure~~, support community revitalization, and promote home ownership to
19 be allocated as follows:

20 (a) Affordable Housing ~~\$90,000,000~~ \$80,000,000

21 Provides ~~ninety~~ eighty million dollars ~~(\$90,000,000)~~ (\$80,000,000) to increase and
22 preserve the availability of low and moderate income housing ~~affordable housing production~~. Of
23 this amount, up to ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) may be used to support a new program for
24 public housing development.

25 (b) Acquisition and Revitalization \$10,000,000

26 Provides ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) to support community revitalization through
27 property acquisition and the redevelopment of existing structures.

28 (c) Homeownership ~~\$10,000,000~~ \$20,000,000

29 Provides ~~ten~~ twenty million dollars ~~(\$10,000,000)~~ (\$20,000,000) ~~to increase production of~~
30 ~~affordable~~ to increase production of low and moderate and middle- income housing intended for
31 homeownership.

32 (d) Site Acquisition \$5,000,000

33 Provides five million dollars (\$5,000,000) to support the acquisition of properties for
34 redevelopment as affordable and supportive housing.

1 (e) Housing Related Infrastructure \$4,000,000
2 Provides four million dollars (\$4,000,000) to support pre-development and development
3 of site- related physical infrastructure necessary to produce additional affordable housing.

4 (f) Municipal Planning \$1,000,000
5 Provides one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to provide assistance to municipalities to plan
6 and implement changes that up-zone or otherwise enable additional housing development.

7 Question 3, relating to bonds in the amount of fifty-three million dollars (\$53,000,000) for
8 environmental and recreational purposes, to be allocated as follows:

9 (a) Port of Davisville Infrastructure at Quonset \$15,000,000
10 Provides fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) for infrastructure projects that will support
11 the continued growth and modernization at the Port of Davisville. This investment will finance the
12 Port master plan. The work will include new port access roads, laydown area improvements, and
13 security upgrades to support the new Terminal Five Pier. These projects will upgrade World War
14 II-era infrastructure and position Davisville to accommodate offshore wind project cargo and
15 logistics staging while continuing to support the Port's existing businesses.

16 (b) Climate Resiliency \$2,000,000
17 Provides two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for up to seventy-five percent (75%) matching
18 grants to public and non-profit entities for restoring and/or improving resiliency of vulnerable
19 coastal habitats and restoring rivers and stream floodplains. These funds are expected to leverage
20 significant matching funds to support local programs to improve community resiliency and public
21 safety in the face of increased flooding, major storm events, and environmental degradation.

22 (c) Brownfields Remediation and Economic Development \$5,000,000
23 Provides five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for up to eighty percent (80%) matching grants
24 to public, private, and/or non-profit entities for brownfield remediation projects.

25 (d) Local Recreation Projects \$5,000,000
26 Provides five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for up to eighty percent (80%) matching grants
27 for municipalities to acquire, develop, or rehabilitate local recreational facilities to meet the
28 growing needs for active outdoor recreational facilities.

29 (e) Municipal Resiliency \$10,000,000
30 Provides ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) to provide financial assistance to municipalities
31 for restoring and/or improving resiliency of infrastructure, vulnerable coastal habitats, and restoring
32 rivers and stream floodplains. These funds will be prioritized to leverage significant matching funds
33 to support local programs to improve community resiliency and public safety in the face of
34 increased flooding, major storm events, and environmental degradation.

1 (f) Newport Cliff Walk \$3,000,000
2 Provides three million dollars (\$3,000,000) for restoring and improving the resiliency of
3 the historic statewide tourism infrastructure of the public access walkway known as the Newport
4 Cliff Walk located in Newport, Rhode Island.

5 (g) Agriculture Land Preservation Commission \$5,000,000
6 Provides five million dollars (\$5,000,000) to the agricultural land preservation commission
7 for farmland protection.

8 (h) Open Space Program \$3,000,000
9 Provides three million dollars (\$3,000,000) to the department of environmental
10 management to bring state open space program amounts back to historic levels.

11 (i) Forests and Habitat Management \$5,000,000
12 Provides five million dollars (\$5,000,000) to the department of environmental
13 management, division of agriculture and forest environment, to fund forests and habitat
14 management on state property.

15 Question 4, relating to bonds in the amount of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) to fund the
16 Cultural Arts and the Economy Grant Program and the State Preservation Grants Program, to be
17 allocated as follows:

18 (1) Tomaquag Museum \$2,000,000
19 Provides two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to the Tomaquag Museum in Kingston on the
20 URI campus.

21 (2) Newport Contemporary Ballet \$2,000,000
22 Provides two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to support the Newport Contemporary Ballet to
23 build Newport's Center for Arts, Dance & Education.

24 (3) Trinity Repertory Company \$2,000,000
25 Provides two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to the Trinity Repertory Company to expand and
26 upgrade the Lederer Theater Center.

27 (4) Rhode Island State Council on the Arts \$4,000,000
28 Provides four million dollars (\$4,000,000) in funding for 1:1 matching grants to continue
29 the Cultural Arts and the Economy Grant Program administered by the Rhode Island state council
30 on the arts (RISCA) for capital improvement, preservation and renovation projects for public and
31 nonprofit artistic, performance centers, museums and cultural art centers located throughout the
32 State of Rhode Island.

33 SECTION 7. Sale of bonds and notes. -- Any bonds or notes issued under the authority
34 of this Act shall be sold at not less than the principal amount thereof, in such mode and on such

1 terms and conditions as the General Treasurer, with the approval of the Governor, shall deem to be
2 in the best interests of the State.

3 Any premiums and accrued interest, net of the cost of bond issuance and underwriter's
4 discount, which may be received on the sale of the capital development bonds or notes shall become
5 part of the Rhode Island Capital Plan Fund of the State, unless directed by federal law or regulation
6 to be used for some other purpose.

7 In the event that the amount received from the sale of the capital development bonds or
8 notes exceeds the amount necessary for the purposes stated in Section 6 hereof, the surplus may be
9 used to the extent possible to retire the bonds as the same may become due, to redeem them in
10 accordance with the terms thereof or otherwise to purchase them as the General Treasurer, with the
11 approval of the Governor, shall deem to be in the best interests of the state.

12 Any bonds or notes issued under the provisions of this Act and coupons on any capital
13 development bonds, if properly executed by the manual or electronic signatures of officers of the
14 State in office on the date of execution, shall be valid and binding according to their tenor,
15 notwithstanding that before the delivery thereof and payment therefor, any or all such officers shall
16 for any reason have ceased to hold office.

17 SECTION 8. Bonds and notes to be tax exempt and general obligations of the State. -
18 - All bonds and notes issued under the authority of this Act shall be exempt from taxation in the
19 State and shall be general obligations of the State, and the full faith and credit of the State is hereby
20 pledged for the due payment of the principal and interest on each of such bonds and notes as the
21 same shall become due.

22 SECTION 9. Investment of moneys in fund. -- All moneys in the capital development
23 fund not immediately required for payment pursuant to the provisions of this act may be invested
24 by the investment commission, as established by Chapter 10 of Title 35, entitled "State Investment
25 Commission," pursuant to the provisions of such chapter; provided, however, that the securities in
26 which the capital development fund is invested shall remain a part of the capital development fund
27 until exchanged for other securities; and provided further, that the income from investments of the
28 capital development fund shall become a part of the general fund of the State and shall be applied
29 to the payment of debt service charges of the State, unless directed by federal law or regulation to
30 be used for some other purpose, or to the extent necessary, to rebate to the United States treasury
31 any income from investments (including gains from the disposition of investments) of proceeds of
32 bonds or notes to the extent deemed necessary to exempt (in whole or in part) the interest paid on
33 such bonds or notes from federal income taxation.

34 SECTION 10. Appropriation. -- To the extent the debt service on these bonds is not

1 otherwise provided, a sum sufficient to pay the interest and principal due each year on bonds and
2 notes hereunder is hereby annually appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise
3 appropriated.

4 SECTION 11. Advances from general fund. -- The General Treasurer is authorized, with
5 the approval of the Director and the Governor, in anticipation of the issue of notes or bonds under
6 the authority of this Act, to advance to the capital development bond fund for the purposes specified
7 in Section 6 hereof, any funds of the State not specifically held for any particular purpose; provided,
8 however, that all advances made to the capital development bond fund shall be returned to the
9 general fund from the capital development bond fund forthwith upon the receipt by the capital
10 development fund of proceeds resulting from the issue of notes or bonds to the extent of such
11 advances.

12 SECTION 12. Federal assistance and private funds. -- In carrying out this act, the
13 Director, or his or her designee, is authorized on behalf of the State, with the approval of the
14 Governor, to apply for and accept any federal assistance which may become available for the
15 purpose of this Act, whether in the form of loan or grant or otherwise, to accept the provision of
16 any federal legislation therefor, to enter into, act and carry out contracts in connection therewith,
17 to act as agent for the federal government in connection therewith, or to designate a subordinate so
18 to act. Where federal assistance is made available, the project shall be carried out in accordance
19 with applicable federal law, the rules and regulations thereunder and the contract or contracts
20 providing for federal assistance, notwithstanding any contrary provisions of State law. Subject to
21 the foregoing, any federal funds received for the purposes of this Act shall be deposited in the
22 capital development bond fund and expended as a part thereof. The Director or his or her designee
23 may also utilize any private funds that may be made available for the purposes of this Act.

24 SECTION 13. Effective Date. -- Sections 1, 2, 3, 11, 12 and this Section 13 of this article
25 shall take effect upon passage. The remaining sections of this article shall take effect when and if
26 the State Board of Elections shall certify to the Secretary of State that a majority of the qualified
27 electors voting on the proposition contained in Section 1 hereof have indicated their approval of all
28 or any projects thereunder.

ARTICLE 6 AS AMENDED

RELATING TO TAXES AND FEES

SECTION 1. Chapter 3-6 of the General Laws entitled "Manufacturing and Wholesale Licenses" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3-6-18. License fee relief.

If the holder of a manufacturer's license obtains a rectifier's license or another type of manufacturer's license for further operations at the same premises, the department will waive the license fee for the additional license.

SECTION 2. Section 5-20.5-11 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-20.5 entitled "Real Estate Brokers and Salespersons" is hereby amended to read as follows:

5-20.5-11. Fees and license renewals.

(a) The following fees shall be charged by the director:

(1) For each application, a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00);

(2) For each examination, a fee, the cost of which is limited to the charge as designated by the appropriate testing service's contract with the department of business regulation;

(3) For each original broker's license issued, a fee of eighty-five dollars (\$85.00) per annum for the term of the license and for each annual renewal of the license, a fee of eighty-five dollars (\$85.00) per annum for the term of renewal. The total fees for the term of initial licensure and of renewal must be paid at the time of application for the license;

(4) For each original salesperson's license issued, a fee of sixty-five dollars (\$65.00) per annum for the term of the license and for each renewal of the license, a fee of sixty-five dollars (\$65.00) per annum for the term of the license. The total fees for the term of initial licensure and of renewal must be paid at the time of application for the license;

~~(5) For each change from one broker to another broker by a salesperson, or a broker, a fee of twenty five dollars (\$25.00), to be paid by the salesperson or the broker;~~

(6) For each broker's license reinstated after its expiration date, a late fee of one hundred dollars (\$100), in addition to the required renewal fee;

(7) For each salesperson's license reinstated after its expiration date, a late fee of one hundred dollars (\$100) in addition to the required renewal fee.

(b) Every licensed real estate broker and salesperson who desires to renew a license for the

1 succeeding year term shall apply for the renewal of the license upon a form furnished by the director
2 and containing information that is required by the director. Any renewal of a license is subject to
3 the same provisions covering issuance, suspension, and revocation of any license originally issued.
4 At no time shall any license be renewed without examination if the license has expired beyond a
5 period of one year.

6 SECTION 3. Sections 11-9-13.4, 11-9-13.11, 11-9-13.13 and 11-9-13.20 of the General
7 Laws in Chapter 11-9 entitled "Children" are hereby amended to read as follows:

8 **11-9-13.4. Definitions.**

9 ~~As used in~~ For the purposes of this chapter:

10 (1) "Bidi cigarette" means any product that (i) Contains tobacco that is wrapped in
11 temburni or tender leaf, or that is wrapped in any other material identified by rules of the department
12 of health that is similar in appearance or characteristics to the temburni or tender leaf, and (ii) Does
13 not contain a smoke filtering device.

14 (2) "Court" means any appropriate district court of the state of Rhode Island.

15 (3) "Dealer" is synonymous with the term "retail tobacco products dealer."

16 (4) "Department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals" means
17 the state of Rhode Island behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals
18 department, its employees, agents, or assigns.

19 (5) "Department of taxation" means the state of Rhode Island taxation division, its
20 employees, agents, or assigns.

21 (6) "Electronic nicotine-delivery system" means an electronic device that may be used to
22 simulate smoking in the delivery of nicotine or other substance to a person inhaling from the device,
23 and includes, but is not limited to, an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo,
24 electronic little cigars, electronic pipe, ~~or~~ electronic hookah, ~~"heat not burn products,"~~ e-liquids, e-
25 liquid products, or any related device and any cartridge or other component of such device.

26 (7) "Electronic nicotine-delivery system product" means any combination of electronic
27 nicotine-delivery system and/or e-liquid and/or any derivative thereof, and/or any e-liquid
28 container. Electronic nicotine-delivery system products shall not include hemp-derived consumable
29 cannabidiol (CBD) products as defined in § 2-26-3.

30 (8) "E-liquid" and "e-liquid products" means any liquid or substance placed in or sold for
31 use in an electronic nicotine-delivery system that generally utilizes a heating element that
32 aerosolizes, vaporizes, or combusts a liquid or other substance containing nicotine or nicotine
33 derivative:

34 (i) Whether the liquid or substance contains nicotine or a nicotine derivative; or

1 (ii) Whether sold separately or sold in combination with a personal vaporizer, electronic
2 nicotine-delivery system, or an electronic inhaler.

3 (9) “License” is synonymous with the term “retail tobacco products dealer license” or
4 “electronic nicotine-delivery system license” or any license issued under chapter 20 of title 44 ~~or~~
5 ~~chapter 1 of title 23.~~

6 (10) “License holder” is synonymous with the term “retail tobacco products dealer” or
7 “electronic nicotine-delivery system license” or any licenses issued under chapter 20 of title 44 ~~or~~
8 ~~chapter 1 of title 23.~~

9 (11) “Little cigars” means and includes any roll, made wholly or in part of tobacco,
10 irrespective of size or shape, and irrespective of whether the tobacco is flavored, adulterated, or
11 mixed with any other ingredient, where such roll has a wrapper or cover made of tobacco wrapped
12 in leaf tobacco or any substance containing tobacco paper or any other material and where such roll
13 has an integrated filter, except where such wrapper is wholly or in greater part made of tobacco and
14 where such roll has an integrated filter and weighs over four (4) pounds per thousand (1,000).

15 (12) “Person” means any individual person, firm, fiduciary, partnership, trust, association,
16 or corporation licensed as a retail dealer to sell tobacco products within the state.

17 (13) “Retail tobacco products dealer” means the holder of a license to sell tobacco products
18 at retail and shall include holders of all other licenses issued under chapter 20 of title 44 ~~or chapter~~
19 ~~1 of title 23.~~

20 (14) “Retail tobacco products dealer license” means a license to sell tobacco products
21 and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products as defined in § 44-20-1(7) at retail as issued by
22 the department of taxation.

23 (15) “Spitting tobacco” also means snuff, powdered tobacco, chewing tobacco, dipping
24 tobacco, pouch tobacco, or smokeless tobacco.

25 (16) “Tobacco product(s)” means any product(s) containing, made of, or derived from
26 tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption or is likely to be consumed, whether
27 inhaled, absorbed, or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited to, a cigarette, a little
28 cigar as defined in § 44-20.2-1, and any and all products as defined in § 44-20-1, electronic nicotine-
29 delivery system products, or any added substance that may be aerosolized, vaporized, or otherwise
30 delivered by such an electronic nicotine-delivery system device, whether or not that substance
31 contains nicotine.

32 (i) “Tobacco product(s)” does not include drugs, devices, or combination products intended
33 to treat tobacco or nicotine dependence that are authorized by the United States Food and Drug
34 Administration, as those terms are defined in the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Nor does

1 it include such authorized drugs, devices, or combination products with such treatment purpose by
2 individuals under age twenty-one (21) if prescribed by a licensed prescriber such as a physician,
3 nurse practitioner, or physician assistant.

4 (17) “Underage individual” or “underage individuals” means any individual under the age
5 of twenty-one (21).

6 **11-9-13.11. Prohibition on the sale or distribution of tobacco products, including**
7 **electronic nicotine-delivery system products, through the mail — Conveyance of tobacco**
8 **products, including electronic nicotine-delivery system products, through the mail to**
9 **individuals under twenty-one (21) — Proof of age of purchaser required — General rule.**

10 (a) The distribution, or sale or conveyance of tobacco products, including electronic
11 nicotine-delivery system products, to individuals under the age of twenty-one (21) via the United
12 States Postal Service, or by any other public or private postal or package delivery service, shall be
13 prohibited.

14 (b) Any person, including, but not limited to, on-line retailers, selling or distributing
15 tobacco products in the form of little cigars as defined in § 44-20.2-1, snuff, any and all products
16 defined in § 44-20-1, or electronic nicotine-delivery system products directly to a ~~consumer~~
17 purchaser via the United States Postal Service, or by any other public or private postal or package
18 delivery service, including orders placed by mail, telephone, facsimile, or internet, shall: (1) before
19 distributing or selling the tobacco product, including electronic nicotine-delivery system products,
20 through any of these means, receive both a copy of a valid form of government identification
21 showing date of birth to verify the purchaser is age twenty-one (21) years or over and an attestation
22 from the purchaser certifying that the information on the government identification truly and
23 correctly identifies the purchaser and the purchaser’s current address, and (2) deliver the tobacco
24 product, including electronic nicotine-delivery system products, to the address of the purchaser
25 given on the valid form of government identification and by a postal or package delivery service
26 method that either limits delivery to that purchaser and requires the purchaser to sign personally to
27 receive the delivery or requires a signature of an individual age twenty-one (21) or over at the
28 purchaser’s address to deliver the package.

29 (c) The attorney general shall bring an action for any violation of this chapter. Any
30 distribution, or sale or conveyance of a tobacco product, including electronic nicotine-delivery
31 system products, to an individual under twenty-one (21) years of age via the United States Postal
32 Service, or by any other public or private postal or package delivery service, shall be subject to an
33 action against the distributor, or seller or conveyor by the attorney general of the state of Rhode
34 Island. A minimum fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) shall be assessed against any distributor,

1 or seller or conveyor convicted of distributing, or selling or conveying tobacco products, including
2 electronic nicotine-delivery system products, via the United States postal service, or by any other
3 public or private postal or package delivery service, for each delivery, or sale or conveyance of a
4 tobacco product, including electronic nicotine-delivery system products, to an individual under
5 twenty-one (21) years of age.

6 (d) For the purpose of this section, “distribution,” “distributing,” “selling” and “sale” do
7 not include the acts of the United States Postal Service or other common carrier when engaged in
8 the business of transporting and delivering packages for others or the acts of a person, whether
9 compensated or not, who transports or delivers a package for another person without any reason to
10 know of the package’s contents.

11 (e) Any delivery sale of cigarettes shall be made pursuant to the provisions of chapter 20.1
12 of title 44. The provisions of this section shall apply to each tobacco product listed in subsection
13 (b) herein, which include electronic nicotine-delivery system products, but shall not apply to any
14 delivery sale of cigarettes.

15 **11-9-13.13. Nature and size of penalties.**

16 (a) Any license holder who violates a requirement of § 11-9-13.6(2) or § 11-9-13.7, display
17 of specific signage, shall be subject to a fine in court of not less than thirty-five dollars (\$35.00),
18 nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500), per civil violation.

19 (b) The license holder is responsible for all violations of this section that occur at the
20 location for which the license is issued. Any license holder who or that violates the prohibition of
21 § 11-9-13.8(1) or § 11-9-13.20 shall be subject to civil fines as follows:

22 (1) A fine of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for the first violation within any thirty-six-
23 month (36) period;

24 (2) A fine of five hundred dollars (\$500) for the second violation within any thirty-six-
25 month (36) period;

26 (3) A fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and a fourteen-day (14) suspension of the
27 license to sell tobacco products or electronic nicotine-delivery systems for the third violation within
28 any thirty-six-month (36) period;

29 (4) A fine of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) and a ninety-day (90) suspension
30 of the license to sell tobacco products or electronic nicotine-delivery systems for each violation in
31 excess of three (3).

32 (c) Any person who or that violates a prohibition of § 11-9-13.8(3), sale of single cigarettes;
33 or § 11-9-13.8(2), regarding factory-wrapped packs as sealed and certified by the manufacturer;
34 shall be subject to a penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500) for each violation.

1 (d) The department of taxation ~~and/or the department of health~~ shall not issue a license to
2 any individual, business, firm, fiduciary, partnership, trust, association, or corporation, the license
3 of which has been revoked or suspended; to any corporation, an officer of which has had his or her
4 license revoked or suspended; or to any individual who is, or has been, an officer of a corporation
5 the license of which has been revoked or suspended so long as such revocations or suspensions are
6 in effect.

7 (e) The court may suspend the imposition of a license suspension of the license secured
8 from the Rhode Island tax administrator or department of health for a violation of subsections (b)(3)
9 and (b)(4) of this section if the court finds that the license holder has taken measures to prevent the
10 sale of tobacco products, including electronic nicotine-delivery system products, to an underage
11 individual and the license holder can demonstrate to the court that those measures have been taken
12 and that employees have received training. No person or individual shall sell tobacco products,
13 including electronic nicotine-delivery system products, at retail without first being trained in the
14 legal sale of tobacco products, including electronic nicotine-delivery system products. Training
15 shall teach employees what constitutes a tobacco product, including an electronic nicotine-delivery
16 system product; legal age of sale; acceptable identification; how to refuse a direct sale to an
17 underage individual or secondary sale to an individual twenty-one (21) years or older; and all
18 applicable laws on tobacco sales and distribution. Dealers shall maintain records indicating that the
19 provisions of this section were reviewed with all employees who conduct, or will conduct, tobacco
20 product sales, including electronic nicotine-delivery system product sales. Each employee who
21 sells or will sell tobacco products, including electronic nicotine-delivery system products, shall sign
22 an acknowledgement form attesting that the provisions of this section were reviewed with him or
23 her. Each form shall be maintained by the retailer for as long as the employee is so employed and
24 for no less than one year after termination of employment. The measures to prevent the sale of
25 tobacco products, including electronic nicotine-delivery system products, to underage individuals
26 shall be defined by the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and
27 hospitals in rules and regulations.

28 **11-9-13.20. Packaging of electronic nicotine-delivery system liquid.**

29 (a) No liquid, whether or not such liquid contains nicotine, that is intended for human
30 consumption and used in an electronic nicotine-delivery system, as defined in § 11-9-13.4, shall be
31 sold unless the liquid is contained in child-resistant packaging.

32 (b) Any liquid nicotine container that is sold at retail in this state must satisfy the child-
33 resistant effectiveness standards set forth in 16 C.F.R. § 1700.15(b), when tested in accordance
34 with the method described in 16 C.F.R. § 1700.20. All licensees under ~~§ 23-1-56~~ [§ 44-20-2](#) shall

1 ensure that any liquid sold by the licensee intended for human consumption and used in an
2 electronic-nicotine delivery system, as defined in § 11-9-13.4, is sold in a liquid nicotine container
3 that meets the requirements described and referenced in this subsection.

4 (c) For the purposes of this section, “liquid nicotine container” means a bottle or other
5 container of a liquid or other substance where the liquid or substance is sold, marketed, or intended
6 for use in a vapor product. A “liquid nicotine container” does not include a liquid or other substance
7 in a cartridge that is sold, marketed, or intended for use in a vapor product, provided that such
8 cartridge is prefilled and sealed by the manufacturer and not intended to be opened by the ~~consumer~~
9 [purchaser](#).

10 (d) Any licensee or any person required to be licensed under ~~§ 23-1-56~~ [§ 44-20-2](#) who or
11 that fails to comply with this section shall be subject to the penalties provided in § 11-9-13.13.

12 (e) The licensee is responsible for all violations of this section that occur at the location for
13 which the license is issued.

14 (f) No licensee or person shall be found in violation of this section if the licensee or person
15 relied in good faith on documentation provided by or attributed to the manufacturer of the
16 packaging of the aforementioned liquid that such packaging meets the requirements of this section.

17 [\(g\) On or after January 1, 2025, any product found to be in violation of this chapter shall](#)
18 [be considered contraband and subject to the confiscation provisions outlined in § 44-20-15.](#)

19 SECTION 4. Section 11-9-13.8.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-9 entitled "Children"
20 is hereby repealed.

21 ~~**11-9-13.8.1. Signs concerning the health effects of tobacco.**~~

22 ~~Signs provided by the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and~~
23 ~~hospitals, or an exact duplicate of it made privately, shall:~~

24 ~~(1) Contain in red bold lettering a minimum of one quarter of an inch (1/4") high on a white~~
25 ~~background the following wording, in both English and Spanish:~~

26 ~~WARNING: SMOKING CIGARETTES CONTRIBUTES TO LUNG DISEASE,~~
27 ~~CANCER, HEART DISEASE, STROKE AND RESPIRATORY ILLNESS AND DURING~~
28 ~~PREGNANCY MAY RESULT IN LOW BIRTH WEIGHT AND PREMATURE BIRTH.~~

29 ~~(2) The signs shall also include information regarding resources available to Rhode Island~~
30 ~~residents who would like to quit smoking.~~

31 ~~(3) The signs shall be displayed prominently for public view wherever tobacco products~~
32 ~~are sold at each cash register, each tobacco vending machine, or any other place from which tobacco~~
33 ~~products are sold. The signs shall be electronically available in both English and Spanish online at~~
34 ~~the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals' website.~~

1 ~~(4) The department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals shall~~
2 ~~have the power and authority to develop and disseminate signs pursuant to the requirements of this~~
3 ~~section for other tobacco products, including electronic nicotine delivery system products. The~~
4 ~~messaging included in the signs shall be based on the most current scientific evidence.~~

5 SECTION 5. Sections 23-1-55, 23-1-56, 23-1-57 and 23-1-58 of the General Laws in
6 Chapter 23-1 entitled "Department of Health" are hereby repealed.

7 ~~**23-1-55. Electronic nicotine delivery system distributor, and dealer licenses required**~~

8 ~~**Definitions:**~~

9 ~~**Definitions.** Whenever used in §§ 23-1-56 to 23-1-58, unless the context requires~~
10 ~~otherwise:~~

11 ~~(1) "Dealer" means any person, whether located within or outside of this state, who sells~~
12 ~~or distributes electronic nicotine delivery system products to a consumer in this state;~~

13 ~~(2) "Distributor" means any person:~~

14 ~~(i) Whether located within or outside of this state, other than a dealer, who sells or~~
15 ~~distributes electronic nicotine delivery system products within or into this state. Such term shall~~
16 ~~not include any electronic nicotine delivery system products manufacturer, export warehouse~~
17 ~~proprietor, or importer with a valid permit, if such person sells or distributes electronic nicotine~~
18 ~~delivery system products in this state only to licensed distributors or to an export warehouse~~
19 ~~proprietor or another manufacturer with a valid permit;~~

20 ~~(ii) Selling electronic nicotine delivery system products directly to consumers in this state~~
21 ~~by means of at least twenty five (25) electronic nicotine delivery system product vending~~
22 ~~machines;~~

23 ~~(iii) Engaged in this state in the business of manufacturing electronic nicotine delivery~~
24 ~~system products or any person engaged in the business of selling electronic nicotine delivery~~
25 ~~system products to dealers, or to other persons, for the purpose of resale only; provided that seventy-~~
26 ~~five percent (75%) of all electronic nicotine delivery system products sold by that person in this~~
27 ~~state are sold to dealers or other persons for resale and selling electronic nicotine delivery system~~
28 ~~products directly to at least forty (40) dealers or other persons for resale; or~~

29 ~~(iv) Maintaining one or more regular places of business in this state for that purpose;~~
30 ~~provided, that seventy five percent (75%) of the sold electronic nicotine delivery system products~~
31 ~~are purchased directly from the manufacturer and selling electronic nicotine delivery system~~
32 ~~products directly to at least forty (40) dealers or other persons for resale;~~

33 ~~(3) "Electronic nicotine delivery system" means the products as defined in § 11-9-13.4(6).~~

34 ~~**23-1-56. License.**~~

1 ~~(a) Each person engaging in the business of selling electronic nicotine delivery system~~
2 ~~products in the state, including any distributor or dealer, shall secure a license annually from the~~
3 ~~department before engaging in that business or continuing to engage in it. A separate application~~
4 ~~and license is required for each place of business operated by a distributor or dealer. If the applicant~~
5 ~~for a license does not have a place of business in this state, the license shall be issued for such~~
6 ~~applicant's principal place of business, wherever located. A licensee shall notify the department~~
7 ~~within thirty (30) days in the event that it changes its principal place of business. A separate license~~
8 ~~is required for each class of business if the applicant is engaged in more than one of the activities~~
9 ~~required to be licensed by this section. No person shall maintain or operate, or cause to be operated,~~
10 ~~a vending machine for electronic nicotine delivery systems without procuring a dealer's license for~~
11 ~~each machine.~~

12 ~~(b) The director shall have authority to set a reasonable fee not to exceed twenty five~~
13 ~~dollars (\$25.00) for the issuance of the license.~~

14 ~~(c) Each issued license shall be prominently displayed on the premises, if any, covered by~~
15 ~~the license.~~

16 ~~(d) The director shall create and maintain a website setting forth the identity of all licensed~~
17 ~~persons under this section, itemized by type of license possessed, and shall update the site no less~~
18 ~~frequently than six (6) times per year.~~

19 ~~(e) A manufacturer or importer may sell or distribute electronic nicotine delivery systems~~
20 ~~to a person located or doing business within the state only if such person is a licensed distributor.~~
21 ~~An importer may obtain electronic nicotine delivery systems only from a licensed manufacturer. A~~
22 ~~distributor may sell or distribute electronic nicotine delivery systems to a person located or doing~~
23 ~~business within this state only if such person is a licensed distributor or dealer. A distributor may~~
24 ~~obtain electronic nicotine delivery systems only from a licensed manufacturer, importer, or~~
25 ~~distributor. A dealer may obtain electronic nicotine delivery systems only from a licensed~~
26 ~~distributor.~~

27 ~~(f)(1) No license under this chapter may be granted, maintained, or renewed if the~~
28 ~~applicant, or any combination of persons owning directly or indirectly any interests in the applicant:~~

29 ~~(i) Is delinquent in any tax filings for one month or more; or~~

30 ~~(ii) Had a license under this chapter revoked within the past two (2) years.~~

31 ~~(2) No person shall apply for a new license, or renewal of a license and no license shall be~~
32 ~~issued or renewed for any person, unless all outstanding fines, fees, or other charges relating to any~~
33 ~~license held by that person have been paid.~~

34 ~~(3) No license shall be issued relating to a business at any specific location until all prior~~

1 ~~licenses relating to that location have been officially terminated and all fines, fees, or charges~~
2 ~~relating to the prior licenses have been paid or otherwise resolved or if the director has found that~~
3 ~~the person applying for the new license is not acting as an agent for the prior licensee who is subject~~
4 ~~to any such related fines, fees, or charges that are still due. Evidence of such agency status includes,~~
5 ~~but is not limited to, a direct familial relationship and/or employment, contractual, or other formal~~
6 ~~financial or business relationship with the prior licensee.~~

7 ~~(4) No person shall apply for a new license pertaining to a specific location in order to~~
8 ~~evade payment of any fines, fees, or other charges relating to a prior license for that location.~~

9 ~~(5) No new license shall be issued for a business at a specific location for which a license~~
10 ~~has already issued unless there is a bona fide, good faith change in ownership of the business at~~
11 ~~that location.~~

12 ~~(6) No license or permit shall be issued, renewed or maintained for any person, including~~
13 ~~the owners of the business being licensed, who has been convicted of violating any criminal law~~
14 ~~relating to tobacco products and/or electronic nicotine delivery system products, the payment of~~
15 ~~taxes, or fraud, or has been ordered to pay civil fines of more than twenty five thousand dollars~~
16 ~~(\$25,000) for violations of any civil law relating to tobacco products and/or electronic nicotine-~~
17 ~~delivery system products, the payment of taxes, or fraud.~~

18 ~~**23-1-57. Penalties for unlicensed business.**~~

19 ~~Any distributor or dealer who sells, offers for sale, or possesses with intent to sell,~~
20 ~~electronic nicotine delivery system products without a license as provided in § 23-1-56, shall be~~
21 ~~fined in accordance with the provisions of, and the penalties contained in, § 23-1-58.~~

22 ~~**23-1-58. Penalty for operating without a dealer license.**~~

23 ~~(a) Any individual or business who violates this chapter by selling or conveying an~~
24 ~~electronic nicotine delivery system product without a retail license shall be cited for that violation~~
25 ~~and shall be required to appear in district court for a hearing on the citation.~~

26 ~~(b) Any individual or business cited for a violation hereunder shall:~~

27 ~~(1) Either post a five hundred dollar (\$500) bond with the district court within ten (10) days~~
28 ~~of the citation; or~~

29 ~~(2) Sign and accept the citation indicating a promise to appear in court.~~

30 ~~(c) An individual or business who or that has accepted the citation may:~~

31 ~~(1) Pay the five hundred dollar (\$500) fine, either by mail or in person, within ten (10) days~~
32 ~~after receiving the citation; or~~

33 ~~(2) If that individual or business has posted a bond, forfeit the bond by not appearing at the~~
34 ~~scheduled hearing. If the individual or business cited pays the five hundred dollar (\$500) fine or~~

1 ~~forfeits the bond, that individual or business is deemed to have admitted the cited violation and to~~
2 ~~have waived the right to a hearing on the issue of commission on the violation.~~

3 ~~(d) The court, after a hearing on a citation, shall make a determination as to whether a~~
4 ~~violation has been committed. If it is established that the violation did occur, the court shall impose~~
5 ~~a five hundred dollar (\$500) fine in addition to any court costs or fees.~~

6 SECTION 6. Section 23-3-25 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-3 entitled "Vital Records"
7 is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 **23-3-25. Fees for copies and searches**

9 (a) The state registrar shall charge fees for searches and copies as follows:

10 (1) For a search of two (2) consecutive calendar years under one name and for issuance of
11 a certified copy of a certificate of birth, fetal death, death, or marriage, or a certification of birth, or
12 a certification that the record cannot be found, and each duplicate copy of a certificate or
13 certification issued at the same time, the fee is as set forth in § 23-1-54.

14 (2) For each additional calendar year search, if applied for at the same time or within three
15 (3) months of the original request and if proof of payment for the basic search is submitted, the fee
16 is as set forth in § 23-1-54.

17 (3) For providing expedited service, the additional handling fee is as set forth in § 23-1-54.

18 (4) For processing of adoptions, legitimations, or paternity determinations as specified in
19 §§ 23-3-14 and 23-3-15, there shall be a fee as set forth in § 23-1-54.

20 (5) For making authorized corrections, alterations, and additions, the fee is as set forth in
21 § 23-1-54; provided, no fee shall be collected for making authorized corrections or alterations and
22 additions on records filed before one year of the date on which the event recorded has occurred.

23 (6) For examination of documentary proof and the filing of a delayed record, there is a fee
24 as set forth in § 23-1-54; and there is an additional fee as set forth in § 23-1-54 for the issuance of
25 a certified copy of a delayed record.

26 (b) Fees collected under this section by the state registrar shall be deposited in the general
27 fund of this state, according to the procedures established by the state treasurer.

28 (c) The local registrar shall charge fees for searches and copies of records as follows:

29 (1) For a search of two (2) consecutive calendar years under one name and for issuance of
30 a certified copy of a certificate of birth, fetal death, death, delayed birth, or marriage, or a
31 certification of birth or a certification that the record cannot be found, the fee is twenty dollars
32 (\$20.00). For each duplicate copy of a certificate or certification issued at the same time, the fee is
33 fifteen dollars (\$15.00).

34 (2) For each additional calendar year search, if applied for at the same time or within three

1 (3) months of the original request and if proof of payment for the basic search is submitted, the fee
2 is two dollars (\$2.00).

3 (d) Fees collected under this section by the local registrar shall be deposited in the city or
4 town treasury according to the procedures established by the city or town treasurer except that six
5 dollars (\$6.00) of the certified copy fees shall be submitted to the state registrar for deposit in the
6 general fund of this state.

7 (e) To acquire, maintain, and operate an electronic statewide registration system (ESRS),
8 the state registrar shall assess a surcharge of no more than five dollars (\$5.00) for a mail-in certified
9 records request, no more than three dollars (\$3.00) for each duplicate certified record, and no more
10 than two dollars (\$2.00) for a walk-in certified records request or a certified copy of a vital record
11 requested for a local registrar. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (d), any such
12 surcharges collected by the local registrar shall be submitted to the state registrar. Any funds
13 collected from the surcharges listed above shall be deposited ~~into the information technology~~
14 ~~restricted receipt account (ITRR account) established pursuant to § 42-11-2.5(a) as general~~
15 ~~revenues.~~

16 SECTION 7. Section 23-27.3-108.2 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-27.3 entitled "State
17 Building Code" is hereby amended to read as follows:

18 **23-27.3-108.2. State building commissioner's duties.**

19 (a) This code shall be enforced by the state building commissioner as to any structures or
20 buildings or parts thereof that are owned or are temporarily or permanently under the jurisdiction
21 of the state or any of its departments, commissions, agencies, or authorities established by an act
22 of the general assembly, and as to any structures or buildings or parts thereof that are built upon
23 any land owned by or under the jurisdiction of the state; provided, however, that for the purposes
24 of this section structures constituting tents and/or membrane frame structures as defined in this state
25 building code and any regulations promulgated hereunder shall be subject to an annual certification
26 process to be established by the state building commissioner in conjunction with the state fire
27 marshal and shall not be subject to recurring permit and fee requirements as otherwise required by
28 this code.

29 (b) Permit fees for the projects shall be established by the committee. The fees shall be
30 deposited as general revenues.

31 (c)(1) The local cities and towns shall charge each permit applicant an additional .1 (.001)
32 percent levy of the total construction cost for each permit issued. The levy shall be limited to a
33 maximum of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each of the permits issued for one- and two-family (2)
34 dwellings. This additional levy shall be transmitted monthly to the state building office at the

1 department of business regulation, and shall be used to staff and support the purchase or lease and
2 operation of a web-accessible service and/or system to be utilized by the state and municipalities
3 for uniform, statewide electronic plan review, permit management, and inspection system and other
4 programs described in this chapter. The fee levy shall be deposited as general revenues.

5 (2) On or before July 1, 2013, the building commissioner shall develop a standard statewide
6 process for electronic plan review, permit management, and inspection. The process shall include,
7 but not be limited to: applications; submission of building plans and plans for developments and
8 plots; plan review; permitting; inspections; inspection scheduling; project tracking; fee calculation
9 and collections; and workflow and report management.

10 (3) On or before December 1, 2013, the building commissioner, with the assistance of the
11 office of regulatory reform, shall implement the standard statewide process for electronic plan
12 review, permit management, and inspection. In addition, the building commissioner shall develop
13 a technology and implementation plan for a standard web-accessible service or system to be utilized
14 by the state and municipalities for uniform, statewide electronic plan review, permit management,
15 and inspection. The plan shall include, but not be limited to: applications; submission of building
16 plans and plans for developments and plots; plan review; permitting; inspections; inspection
17 scheduling; project tracking; fee calculation and collections; and workflow and report management.

18 (d) The building commissioner shall, upon request by any state contractor described in §
19 37-2-38.1, review, and when all conditions for certification have been met, certify to the state
20 controller that the payment conditions contained in § 37-2-38.1 have been met.

21 (e) The building commissioner shall coordinate the development and implementation of
22 this section with the state fire marshal to assist with the implementation of § 23-28.2-6. On or before
23 January 1, 2022, the building commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement
24 the provisions of this section and § 23-27.3-115.6.

25 (f) The building commissioner shall submit, in coordination with the state fire marshal, a
26 report to the governor and general assembly on or before April 1, 2013, and each April 1 thereafter,
27 providing the status of the web-accessible service and/or system implementation and any
28 recommendations for process or system improvement. In every report submitted on or after April,
29 2024, the building commissioner shall provide the following information:

30 (1) The identity of every municipality in full compliance with the provisions § 23-27.3-
31 115.6 and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to the provisions of this section;

32 (2) The identity of every municipality failing to fully implement and comply with the
33 provisions of § 23-27.3-115.6 and/or the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to the
34 provisions of this section, and the nature, extent, and basis or reason for the failure or

1 noncompliance; and

2 (3) Recommendations to achieve compliance by all municipalities with the provisions of §
3 23-27.3-115.6 and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this section.

4 (g) The building commissioner shall assist with facilitating the goals and objectives set
5 forth in § 28-42-84(a)(9).

6 SECTION 8. Section 23-28.19-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-28.19 entitled "Tents
7 — Grandstands — Air-Supported Structures" is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 **23-28.19-1. Tents for which license required — Application and issuance.**

9 (a) No tent exceeding three hundred fifty square feet (350 sq. ft.) in area shall be erected,
10 maintained, operated, or used in any city or town in this state except under a license from the
11 licensing authorities of the city or town; provided, however, that for tent installations on state
12 property or in jurisdictions otherwise subject to the authority of the state fire marshal, structures
13 constituting tents and/or membrane frame structures as defined in the state building code and any
14 regulations promulgated thereunder, shall be subject to an annual certification process to be
15 established by the state building commissioner in conjunction with the state fire marshal pursuant
16 to § 23-27.3-108.2 and shall not be subject to recurring permit and fee requirements as otherwise
17 required by the code. The license shall not be issued for a period exceeding thirty (30) days and
18 shall be revocable for cause. Application shall be made on proper form and, when deemed
19 necessary by the licensing authorities, shall include plans drawn to scale, showing exits, aisles, and
20 seating arrangements and details of the structural support of tent, seats, and platforms, etc. No
21 license shall be issued until the provisions of this chapter have been complied with, and approval
22 has been obtained from the building department, the police department, the fire department, and,
23 when tents are to be used for fifty (50) or more persons, from each and every department having
24 jurisdiction over places of assembly.

25 (b) For the purposes of this section, the fire marshal shall have no jurisdiction over tents
26 on the property of one-(1) or two-(2) family private dwellings. Nothing contained in this section
27 shall prohibit the fire marshal from requiring a license for a tent smaller than three hundred fifty
28 square feet (350 sq. ft.) where other sections of the fire code deem it necessary, including, but not
29 limited to, use, occupancy, opening, exposure, an increase in occupancy of a commercial
30 establishment, and any other similar factors.

31 (c) The state fire marshal shall provide training to all assistant deputy fire marshals as
32 defined by § 23-28.2-9 as soon as practicable to ensure the consistent enforcement of the fire safety
33 code pursuant to § 23-28.2-4.

34 SECTION 9. Section 44-1-34 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-1 entitled "State Tax

1 Officials" is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 **44-1-34. Tax administrator to prepare list of delinquent taxpayers — Notice — Public**
3 **inspection.**

4 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the tax administrator may, on a quarterly
5 basis,

6 (1) Prepare a list of the ~~one hundred (100)~~ delinquent taxpayers under chapter 44-30 who
7 owe ~~the largest amount~~ at least fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) of state tax and whose taxes have
8 been unpaid for a period in excess of ninety (90) days following the date their tax was due.

9 (2) Prepare a list of the ~~one hundred (100)~~ delinquent taxpayers collectively under chapters
10 44-11, 44-12, 44-13, 44-14, 44-15, 44-17, 44-18, and 44-20, who owe ~~the largest amount~~ at least
11 fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) of state tax and whose taxes have been unpaid for a period in excess
12 of ninety (90) days following the date their tax was due.

13 (3) Each list may contain the name and address of each delinquent taxpayer, the type of tax
14 levied, and the amount of the delinquency, including interest and penalty, as of the end of the
15 quarter. No taxpayer shall be included on such list if the tax assessment in question is the subject
16 of an appeal.

17 (b) The tax administrator shall not list any delinquent taxpayer until such time as he or she
18 gives the delinquent taxpayer thirty (30) days' notice of intent to publish the taxpayer's
19 delinquency. Said notice shall be sent to the taxpayer's last known address by regular and certified
20 mail. If during said thirty (30) day period the taxpayer makes satisfactory arrangement for payment
21 of the delinquent tax, the name of such taxpayer shall not be published as long as the taxpayer does
22 not default on any payment agreement entered into with the division of taxation.

23 (c) Any such list prepared by the tax division shall be available to the public for inspection
24 by any person and may be published by the tax administrator on the tax division website.

25 SECTION 10. Section 44-5.3-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-5.3 entitled "Statewide
26 Tangible Property Tax Exemption" is hereby amended to read as follows:

27 **44-5.3-2. Reimbursement of lost tax revenue.**

28 (a) Beginning in fiscal year 2025 and for each fiscal year thereafter, cities, towns, and fire
29 districts shall receive reimbursements, as set forth in this section, from state general revenues for
30 lost tax revenues due to the reduction of the tangible property tax resulting from the statewide
31 exemption set forth in § 44-5.3-1.

32 (b) Beginning in fiscal year 2025, and for each fiscal year thereafter, cities, towns, and fire
33 districts shall receive a reimbursement equal to the ~~tangible property levy for the assessment date~~
34 ~~of December 31, 2022, minus the tangible personal property levy for the assessment date of~~

1 ~~December 31, 2023~~ tangible property tax revenues lost for the assessment date of December 31,
2 2023 due to application of the statewide exemption amount set forth in § 44-5.3-1, which shall be
3 calculated by dividing the tangible personal property assessment for the assessment date of
4 December 31, 2023 lost due to the statewide exemption amount set forth in § 44-5.3-1 by one
5 thousand (1000) multiplied by the tangible personal property tax rate for the assessment date of
6 December 31, 2023. If such lost assessment is unknown, cities, towns, and fire districts shall utilize
7 internal policies and procedures in place as of December 31, 2022 to estimate the lost assessment.

8 (c) Reimbursements shall be distributed in full to cities, towns, and fire districts on
9 September 30, 2024, and every September 30 thereafter; provided, however, that reimbursement
10 shall not be provided to any city, town, or fire district in any year in which it has failed to provide
11 to the division of municipal finance its certified tax roll in accordance with § 44-5-22 or any other
12 information required by the division of municipal finance to calculate the reimbursement amount.

13 The division of municipal finance may rely solely upon such information provided to it in
14 any year when calculating the reimbursement amount but may, although shall not be required to,
15 also audit such information.

16 SECTION 11. Sections 44-11-2.3, 44-11-4.1 and 44-11-11 of the General Laws in Chapter
17 44-11 entitled "Business Corporation Tax" are hereby amended to read as follows:

18 **44-11-2.3. Pass-through entities — Election to pay state income tax at the entity level.**

19 (a) Definitions. As used in this section:

20 (1) "Election" means the annual election to be made by the pass-through entity by filing
21 the prescribed tax form and remitting the appropriate tax.

22 (2) "Net income" means the net ordinary income, net rental real estate income, other net
23 rental income, guaranteed payments, and other business income less specially allocated
24 depreciation and deductions allowed pursuant to § 179 of the United States Revenue Code (26
25 U.S.C. § 179), all of which would be reported on federal tax form schedules C and E. Net income
26 for purposes of this section does not include specially allocated investment income or any other
27 types of deductions.

28 (3) "Owner" means an individual who is a shareholder of an S Corporation; a partner in a
29 general partnership, a limited partnership, or a limited liability partnership; a member of a limited
30 liability company, a beneficiary of a trust; or a sole proprietor.

31 (4) "Pass-through entity" means a corporation that for the applicable tax year is treated as
32 an S Corporation under I.R.C. 1362(a) (26 U.S.C. § 1362(a)), or a general partnership, limited
33 partnership, limited liability partnership, trust, limited liability company or unincorporated sole
34 proprietorship that for the applicable tax year is not taxed as a corporation for federal tax purposes

1 under the state's regulations.

2 (5) "State tax credit" means the amount of tax paid by the pass-through entity at the entity
3 level that is passed through to an owner on a pro rata basis. For tax years beginning on or after
4 January 1, 2025, "state tax credit" means ninety percent (90%) of the amount of tax paid by the
5 pass-through entity at the entity level that is passed through to an owner on a pro rata basis.

6 (b) Elections.

7 (1) For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2019, a pass-through entity may elect to
8 pay the state tax at the entity level at the rate of five and ninety-nine hundredths percent (5.99%).

9 (2) If a pass-through entity elects to pay an entity tax under this subsection, the entity shall
10 not have to comply with the provisions of § 44-11-2.2 regarding withholding on non-resident
11 owners. In that instance, the entity shall not have to comply with the provisions of § 44-11-2.2
12 regarding withholding on non-resident owners.

13 (c) Reporting.

14 (1) The pass-through entity shall report the pro rata share of the state income taxes paid by
15 the entity which sums will be allowed as a state tax credit for an owner on his or her personal
16 income tax return.

17 (2) The pass-through entity shall also report the pro rata share of the state income taxes
18 paid by the entity as an income (addition) modification to be reported by an owner on his or her
19 personal income tax returns.

20 (d) State tax credit shall be the amount of tax paid by the pass-through entity, at the entity
21 level, which is passed through to the owners, on a pro rata basis. For tax years beginning on or after
22 January 1, 2025, the state tax credit shall be ninety percent (90%) of the amount of tax paid by the
23 pass-through entity, at the entity level, which is passed through to the owners, on a pro rata basis.

24 (e) A similar type of tax imposed by another state on the owners' income paid at the state
25 entity level shall be deemed to be allowed as a credit for taxes paid to another jurisdiction in
26 accordance with the provisions of § 44-30-18.

27 (f) "Combined reporting" as set forth in § 44-11-4.1 shall not apply to reporting under this
28 section.

29 **44-11-4.1. Combined reporting.**

30 (a) For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2015, each C corporation which is part
31 of an unitary business with one or more other corporations must file a return, in a manner prescribed
32 by the tax administrator, for the combined group containing the combined income, determined
33 under this section, of the combined group.

34 (b) An affiliated group of C corporations, as defined in section 1504 of the Internal Revenue

1 Code, may elect to be treated as a combined group with respect to the combined reporting
2 requirement imposed by § 44-11-4.1(a) for the taxable year in lieu of an unitary business group.
3 The election shall be upon the condition that all C corporations which at any time during the taxable
4 year have been members of the affiliated group consent to be included in such group. The filing of
5 a consolidated return for the combined group shall be considered as such consent. Such election
6 may not be revoked in less than five (5) years unless approved by the tax administrator.

7 (c) The use of a combined report does not disregard the separate identities of the taxpayer
8 members of the combined group. Each taxpayer member is responsible for tax based on its taxable
9 income or loss apportioned to this state.

10 (d) Members of a combined group shall exclude as a member and disregard the income and
11 apportionment factors of any corporation not incorporated in the United States (a “non US
12 corporation”) if the sales factors outside the United States is eighty percent (80%) or more. If a non
13 US corporation is includible as a member in the combined group, to the extent that such non US
14 corporation’s income is subject to the provisions of a federal income tax treaty, such income is not
15 includible in the combined group net income. Such member shall also not include in the combined
16 report any expenses or apportionment factors attributable to income that is subject to the provisions
17 of a federal income tax treaty. For purposes of this chapter, “federal income tax treaty” means a
18 comprehensive income tax treaty between the United States and a foreign jurisdiction, other than a
19 foreign jurisdiction which is defined as a tax haven; provided, however, that if the tax administrator
20 determines that a combined group member non US corporation is organized in a tax haven that has
21 a federal income treaty with the United States, its income subject to a federal income tax treaty,
22 and any expenses or apportionment factors attributable to such income, shall not be included in the
23 combined group net income or combined report if: (i) the transactions conducted between such non
24 US corporation and other members of the combined group are done on an arm’s length basis and
25 not with the principal purpose to avoid the payment of taxes due under this chapter; or (ii) the
26 member establishes that the inclusion of such net income in combined group net income is
27 unreasonable.

28 (e) Net operating losses. A tracing protocol shall apply to net operating losses created
29 before January 1, 2015. Such net operating losses shall be allowed to offset only the income of the
30 corporation that created the net operating loss; the net operating loss cannot be shared with other
31 members of the combined group. No deduction is allowable for a net operating loss sustained
32 during any taxable year in which a taxpayer was not subject to Rhode Island business corporation
33 tax. For net operating losses created in tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2015 such loss
34 allowed shall be the same as the net operating loss deduction allowed under section 172 of the

1 internal revenue code for the combined group, except that:

2 (1) Any net operating loss included in determining the deduction shall be adjusted to reflect
3 the inclusions and exclusions from entire net income required by § 44-11-11 (a) and § 44-11-11.1;

4 (2) The deduction shall not include any net operating loss sustained during any taxable year
5 in which the member was not subject to the tax imposed by this chapter; and

6 (3) Limitation on 26 U.S.C. § 172 deduction.

7 (i) The deduction shall not exceed the deduction for the taxable year allowable under
8 section 172 of the internal revenue code; provided, that the deduction for a taxable year may not be
9 carried back to any other taxable year for Rhode Island purposes but shall only be allowable on a
10 carry forward basis for the five (5) succeeding taxable years; and

11 (ii) For any taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2025, the deduction shall not
12 exceed the deduction for the taxable year allowable under 26 U.S.C. § 172; provided that, the
13 deduction for a taxable year may not be carried back to any other taxable year for Rhode Island
14 purposes, but shall only be allowable on a carry forward basis for the twenty (20) succeeding
15 taxable years.

16 (f) Tax credits and tax rate reduction.

17 (1) A tracing protocol shall apply to Rhode Island tax credits earned before tax years
18 beginning on or before January 1, 2015. Such Rhode Island tax credits shall be allowed to offset
19 only the tax liability of the corporation that earned the credits; the Rhode Island tax credits cannot
20 be shared with other members of the combined group. Rhode Island tax credits earned in tax years
21 beginning on or after January 1, 2015, may be applied to other members of the group.

22 (2) The tax rate reductions authorized under chapter 64.5 of title 42 (Jobs Development
23 Act) and chapter 64.14 of title 42 (I-195 Redevelopment Act of 2011) shall be allowed against the
24 net income of the entire combined group.

25 (g) The tax administrator shall prescribe and amend, from time to time, rules and
26 regulations as he or she may deem necessary in order that the tax liability of any group of
27 corporations filing as a combined group and each corporation in the combined group, liable to
28 taxation under this chapter, may be determined, computed, assessed, collected, and adjusted in a
29 manner as to clearly reflect the combined income of the combined group and the individual income
30 of each member of the combined group. Such rules and regulations, shall include but are not be
31 limited to, issues such as the inclusion or exclusion of a corporation in the combined group, the
32 characterization and sourcing of each member's income, and whether certain common activities
33 constitute the conduct of a unitary business.

34 (h) The tax administrator shall on or before March 15, 2018, based upon the actual tax

1 filings of companies under this act for a two year period, submit a report to the chairperson of the
2 house finance committee and the senate finance committee and the house fiscal advisor and the
3 senate fiscal advisor analyzing the policy and fiscal ramifications of the changes enacted to business
4 corporations tax statutes, as enacted in budget article 12 of the Fiscal Year 2015 appropriations act.
5 The report shall include but not be limited to the impact upon categories of business, size of
6 business and similar information as contained in § 44-11-45 [repealed], which required the original
7 report.

8 **44-11-11. “Net income” defined.**

9 (a)(1) “Net income” means, for any taxable year and for any corporate taxpayer, the taxable
10 income of the taxpayer for that taxable year under the laws of the United States, plus:

11 (i) Any interest not included in the taxable income;

12 (ii) Any specific exemptions;

13 (iii) The tax imposed by this chapter;

14 (iv) For any taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2020, the amount of any Paycheck
15 Protection Program loan forgiven for federal income tax purposes as authorized by the Coronavirus
16 Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act and/or the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 and/or
17 any other subsequent federal stimulus relief packages enacted by law, to the extent that the amount
18 of the loan forgiven exceeds \$250,000; and minus:

19 (v) Interest on obligations of the United States or its possessions, and other interest exempt
20 from taxation by this state; ~~and~~

21 (vi) The federal net operating loss deduction-; and

22 (vii) For any taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2025, in the case of a taxpayer
23 that is licensed in accordance with chapters 28.6 and/or 28.11 of title 21, the amount equal to any
24 expenditure that is eligible to be claimed as a federal income tax deduction but is disallowed under
25 26 U.S.C. § 280E.

26 (2) All binding federal elections made by or on behalf of the taxpayer applicable either
27 directly or indirectly to the determination of taxable income shall be binding on the taxpayer except
28 where this chapter or its attendant regulations specifically modify or provide otherwise. Rhode
29 Island taxable income shall not include the “gross-up of dividends” required by the federal Internal
30 Revenue Code to be taken into taxable income in connection with the taxpayer’s election of the
31 foreign tax credit.

32 (b) A net operating loss deduction shall be allowed, which shall be the same as the net
33 operating loss deduction allowed under 26 U.S.C. § 172, except that:

34 (1) Any net operating loss included in determining the deduction shall be adjusted to reflect

1 the inclusions and exclusions from entire net income required by subsection (a) of this section and
2 § 44-11-11.1;

3 (2) The deduction shall not include any net operating loss sustained during any taxable year
4 in which the taxpayer was not subject to the tax imposed by this chapter; and

5 (3) Limitation on 26 U.S.C. § 172 deduction.

6 (i) The deduction shall not exceed the deduction for the taxable year allowable under 26
7 U.S.C. § 172; provided, that the deduction for a taxable year may not be carried back to any other
8 taxable year for Rhode Island purposes but shall only be allowable on a carry forward basis for the
9 five (5) succeeding taxable years. and

10 (ii) For any taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2025, the deduction shall not
11 exceed the deduction for the taxable year allowable under 26 U.S.C. § 172; provided that, the
12 deduction for a taxable year may not be carried back to any other taxable year for Rhode Island
13 purposes, but shall only be allowable on a carry forward basis for the twenty (20) succeeding
14 taxable years.

15 (c) “Domestic international sales corporations” (referred to as DISCs), for the purposes of
16 this chapter, will be treated as they are under federal income tax law and shall not pay the amount
17 of the tax computed under § 44-11-2(a). Any income to shareholders of DISCs is to be treated in
18 the same manner as it is treated under federal income tax law as it exists on December 31, 1984.

19 (d) A corporation that qualifies as a “foreign sales corporation” (FSC) under the provisions
20 of subchapter N, 26 U.S.C. § 861 et seq., and that has in effect for the entire taxable year a valid
21 election under federal law to be treated as a FSC, shall not pay the amount of the tax computed
22 under § 44-11-2(a). Any income to shareholders of FSCs is to be treated in the same manner as it
23 is treated under federal income tax law as it exists on January 1, 1985.

24 (e) For purposes of a corporation’s state tax liability, any deduction to income allowable
25 under 26 U.S.C. § 1400Z-2(c) may be claimed in the case of any investment held by the taxpayer
26 for at least seven years. The division of taxation shall promulgate, in its discretion, rules and
27 regulations relative to the accelerated application of deductions under 26 U.S.C. § 1400Z-2(c).

28 SECTION 12. Section 44-18-30.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-18 entitled "Sales
29 and Use Taxes — Liability and Computation" is hereby amended to read as follows:

30 ~~44-18-30.1. Application for certificate of exemption — Fees. Application for~~
31 ~~certificate of exemption.~~

32 ~~A fee of twenty five dollars (\$25.00) shall be paid by all~~ All organizations ~~applying for~~
33 ~~seeking a certificate of~~ exemption from the Rhode Island sales and use tax under § 44-18-30(5)(i)
34 shall apply for a certificate of exemption on forms prescribed by the tax administrator. The

1 certificate of exemption shall be valid for four (4) years from the date of issue. ~~All fees collected~~
2 ~~under this section shall be allocated to the tax administrator for enforcement and collection of all~~
3 ~~taxes. All certificates issued prior to the effective date of this section shall expire four (4) years~~
4 ~~from the effective date of this section.~~

5 SECTION 13. Sections 44-20-12 and 44-20-13 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-20
6 entitled "Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products Tax" are hereby amended to read as follows:

7 **44-20-12. Tax imposed on cigarettes sold.**

8 A tax is imposed on all cigarettes sold or held for sale in the state. The payment of the tax
9 to be evidenced by stamps, which may be affixed only by licensed distributors to the packages
10 containing such cigarettes. Any cigarettes on which the proper amount of tax provided for in this
11 chapter has been paid, payment being evidenced by the stamp, is not subject to a further tax under
12 this chapter. The tax is at the rate of ~~two hundred twelve and one half (212.5)~~ two hundred twenty-
13 five (225) mills for each cigarette.

14 **44-20-13. Tax imposed on unstamped cigarettes.**

15 A tax is imposed at the rate of ~~two hundred twelve and one half (212.5)~~ two hundred
16 twenty-five (225) mills for each cigarette upon the storage or use within this state of any cigarettes
17 not stamped in accordance with the provisions of this chapter in the possession of any consumer
18 within this state.

19 SECTION 14. Chapter 44-20 of the General Laws entitled "Cigarette and Other Tobacco
20 Products Tax" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

21 **44-20-12.7. Floor stock tax on cigarettes and stamps.**

22 (a) Each person engaging in the business of selling cigarettes at retail in this state shall pay
23 a tax or excise to the state for the privilege of engaging in that business during any part of the
24 calendar year 2024. In calendar year 2024, the tax shall be measured by the number of cigarettes
25 held by the person in this state at 12:01 a.m. on September 1, 2024, and is computed at the rate of
26 twelve and one-half (12.5) mills for each cigarette on September 1, 2024.

27 (b) Each distributor licensed to do business in this state pursuant to this chapter shall pay a
28 tax or excise to the state for the privilege of engaging in that business during any part of the calendar
29 year 2024. The tax is measured by the number of stamps, whether affixed or to be affixed to
30 packages of cigarettes, as required by § 44-20-28. In calendar year 2024 the tax is measured by the
31 number of stamps, whether affixed or to be affixed, held by the distributor at 12:01 a.m. on
32 September 1, 2024, and is computed at the rate of twelve and one-half (12.5) mills per cigarette in
33 the package to which the stamps are affixed or to be affixed.

34 (c) Each person subject to the payment of the tax imposed by this section shall, on or before

1 [September 16, 2024, file a return, under oath or certified under the penalties of perjury, with the](#)
2 [tax administrator on forms furnished by the tax administrator, showing the amount of cigarettes](#)
3 [and the number of stamps in that person's possession in this state at 12:01 a.m. on September 1,](#)
4 [2024, as described in this section above, and the amount of tax due, and shall at the time of filing](#)
5 [the return pay the tax to the tax administrator. Failure to obtain forms shall not be an excuse for the](#)
6 [failure to make a return containing the information required by the tax administrator.](#)

7 [\(d\) The tax administrator may prescribe rules and regulations, not inconsistent with law,](#)
8 [regarding the assessment and collection of the tax imposed by this section.](#)

9 SECTION 15. The title of Chapter 44-20 of the General Laws entitled "Cigarette and Other
10 Tobacco Products Tax" is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 ~~CHAPTER 44-20~~

12 ~~Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products Tax~~

13 CHAPTER 44-20

14 CIGARETTE, OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS, AND ELECTRONIC NICOTINE-

15 DELIVERY SYSTEM PRODUCTS

16 SECTION 16. Sections 44-20-1, 44-20-2, 44-20-3, 44-20-4, 44-20-4.1, 44-20-5, 44-20-
17 8.2, 44-20-13.2, 44-20-15, 44-20-33, 44-20-35, 44-20-40, 44-20-40.1, 44-20-43, 44-20-45, 44-20-
18 47 and 44-20-51.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-20 entitled "Cigarette and Other Tobacco
19 Products Tax" are hereby amended to read as follows:

20 **44-20-1. Definitions.**

21 Whenever used in this chapter, unless the context requires otherwise:

22 (1) "Administrator" means the tax administrator;

23 (2) "Cigarettes" means and includes any cigarettes suitable for smoking in cigarette form,
24 ["heat not burn products,"](#) and each sheet of cigarette rolling paper, including but not limited to,
25 paper made into a hollow cylinder or cone, made with paper or any other material, with or without
26 a filter suitable for use in making cigarettes;

27 (3) "Dealer" means any person whether located within or outside of this state, who sells or
28 distributes cigarettes and/or other tobacco products [and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system](#)
29 [products to](#) a consumer in this state;

30 (4) "Distributor" means any person:

31 (A) Whether located within or outside of this state, other than a dealer, who sells or
32 distributes cigarettes and/or other tobacco products [and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system](#)
33 [products](#) within or into this state. Such term shall not include any cigarette or other tobacco product
34 manufacturer, export warehouse proprietor, or importer with a valid permit under 26 U.S.C. § 5712,

1 if such person sells or distributes cigarettes and/or other tobacco products and/or electronic
2 nicotine-delivery system products in this state only to licensed distributors, or to an export
3 warehouse proprietor or another manufacturer with a valid permit under 26 U.S.C. § 5712;

4 (B) Selling cigarettes and/or other tobacco products and/or electronic nicotine-delivery
5 system products directly to ~~consumers~~ purchasers in this state by means of at least twenty-five (25)
6 vending machines;

7 (C) Engaged in this state in the business of manufacturing cigarettes and/or other tobacco
8 products and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products or any person engaged in the business
9 of selling cigarettes and/or other tobacco products and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system
10 products to dealers, or to other persons, for the purpose of resale only; provided, that seventy-five
11 percent (75%) of all cigarettes and/or other tobacco products and/or electronic nicotine-delivery
12 system products sold by that person in this state are sold to dealers or other persons for resale and
13 selling cigarettes and/or other tobacco products and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products
14 directly to at least forty (40) dealers or other persons for resale; or

15 (D) Maintaining one or more regular places of business in this state for that purpose;
16 provided, that seventy-five percent (75%) of the sold cigarettes and/or other tobacco products
17 and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products are purchased directly from the manufacturer
18 and selling cigarettes and/or other tobacco products and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system
19 products directly to at least forty (40) dealers or other persons for resale;

20 (5) “E-liquid” and “e-liquid products” mean any liquid or substance placed in or sold for
21 use in an electronic nicotine-delivery system which generally utilizes a heating element that
22 aerosolizes, vaporizes or combusts a liquid or other substance containing nicotine or nicotine
23 derivative:

24 (a) Whether the liquid or substance contains nicotine or a nicotine derivative; or,

25 (b) Whether sold separately or sold in combination with a personal vaporizer, electronic
26 nicotine-delivery system, or an electronic inhaler.

27 (6) “Electronic nicotine-delivery system” means an electronic device that may be used to
28 simulate smoking in the delivery of nicotine or other substance to a person inhaling from the device,
29 and includes, but is not limited to, an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo,
30 electronic little cigars, electronic pipe, electronic hookah, e-liquids, e-liquid products, or any related
31 device and any cartridge or other component of such device.

32 (7) “Electronic nicotine-delivery system products” means any combination of electronic
33 nicotine-delivery system and/or e-liquid and/or any derivative thereof, and/or any e-liquid
34 container. Electronic nicotine-delivery system products shall include hemp-derived consumable

1 [CBD products as defined in § 2-26-3.](#)

2 ~~(5)~~(8) “Importer” means any person who imports into the United States, either directly or
3 indirectly, a finished cigarette or other tobacco product [and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system](#)
4 [product](#) for sale or distribution;

5 ~~(6)~~(9) “Licensed,” when used with reference to a manufacturer, importer, distributor or
6 dealer, means only those persons who hold a valid and current license issued under § 44-20-2 for
7 the type of business being engaged in. When the term “licensed” is used before a list of entities,
8 such as “licensed manufacturer, importer, wholesale dealer, or retailer dealer,” such term shall be
9 deemed to apply to each entity in such list;

10 ~~(7)~~(10) “Manufacturer” means any person who manufactures, fabricates, assembles,
11 processes, or labels a finished cigarette and/or other tobacco products [and/or electronic nicotine-](#)
12 [delivery system products](#);

13 ~~(8)~~(11) “Other tobacco products” (OTP) means any cigars (excluding Little Cigars, as
14 defined in § 44-20.2-1, which are subject to cigarette tax), cheroots, stogies, smoking tobacco
15 (including granulated, plug cut, crimp cut, ready rubbed and any other kinds and forms of tobacco
16 suitable for smoking in a pipe or otherwise), chewing tobacco (including Cavendish, twist, plug,
17 scrap and any other kinds and forms of tobacco suitable for chewing), any and all forms of hookah,
18 shisha and “mu’assel” tobacco, snuff, and shall include any other articles or products made of or
19 containing tobacco, in whole or in part, or any tobacco substitute, except cigarettes;

20 ~~(9)~~(12) “Person” means any individual, including an employee or agent, firm, fiduciary,
21 partnership, corporation, trust, or association, however formed;

22 ~~(10)~~(13) “Pipe” means an apparatus made of any material used to burn or vaporize products
23 so that the smoke or vapors can be inhaled or ingested by the user;

24 ~~(11)~~(14) “Place of business” means any location where cigarettes and/or other tobacco
25 products [and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products](#) are sold, stored, or kept, including,
26 but not limited to; any storage room, attic, basement, garage or other facility immediately adjacent
27 to the location. It also includes any receptacle, hide, vessel, vehicle, airplane, train, or vending
28 machine;

29 ~~(12)~~(15) “Sale” or “sell” means gifts, exchanges, and barter of cigarettes and/or other
30 tobacco products [and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products](#). The act of holding, storing,
31 or keeping cigarettes and/or other tobacco products [and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system](#)
32 [products](#) at a place of business for any purpose shall be presumed to be holding the cigarettes and/or
33 other tobacco products [and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products](#) for sale. Furthermore,
34 any sale of cigarettes and/or other tobacco products [and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system](#)

1 [products](#) by the servants, employees, or agents of the licensed dealer during business hours at the
2 place of business shall be presumed to be a sale by the licensee;

3 ~~(13)~~(16) “Stamp” means the impression, device, stamp, label, or print manufactured,
4 printed, or made as prescribed by the administrator to be affixed to packages of cigarettes, as
5 evidence of the payment of the tax provided by this chapter or to indicate that the cigarettes are
6 intended for a sale or distribution in this state that is exempt from state tax under the provisions of
7 state law; and also includes impressions made by metering machines authorized to be used under
8 the provisions of this chapter.

9 ~~44-20-2. **Importer, distributor, and dealer licenses required — Licenses required.**~~
10 **Manufacturer, importer, distributor, and dealer licenses required — Licenses required.**

11 [\(a\) Each manufacturer engaging in the business of selling any cigarette and/or any tobacco](#)
12 [products, except for cigars, and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products in this state shall](#)
13 [secure a license, unless otherwise prohibited by federal law, from the administrator before engaging](#)
14 [in that business, or continuing to engage in it.](#)

15 [\(b\) Each person engaging in the business of selling cigarette and/or any tobacco products](#)
16 [and/or any electronic nicotine-delivery system products](#) in this state, including any [manufacturer,](#)
17 [importer,](#) distributor or dealer, shall secure a license from the administrator before engaging in that
18 business, or continuing to engage in it. A separate application and license is required for each place
19 of business operated by a distributor, [manufacturer, importer,](#) or dealer; provided, that an operator
20 of vending machines for cigarette products is not required to obtain a distributor’s license for each
21 machine. If the applicant for a license does not have a place of business in this state, the license
22 shall be issued for such applicant’s principal place of business, wherever located. A licensee shall
23 notify the administrator within thirty (30) days in the event that it changes its principal place of
24 business. A separate license is required for each class of business if the applicant is engaged in
25 more than one of the activities required to be licensed by this section. No person shall maintain or
26 operate or cause to be operated a vending machine for cigarette products without procuring a
27 dealer’s license for each machine.

28 [\(c\) Effective January 1, 2025, the administrator shall implement a single license and](#)
29 [renewal application that allows for the licensure of retailers/dealers of cigarettes and/or any tobacco](#)
30 [products and/or any electronic nicotine-delivery system products and a separate single license and](#)
31 [renewal application that allows for the licensure of distributors, manufacturers, and importers of](#)
32 [cigarettes and/or any tobacco products and/or any electronic nicotine-delivery system products.](#)

33 [\(d\) Immediately following the enactment of this chapter, any electronic nicotine-delivery](#)
34 [system products distributor or dealer, licensed in good-standing by the department of health](#)

1 [pursuant to chapter 1 of title 23, shall be considered licensed for purposes of compliance with this](#)
2 [chapter until the renewal date for such license pursuant to chapter 20 of title 44 occurs; thereafter,](#)
3 [such distributors and dealers shall be required to comply with the license requirements in this](#)
4 [chapter.](#)

5 **44-20-3. Penalties for unlicensed business.**

6 Any [manufacturer, importer,](#) distributor or dealer who sells, offers for sale, or possesses
7 with intent to sell, cigarettes and/or any other tobacco products [and/or any electronic nicotine](#)
8 [delivery system products,](#) without a license as provided in § 44-20-2, shall be guilty of a
9 misdemeanor, and shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each offense, or
10 be imprisoned for a term not to exceed one (1) year, or be punished by both a fine and
11 imprisonment.

12 **44-20-4. Application for license — Display.**

13 All licenses are issued by the tax administrator upon approval of application, stating, on
14 forms prescribed by the tax administrator, the information he or she may require for the proper
15 administration of this chapter. Each application for ~~an~~ [a manufacturer's,](#) importer's, or distributor's
16 license shall be accompanied by ~~a~~ [an application](#) fee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000); provided,
17 that for a distributor who does not affix stamps, the [application](#) fee shall be one hundred dollars
18 (\$100); each application for a dealer's license shall be accompanied by ~~a fee~~ [an application fee](#) of
19 twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). Each issued license shall be prominently displayed on the premises
20 within this state, if any, covered by the license. In the instance of an application for a distributor's
21 license, the administrator shall require, in addition to other information as may be deemed
22 necessary, the filing of affidavits from three (3) cigarette manufacturers with national distribution
23 stating that the manufacturer will supply the distributor if the applicant is granted a license.

24 **44-20-4.1. License availability.**

25 (a) No license under this chapter may be granted, maintained or renewed if the applicant,
26 or any combination of persons owning directly or indirectly any interests in the applicant:

27 (1) Owes five hundred dollars (\$500) or more in delinquent taxes;

28 (2) Is delinquent in any tax filings for one month or more;

29 (3) Had a license under this chapter revoked by the administrator within the past two (2)
30 years;

31 (4) Has been convicted of a crime relating to cigarettes and/or other tobacco products
32 [and/or any electronic nicotine-delivery system products;](#)

33 (5) Is a cigarette manufacturer or importer that is neither: (i) A participating manufacturer
34 as defined in subsection II (jj) of the "Master Settlement Agreement" as defined in § 23-71-2; nor

1 (ii) In full compliance with chapter 20.2 of this title and § 23-71-3;

2 (6) Has imported, or caused to be imported, into the United States any cigarette and/or
3 other tobacco product and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products in violation of 19 U.S.C.
4 § 1681a or any other state or federal law; or

5 (7) Has imported, or caused to be imported into the United States, or manufactured for sale
6 or distribution in the United States any cigarette that does not fully comply with the Federal
7 Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act (15 U.S.C. § 1331 et seq.).

8 (b)(1) No person shall apply for a new license or permit (as defined in § 44-19-1) or renewal
9 of a license or permit, and no license or permit shall be issued or renewed for any applicant, or any
10 combination of persons owning directly or indirectly any interests in the applicant, unless all
11 outstanding fines, fees, or other charges relating to any license or permit held by the applicant, or
12 any combination of persons owning directly or indirectly any interests in the applicant, as well as
13 any other tax obligations of the applicant, or any combination of persons owning directly or
14 indirectly any interests in the applicant have been paid.

15 (2) No license or permit shall be issued relating to a business until all prior licenses or
16 permits relating to that business or to that location have been officially terminated and all fines,
17 fees, or charges relating to the prior license or permit have been paid or otherwise resolved or the
18 administrator has found that the person applying for the new license or permit is not acting as an
19 agent for the prior licensee or permit holder who is subject to any such related fines, fees or charges
20 that are still due. Evidence of such agency status includes, but is not limited to, a direct familial
21 relationship and/or an employment, contractual, or other formal financial or business relationship
22 with the prior licensee or permit holder.

23 (3) No person shall apply for a new license or permit pertaining to a specific location in
24 order to evade payment of any fines, fees, or other charges relating to a prior license or permit.

25 (4) No new license or permit shall be issued for a business at a specific location for which
26 a license or permit already has been issued unless there is a bona fide, good-faith change in
27 ownership of the business at that location.

28 (5) No license or permit shall be issued, renewed, or maintained for any person, including
29 the owners of the business being licensed or having applied and received a permit, that has been
30 convicted of violating any criminal law relating to tobacco products, the payment of taxes, or fraud
31 or has been ordered to pay civil fines of more than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) dollars
32 for violations of any civil law relating to tobacco products, the payment of taxes, or fraud.

33 ~~**44-20-5. Duration of importer's, and dealer's licenses. Renewal. Expiration, duration,**~~
34 ~~**and renewal of manufacturer's, importer's, distributor's and dealer's licenses.**~~

1 (a) Effective January 1, 2025 to add manufacturer and distributor: Any manufacturer,
2 importer, or distributor license and any license issued by the tax administrator authorizing a dealer
3 to sell cigarettes and/or other tobacco products and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products
4 in this state shall expire at midnight on June 30 next succeeding the date of issuance unless (1)
5 suspended or revoked by the tax administrator, (2) the business with respect to which the license
6 was issued changes ownership, (3) the manufacturer, importer, distributor or dealer ceases to
7 transact the business for which the license was issued, or (4) after a period of time set by the
8 administrator; provided such period of time shall not be longer than three (3) years, in any of which
9 cases the license shall expire and terminate and the holder shall immediately return the license to
10 the tax administrator.

11 (b) Every holder of a dealer's license shall annually, on or before February 1 of each year,
12 renew its license by filing an application for renewal along with a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00)
13 renewal fee. The renewal license is valid for the period July 1 of that calendar year through June
14 30 of the subsequent calendar year.

15 **44-20-8.2. Transactions only with licensed manufacturers, importers, distributors,**
16 **and dealers.**

17 A manufacturer or importer may sell or distribute cigarettes and/or other tobacco products
18 and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products to a person located or doing business within
19 this state, only if such person is a licensed importer or distributor. An importer may obtain cigarettes
20 and/or other tobacco products and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products only from a
21 licensed manufacturer. A distributor may sell or distribute cigarettes and/or other tobacco products
22 and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products to a person located or doing business within
23 this state, only if such person is a licensed distributor or dealer. A distributor may obtain cigarettes
24 and/or other tobacco products and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products only from a
25 licensed manufacturer, importer, or distributor. A dealer may obtain cigarettes and/or other tobacco
26 products and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products only from a licensed distributor.

27 Provided, however, this section shall not apply to cigars.

28 **44-20-13.2. ~~Tax imposed on other tobacco products, smokeless tobacco, cigars, and~~**
29 **~~pipe tobacco products.~~ Tax imposed on other tobacco products, smokeless tobacco, cigars,**
30 **pipe tobacco products and electronic nicotine-delivery products.**

31 (a) A tax is imposed on all other tobacco products, smokeless tobacco, cigars, ~~and~~ pipe
32 tobacco products, and electronic nicotine-delivery system products sold, or held for sale in the state
33 by any person, the payment of the tax to be accomplished according to a mechanism established by
34 the administrator, division of taxation, department of revenue. The tax imposed by this section shall

1 be as follows:

2 (1) For all other tobacco products, smokeless tobacco, cigars, and pipe tobacco products,
3 at the rate of eighty percent (80%) of the wholesale cost of other tobacco products, cigars, pipe
4 tobacco products, and smokeless tobacco other than snuff.

5 (2) Notwithstanding the eighty percent (80%) rate in subsection (a) above, in the case of
6 cigars, the tax shall not exceed fifty cents (\$.50) for each cigar.

7 (3) At the rate of one dollar (\$1.00) per ounce of snuff, and a proportionate tax at the like
8 rate on all fractional parts of an ounce thereof. Such tax shall be computed based on the net weight
9 as listed by the manufacturer; provided, however, that any product listed by the manufacturer as
10 having a net weight of less than 1.2 ounces shall be taxed as if the product has a net weight of 1.2
11 ounces.

12 (4) Effective January 1, 2025:

13 (i) For electronic nicotine-delivery system products that are prefilled, sealed by the
14 manufacturer, and not refillable, at the rate of fifty cents per milliliter (\$0.50/mL) of the e-liquid
15 and/or e-liquid products contained therein; and

16 (ii) For any other electronic nicotine-delivery system products, at the rate of ten percent
17 (10%) of the wholesale cost of such products, whether or not sold at wholesale, and if not sold,
18 then at the same rate upon the use by the wholesaler.

19 (iii) Existing Inventory Floor Tax. For all electronic nicotine-delivery system products held
20 by licensed electronic nicotine-delivery system products retailers as of January 1, 2025: Each
21 person engaging in the business of selling electronic nicotine-delivery system products at retail in
22 this state shall pay a tax measured by the volume of e-liquid and/or e-liquid products contained in
23 electronic nicotine-delivery system products that are prefilled, sealed by the manufacturer, and not
24 refillable and the wholesale cost of all other electronic nicotine-delivery system products held by
25 the person in this state at 12:01 a.m. on January 1, 2025, and is computed for electronic nicotine-
26 delivery system products that are prefilled, sealed by the manufacturer, and not refillable, at the
27 rate of fifty cents per milliliter (\$0.50/mL) of the e-liquid and/or e-liquid products contained therein
28 and for any other electronic nicotine-delivery system products at the rate of ten percent (10%) of
29 the wholesale cost of such products on January 1, 2025. Each person subject to the payment of the
30 tax imposed by this section shall, on or before January 16, 2025, file a return, under oath or certified
31 under the penalties of perjury, with the administrator on forms furnished by the administrator,
32 showing the volume of e-liquid and/or e-liquid products contained in electronic nicotine-delivery
33 system products which are prefilled, sealed by the manufacturer, and not refillable and the
34 wholesale cost of all other electronic nicotine-delivery system products in that person's possession

1 in this state at 12:01 a.m. on January 1, 2025, as described in this section, and the amount of tax
2 due, and shall at the time of filing the return pay the tax to the administrator. Failure to obtain forms
3 shall not be an excuse for the failure to make a return containing the information required by the
4 administrator.

5 (iv) For all electronic nicotine-delivery system products sold by licensed electronic
6 nicotine-delivery system products distributors, manufacturers and/or importers in Rhode Island as
7 of January 1, 2025: any person engaging in the business of distributing at wholesale electronic
8 nicotine-delivery system products in this state shall pay a tax measured by the volume of e-liquid
9 and/or e-liquid products contained in electronic nicotine-delivery system products that are prefilled,
10 sealed by the manufacturer, and not refillable computed at the rate of fifty cents per milliliter
11 (\$0.50/mL) of the e-liquid and/or e-liquid products contained therein and for all other electronic
12 nicotine-delivery system products at the rate of ten percent (10%) of the wholesale cost of such
13 products.

14 (b)(1) Prior to January 1, 2025, any ~~Any~~ dealer having in his or her possession any other
15 tobacco products with respect to the storage or use of which a tax is imposed by this section shall,
16 within five (5) days after coming into possession of the other tobacco products in this state, file a
17 return with the tax administrator in a form prescribed by the tax administrator. The return shall be
18 accompanied by a payment of the amount of the tax shown on the form to be due. Records required
19 under this section shall be preserved on the premises described in the relevant license in such a
20 manner as to ensure permanency and accessibility for inspection at reasonable hours by authorized
21 personnel of the administrator.

22 (2) Effective January 1, 2025, all other tobacco products, except for cigars, and electronic
23 nicotine-delivery system products sold at wholesale in Rhode Island must be sold by a Rhode Island
24 licensed distributor, manufacturer or importer, and purchases of other tobacco products, except for
25 cigars, and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products, from an unlicensed distributor,
26 manufacturer or importer are prohibited. Any other tobacco products, except for cigars, and/or
27 electronic nicotine-delivery system products purchased and/or obtained from an unlicensed person
28 shall be subject to the terms of this chapter including, but not limited to, § 44-20-15 and shall be
29 taxed pursuant to § 44-20-13.2.

30 (3) Effective January 1, 2025, any dealer having in their possession any cigars with respect
31 to the storage or use of which a tax is imposed by this section shall, within five (5) days after
32 coming into possession of cigars in this state, file a return with the tax administrator in a form
33 prescribed by the tax administrator. The return shall be accompanied by a payment of the amount
34 of the tax shown on the form to be due. Records required under this section shall be preserved on

1 [the premises described in the relevant license in such a manner as to ensure permanency and](#)
2 [accessibility for inspection at reasonable hours by authorized personnel of the administrator.](#)

3 (c) The proceeds collected are paid into the general fund.

4 ~~44-20-15. Confiscation of contraband cigarettes, other tobacco products, and other~~
5 ~~property.~~ **Confiscation of contraband cigarettes, other tobacco products, electronic nicotine-**
6 **delivery system products and other property.**

7 (a) All cigarettes, ~~and~~ other tobacco products, [and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system](#)
8 [products](#) that are held for sale or distribution within the borders of this state in violation of the
9 requirements of this chapter [or federal law](#) are declared to be contraband goods and may be seized
10 by the tax administrator or his or her agents, or employees, or by any sheriff, or his or her deputy,
11 or any police officer when directed by the tax administrator to do so, without a warrant. All
12 contraband goods seized by the state under this chapter shall be destroyed.

13 (b) All fixtures, equipment, and all other materials and personal property on the premises
14 of any distributor or dealer who, with the intent to defraud the state, fails to keep or make any
15 record, return, report, or inventory; keeps or makes any false or fraudulent record, return, report, or
16 inventory required by this chapter; refuses to pay any tax imposed by this chapter; or attempts in
17 any manner to evade or defeat the requirements of this chapter shall be forfeited to the state.

18 ~~44-20-33. Sale of contraband cigarettes or contraband other tobacco products~~
19 ~~prohibited.~~ **Sale of contraband cigarettes, contraband other tobacco products or contraband**
20 **electronic nicotine-delivery systems products prohibited.**

21 No distributor shall sell, and no other person shall sell, offer for sale, display for sale, or
22 possess with intent to sell any contraband other tobacco products [without written record of the](#)
23 [payment of tax imposed by this chapter, or contraband electronic nicotine-delivery system products](#)
24 [without written record of the payment of tax imposed by this chapter](#) or contraband cigarettes, the
25 packages or boxes of which do not bear stamps evidencing the payment of the tax imposed by this
26 chapter.

27 ~~44-20-35. Penalties for violations as to unstamped contraband cigarettes, or~~
28 ~~contraband other tobacco products.~~ **Penalties for violations as to unstamped contraband**
29 **cigarettes, contraband other tobacco products or contraband electronic nicotine-delivery**
30 **system products.**

31 (a) Any person who violates any provision of §§ 44-20-33 and 44-20-34 shall be fined or
32 imprisoned, or both fined and imprisoned, as follows:

33 (1) For a first offense in a twenty-four-month (24) period, fined not more than ten (10)
34 times the retail value of the contraband cigarettes, [contraband electronic nicotine-delivery system](#)

1 [products](#) and/or contraband other tobacco products, or be imprisoned not more than one (1) year,
2 or be both fined and imprisoned;

3 (2) For a second or subsequent offense in a twenty-four-month (24) period, fined not more
4 than twenty-five (25) times the retail value of the contraband cigarettes, [contraband electronic](#)
5 [nicotine-delivery system products](#), and/or contraband other tobacco products, or be imprisoned not
6 more than three (3) years, or be both fined and imprisoned.

7 (b) When determining the amount of a fine sought or imposed under this section, evidence
8 of mitigating factors, including history, severity, and intent shall be considered.

9 **44-20-40. Records — Investigation and inspection of books, premises and stock.**

10 (a) Each manufacturer, importer, distributor and dealer shall maintain copies of invoices or
11 equivalent documentation for, or itemized for, each of its facilities for each transaction (other than
12 a retail transaction with a ~~consumer~~ [purchaser](#)) involving the sale, purchase, transfer, consignment,
13 or receipt of cigarettes, [other tobacco products and electronic nicotine-delivery system products](#).
14 The invoices or documentation shall show the name and address of the other party and the quantity
15 by brand style of the cigarettes, [other tobacco products and electronic nicotine-delivery system](#)
16 [products](#) involved in the transaction. All records and invoices required under this section must be
17 safely preserved for three (3) years in a manner to insure permanency and accessibility for
18 inspection by the administrator or his or her authorized agents.

19 (b) Records required under this section shall be preserved on the premises described in the
20 relevant license in such a manner as to ensure permanency and accessibility for inspection at
21 reasonable hours by authorized personnel of the administrator. With the administrator's permission,
22 persons with multiple places of business may retain centralized records, but shall transmit
23 duplicates of the invoices or the equivalent documentation to each place of business within twenty-
24 four (24) hours upon the request of the administrator or his or her designee.

25 (c) The administrator or his or her authorized agents may examine the books, papers,
26 reports and records of any manufacturer, importer, distributor or dealer in this state for the purpose
27 of determining whether taxes imposed by this chapter have been fully paid, and may investigate
28 the stock of cigarettes, [other tobacco products and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products](#)
29 in or upon any premises for the purpose of determining whether the provisions of this chapter are
30 being obeyed. The administrator in his or her sole discretion may share the records and reports
31 required by such sections with law enforcement officials of the federal government or other states.

32 **44-20-40.1. Inspections.**

33 (a) The administrator or his or her duly authorized agent shall have authority to enter and
34 inspect, without a warrant during normal business hours, and with a warrant during nonbusiness

1 hours, the facilities and records of any manufacturer, importer, distributor, or dealer.

2 (b) In any case where the administrator or his or her duly authorized agent, or any police
3 officer of this state, has knowledge or reasonable grounds to believe that any vehicle is transporting
4 cigarettes, ~~or~~ other tobacco products [or electronic nicotine-delivery system products](#) in violation of
5 this chapter, the administrator, such agent, or such police officer, is authorized to stop such vehicle
6 and to inspect the same for contraband cigarettes, ~~or~~ [contraband](#) other tobacco products [or](#)
7 [contraband electronic nicotine-delivery system products](#).

8 **44-20-43. Violations as to reports and records.**

9 Any person who fails to submit the reports required in this chapter or by the tax
10 administrator under this chapter, or who makes any incomplete, false, or fraudulent report, or who
11 refuses to permit the tax administrator or his or her authorized agent to examine any books, records,
12 papers, or stocks of cigarettes, ~~or~~ other tobacco products [or electronic nicotine-delivery system](#)
13 [products](#) as provided in this chapter, or who refuses to supply the tax administrator with any other
14 information which the tax administrator requests for the reasonable and proper enforcement of the
15 provisions of this chapter, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment up to one
16 (1) year, or a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or both, for the first offense, and
17 for each subsequent offense, shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or be
18 imprisoned not more than five (5) years, or both.

19 **~~44-20-45. Importation of cigarettes and/or other tobacco products with intent to evade~~**
20 **~~tax.~~ Importation of cigarettes, other tobacco products and/or electronic nicotine-delivery**
21 **system products with intent to evade tax.**

22 Any person, firm, corporation, club, or association of persons who or that orders any
23 cigarettes, ~~and/or~~ other tobacco products, [and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products](#) for
24 another; or pools orders for cigarettes, ~~and/or~~ other tobacco products, [and/or electronic nicotine-](#)
25 [delivery system products](#) from any persons; or conspires with others for pooling orders; or receives
26 in this state any shipment of contraband cigarettes, ~~and/or~~ contraband other tobacco products,
27 [and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products](#) on which the tax imposed by this chapter has
28 not been paid, for the purpose and intention of violating the provisions of this chapter or to avoid
29 payment of the tax imposed in this chapter, is guilty of a felony and shall be fined one hundred
30 thousand dollars (\$100,000) or five (5) times the retail value of the cigarettes, [other tobacco](#)
31 [products, and/or electronic nicotine-delivery system products](#) involved, whichever is greater, or
32 imprisoned not more than fifteen (15) years, or both.

33 **44-20-47. Hearings by tax administrator.**

34 Any person aggrieved by any action under this chapter of the tax administrator or his or

1 her authorized agent for which a hearing is not elsewhere provided may apply to the tax
2 administrator, in writing, within thirty (30) days of the action for a hearing, stating the reasons why
3 the hearing should be granted and the manner of relief sought. The tax administrator shall notify
4 the applicant of the time and place fixed for the hearing. After the hearing, the tax administrator
5 may make the order in the premises as may appear to the tax administrator just and lawful and shall
6 furnish a copy of the order to the applicant. The tax administrator may, by notice in writing, at any
7 time, order a hearing on his or her own initiative and require the taxpayer or any other individual
8 whom the tax administrator believes to be in possession of information concerning any
9 manufacture, importation, or sale of cigarettes, other tobacco products, and/or electronic nicotine-
10 delivery system products to appear before the tax administrator or his or her authorized agent with
11 any specific books of account, papers, or other documents, for examination relative to the hearing.

12 **44-20-51.1. Civil penalties.**

13 (a) Whoever omits, neglects, or refuses to comply with any duty imposed upon him/her by
14 this chapter, or to do, or cause to be done, any of the things required by this chapter, or does
15 anything prohibited by this chapter, shall, in addition to any other penalty provided in this chapter,
16 be liable as follows:

17 (1) For a first offense in a twenty-four-month (24) period, a penalty of not more than ten
18 (10) times the retail value of the cigarettes, ~~and/or~~ other tobacco products and/or electronic nicotine-
19 delivery system products involved; and

20 (2) For a second or subsequent offense in a twenty-four-month (24) period, a penalty of
21 not more than twenty-five (25) times the retail value of the cigarettes, ~~and/or~~ other tobacco products
22 and/or contraband electronic nicotine-delivery system products involved.

23 (b) Whoever omits, neglects, or refuses to comply with any duty imposed upon him/her by
24 this chapter, or to do, or cause to be done, any of the things required by this chapter, or does
25 anything prohibited by this chapter, ~~fails to pay any tax imposed by this chapter at the time~~
26 ~~prescribed by law or regulations,~~ shall, in addition to any other penalty provided in this chapter, be
27 liable for a penalty of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or not more than five (5) times the tax due but
28 unpaid, whichever is greater.

29 (c) When determining the amount of a penalty sought or imposed under this section,
30 evidence of mitigating or aggravating factors, including history, severity, and intent, shall be
31 considered.

32 SECTION 17. Chapter 44-20 of the General Laws entitled "Cigarette and Other Tobacco
33 Products Tax" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:

34 **44-20-60. Exemption of sales of certain electronic nicotine-delivery system products.**

1 Notwithstanding any provision of the general or public laws to the contrary, the sale of
2 electronic nicotine-delivery system products are exempted from the taxes imposed by this chapter
3 if they are subject to the taxes imposed by chapter 28.11 of title 21 and chapter 70 of this title.

4 **44-20-61. Product restrictions on electronic nicotine-delivery system products.**

5 (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

6 (1) "Characterizing flavor" means a distinguishable taste or aroma, other than the taste or
7 aroma of tobacco or menthol, distinguishable by an ordinary consumer, imparted either prior to, or
8 during, consumption of an electronic nicotine-delivery system product or component part thereof,
9 including, but not limited to, tastes or aromas relating to any fruit, mint, wintergreen, chocolate,
10 vanilla, honey, candy, cocoa, dessert, alcoholic beverage, herb, or spice or which impart a cooling
11 or numbing sensation. The determination of whether an electronic nicotine-delivery system product
12 has a characterizing flavor shall not be based solely on the use of additives, flavorings, or particular
13 ingredients, but shall instead consider all aspects of a final product including, but not limited to,
14 taste, flavor and aroma, product labeling, and advertising statements. A flavor shall be presumed
15 to be a characterizing flavor if a dealer, manufacturer, or distributor has made a statement or claim
16 directed to consumers or the public about such flavor, whether expressed or implied, that it has a
17 distinguishable taste or aroma (other than the taste or aroma of tobacco or menthol).

18 (2) "Flavored electronic nicotine-delivery system product" means any electronic nicotine-
19 delivery system product that imparts a characterizing flavor.

20 (b) The sale, or offer for sale of, or the possession with intent to sell or to offer for sale,
21 flavored electronic nicotine-delivery system products to consumers within the State of Rhode
22 Island is hereby prohibited. Compassion centers and licensed cultivators registered with the State
23 of Rhode Island Department of Business Regulations-Office of Cannabis Regulation under chapter
24 28.6 of title 21 are exempt from this provision except as to products that contain, are made of, or
25 are derived from tobacco or nicotine, natural or synthetic.

26 **44-20-62. Disclosure of information-electronic nicotine-delivery system products**
27 **licensees.**

28 The department of health shall disclose to the tax administrator all information regarding
29 persons and entities who hold, or previously held, a license issued pursuant to § 23-1-56.

30 SECTION 18. Section 44-20-6 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-20 entitled "Cigarette
31 and Other Tobacco Products Tax" is hereby repealed.

32 ~~**44-20-6. Expiration and renewal of distributors' licenses:**~~

33 ~~Each distributor's license issued under the provisions of § 44-20-4 expires at midnight on~~
34 ~~May 31 next succeeding the date of issuance, unless sooner revoked by the tax administrator, as~~

1 ~~provided in § 44-20-8, or unless the business with respect to which the license was issued changes~~
2 ~~ownership, in either of which cases the holder of the license shall immediately return it to the tax~~
3 ~~administrator. The holder of each license may, annually, before the expiration date of the license~~
4 ~~then held by the licensee, renew his or her license for a further period of one year, on application~~
5 ~~accompanied by the fee prescribed in § 44-20-4.~~

6 SECTION 19. Sections 44-20.1-3 and 44-20.1-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-20.1
7 entitled "Delivery Sales of Cigarettes" are hereby amended to read as follows:

8 **44-20.1-3. Age Verification requirements.**

9 (a) No person, including but not limited to online retailers, shall mail, ship, or otherwise
10 deliver cigarettes, other tobacco products, or electronic nicotine-delivery systems in connection
11 with a delivery sale unless such person prior to the first delivery sale to such ~~consumer~~ purchaser:

12 (1) Obtains from the prospective ~~consumer~~ purchaser a certification that includes:

13 (i) A reliable confirmation that the ~~consumer~~ purchaser is at least the legal minimum
14 ~~purchase sales~~ age; and

15 (ii) A statement signed by the prospective ~~consumer~~ purchaser in writing that certifies the
16 prospective ~~consumer~~ purchaser's address and that the ~~consumer~~ purchaser is at least ~~eighteen (18)~~
17 twenty-one (21) years of age. Such statement shall also confirm:

18 (A) That the prospective ~~consumer~~ purchaser understands that signing another person's
19 name to such certification is illegal;

20 (B) That the sale of cigarettes to individuals under the legal minimum ~~purchase sales~~ age
21 is illegal;

22 ~~(C) That the purchase of cigarettes by individuals under the legal minimum purchase age~~
23 ~~is illegal under the laws of the state;~~ and

24 ~~(D)~~(C) That the prospective consumer wants to receive mailings from a tobacco company;

25 (2) Makes a good faith effort to verify the information contained in the certification
26 provided by the prospective consumer pursuant to subsection (a)(1) of this section against a
27 commercially available database, or obtains a photocopy or other image of the valid, government-
28 issued identification stating the date of birth or age of the individual placing the order;

29 (3) Provides to the prospective ~~consumer~~ purchaser, via e-mail or other means, a notice
30 that meets the requirements of § 44-20.1-4; and

31 (4) In the case of an order for cigarettes and/or other tobacco products, and/or electronic
32 nicotine-delivery system products pursuant to an advertisement on the Internet, receives payment
33 for the delivery sale from the prospective ~~consumer~~ purchaser by a credit or debit card that has been
34 issued in such ~~consumer's~~ purchaser's name or by check.

1 (b) Persons accepting purchase orders for delivery sales may request that the prospective
2 ~~consumers~~ purchasers provide their e-mail addresses.

3 (c) The division of taxation, in consultation with the department of health, may promulgate
4 rules and regulations pertaining to this section.

5 **44-20.1-4. Disclosure requirements.**

6 The notice required under ~~subdivision~~ § 44-20.1-3(a)(3) shall include:

7 (a) A prominent and clearly legible statement that the sale of cigarettes, other tobacco
8 products, and electronic nicotine-delivery system products ~~sales~~ to ~~consumers~~ individuals below
9 the legal minimum ~~purchase sales~~ age ~~are is~~ illegal;

10 (b) A prominent and clearly legible statement that sales of cigarettes, other tobacco
11 products, and electronic nicotine-delivery system products, are restricted to those ~~consumers~~
12 individuals who provide verifiable proof of age in accordance with § 44-20.1-3; and

13 (c) A prominent and clearly legible statement that the sale of cigarettes, other tobacco
14 products, and electronic nicotine-delivery system products, ~~sales~~ are subject to tax under the
15 provisions of § 44-20-12 or § 44-20-13.2, and an explanation of how such tax has been, or is to be
16 paid with respect to such delivery sale.

17 SECTION 20. Section 44-23-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-23 entitled "Estate and
18 Transfer Taxes — Enforcement and Collection" is hereby amended to read as follows:

19 **44-23-1. Statements filed by executors, administrators and heirs-at-law.**

20 (a) Every executor, administrator, and heir-at-law, within nine (9) months after the death
21 of the decedent, shall file with the tax administrator a statement under oath showing the full and
22 fair cash value of the estate, the amounts paid out from the estate for claims, expenses, charges, and
23 fees, and the statement shall also provide the names and addresses of all persons entitled to take
24 any share or interest of the estate as legatees or distributees of the estate.

25 (b) For estates of decedents with a date of death prior to January 1, 2025, ~~A~~ a fee of fifty
26 dollars (\$50.00) ~~is~~ shall be paid when filing any statement required by this section. All fees received
27 under this section are allocated to the tax administrator for enforcement and collection of taxes.

28 (c) For estates of decedents with a date of death on or after January 1, 2025, no fee shall be
29 paid when filing any statement required by this section.

30 SECTION 21. Section 44-30-12 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-30 entitled "Personal
31 Income Tax" is hereby amended to read as follows:

32 **44-30-12. Rhode Island income of a resident individual.**

33 (a) **General.** The Rhode Island income of a resident individual means his or her adjusted
34 gross income for federal income tax purposes, with the modifications specified in this section.

1 **(b) Modifications increasing federal adjusted gross income.** There shall be added to
2 federal adjusted gross income:

3 (1) Interest income on obligations of any state, or its political subdivisions, other than
4 Rhode Island or its political subdivisions;

5 (2) Interest or dividend income on obligations or securities of any authority, commission,
6 or instrumentality of the United States, but not of Rhode Island or its political subdivisions, to the
7 extent exempted by the laws of the United States from federal income tax but not from state income
8 taxes;

9 (3) The modification described in § 44-30-25(g);

10 (4)(i) The amount defined below of a nonqualified withdrawal made from an account in
11 the tuition savings program pursuant to § 16-57-6.1. For purposes of this section, a nonqualified
12 withdrawal is:

13 (A) A transfer or rollover to a qualified tuition program under Section 529 of the Internal
14 Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 529, other than to the tuition savings program referred to in § 16-57-
15 6.1; and

16 (B) A withdrawal or distribution that is:

17 (I) Not applied on a timely basis to pay “qualified higher education expenses” as defined
18 in § 16-57-3(12) of the beneficiary of the account from which the withdrawal is made;

19 (II) Not made for a reason referred to in § 16-57-6.1(e); or

20 (III) Not made in other circumstances for which an exclusion from tax made applicable by
21 Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 529, pertains if the transfer, rollover,
22 withdrawal, or distribution is made within two (2) taxable years following the taxable year for
23 which a contributions modification pursuant to subsection (c)(4) of this section is taken based on
24 contributions to any tuition savings program account by the person who is the participant of the
25 account at the time of the contribution, whether or not the person is the participant of the account
26 at the time of the transfer, rollover, withdrawal or distribution;

27 (ii) In the event of a nonqualified withdrawal under subsection (b)(4)(i)(A) or (b)(4)(i)(B)
28 of this section, there shall be added to the federal adjusted gross income of that person for the
29 taxable year of the withdrawal an amount equal to the lesser of:

30 (A) The amount equal to the nonqualified withdrawal reduced by the sum of any
31 administrative fee or penalty imposed under the tuition savings program in connection with the
32 nonqualified withdrawal plus the earnings portion thereof, if any, includible in computing the
33 person’s federal adjusted gross income for the taxable year; and

34 (B) The amount of the person’s contribution modification pursuant to subsection (c)(4) of

1 this section for the person’s taxable year of the withdrawal and the two (2) prior taxable years less
2 the amount of any nonqualified withdrawal for the two (2) prior taxable years included in
3 computing the person’s Rhode Island income by application of this subsection for those years. Any
4 amount added to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to this subdivision shall constitute Rhode
5 Island income for residents, nonresidents and part-year residents;

6 (5) The modification described in § 44-30-25.1(d)(3)(i);

7 (6) The amount equal to any unemployment compensation received but not included in
8 federal adjusted gross income;

9 (7) The amount equal to the deduction allowed for sales tax paid for a purchase of a
10 qualified motor vehicle as defined by the Internal Revenue Code § 164(a)(6); and

11 (8) For any taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2020, the amount of any Paycheck
12 Protection Program loan forgiven for federal income tax purposes as authorized by the Coronavirus
13 Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act and/or the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 and/or
14 any other subsequent federal stimulus relief packages enacted by law, to the extent that the amount
15 of the loan forgiven exceeds \$250,000, including an individual’s distributive share of the amount
16 of a pass-through entity’s loan forgiveness in excess of \$250,000.

17 (c) **Modifications reducing federal adjusted gross income.** There shall be subtracted
18 from federal adjusted gross income:

19 (1) Any interest income on obligations of the United States and its possessions to the extent
20 includible in gross income for federal income tax purposes, and any interest or dividend income on
21 obligations, or securities of any authority, commission, or instrumentality of the United States to
22 the extent includible in gross income for federal income tax purposes but exempt from state income
23 taxes under the laws of the United States; provided, that the amount to be subtracted shall in any
24 case be reduced by any interest on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase or carry
25 obligations or securities the income of which is exempt from Rhode Island personal income tax, to
26 the extent the interest has been deducted in determining federal adjusted gross income or taxable
27 income;

28 (2) A modification described in § 44-30-25(f) or § 44-30-1.1(c)(1);

29 (3) The amount of any withdrawal or distribution from the “tuition savings program”
30 referred to in § 16-57-6.1 that is included in federal adjusted gross income, other than a withdrawal
31 or distribution or portion of a withdrawal or distribution that is a nonqualified withdrawal;

32 (4) Contributions made to an account under the tuition savings program, including the
33 “contributions carryover” pursuant to subsection (c)(4)(iv) of this section, if any, subject to the
34 following limitations, restrictions and qualifications:

1 (i) The aggregate subtraction pursuant to this subdivision for any taxable year of the
2 taxpayer shall not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) or one thousand dollars (\$1,000) if a joint
3 return;

4 (ii) The following shall not be considered contributions:

5 (A) Contributions made by any person to an account who is not a participant of the account
6 at the time the contribution is made;

7 (B) Transfers or rollovers to an account from any other tuition savings program account or
8 from any other “qualified tuition program” under section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code, 26
9 U.S.C. § 529; or

10 (C) A change of the beneficiary of the account;

11 (iii) The subtraction pursuant to this subdivision shall not reduce the taxpayer’s federal
12 adjusted gross income to less than zero (0);

13 (iv) The contributions carryover to a taxable year for purpose of this subdivision is the
14 excess, if any, of the total amount of contributions actually made by the taxpayer to the tuition
15 savings program for all preceding taxable years for which this subsection is effective over the sum
16 of:

17 (A) The total of the subtractions under this subdivision allowable to the taxpayer for all
18 such preceding taxable years; and

19 (B) That part of any remaining contribution carryover at the end of the taxable year which
20 exceeds the amount of any nonqualified withdrawals during the year and the prior two (2) taxable
21 years not included in the addition provided for in this subdivision for those years. Any such part
22 shall be disregarded in computing the contributions carryover for any subsequent taxable year;

23 (v) For any taxable year for which a contributions carryover is applicable, the taxpayer
24 shall include a computation of the carryover with the taxpayer’s Rhode Island personal income tax
25 return for that year, and if for any taxable year on which the carryover is based the taxpayer filed a
26 joint Rhode Island personal income tax return but filed a return on a basis other than jointly for a
27 subsequent taxable year, the computation shall reflect how the carryover is being allocated between
28 the prior joint filers;

29 (5) The modification described in § 44-30-25.1(d)(1);

30 (6) Amounts deemed taxable income to the taxpayer due to payment or provision of
31 insurance benefits to a dependent, including a domestic partner pursuant to chapter 12 of title 36 or
32 other coverage plan;

33 **(7) Modification for organ transplantation.**

34 (i) An individual may subtract up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) from federal adjusted

1 gross income if he or she, while living, donates one or more of his or her human organs to another
2 human being for human organ transplantation, except that for purposes of this subsection, “human
3 organ” means all or part of a liver, pancreas, kidney, intestine, lung, or bone marrow. A subtract
4 modification that is claimed hereunder may be claimed in the taxable year in which the human
5 organ transplantation occurs.

6 (ii) An individual may claim that subtract modification hereunder only once, and the
7 subtract modification may be claimed for only the following unreimbursed expenses that are
8 incurred by the claimant and related to the claimant’s organ donation:

9 (A) Travel expenses.

10 (B) Lodging expenses.

11 (C) Lost wages.

12 (iii) The subtract modification hereunder may not be claimed by a part-time resident or a
13 nonresident of this state;

14 **(8) Modification for taxable Social Security income.**

15 (i) For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2016:

16 (A) For a person who has attained the age used for calculating full or unreduced Social
17 Security retirement benefits who files a return as an unmarried individual, head of household, or
18 married filing separate whose federal adjusted gross income for the taxable year is less than eighty
19 thousand dollars (\$80,000); or

20 (B) A married individual filing jointly or individual filing qualifying widow(er) who has
21 attained the age used for calculating full or unreduced Social Security retirement benefits whose
22 joint federal adjusted gross income for the taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars
23 (\$100,000), an amount equal to the Social Security benefits includible in federal adjusted gross
24 income.

25 (ii) Adjustment for inflation. The dollar amount contained in subsections (c)(8)(i)(A) and
26 (c)(8)(i)(B) of this section shall be increased annually by an amount equal to:

27 (A) Such dollar amount contained in subsections (c)(8)(i)(A) and (c)(8)(i)(B) of this section
28 adjusted for inflation using a base tax year of 2000, multiplied by;

29 (B) The cost-of-living adjustment with a base year of 2000.

30 (iii) For the purposes of this section the cost-of-living adjustment for any calendar year is
31 the percentage (if any) by which the consumer price index for the preceding calendar year exceeds
32 the consumer price index for the base year. The consumer price index for any calendar year is the
33 average of the consumer price index as of the close of the twelve-month (12) period ending on
34 August 31, of such calendar year.

1 (iv) For the purpose of this section the term “consumer price index” means the last
2 consumer price index for all urban consumers published by the department of labor. For the purpose
3 of this section the revision of the consumer price index which is most consistent with the consumer
4 price index for calendar year 1986 shall be used.

5 (v) If any increase determined under this section is not a multiple of fifty dollars (\$50.00),
6 such increase shall be rounded to the next lower multiple of fifty dollars (\$50.00). In the case of a
7 married individual filing separate return, if any increase determined under this section is not a
8 multiple of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), such increase shall be rounded to the next lower multiple
9 of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00);

10 **(9) Modification of taxable retirement income from certain pension plans or**
11 **annuities.**

12 (i) For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2017, until the tax year beginning January
13 1, 2022, a modification shall be allowed for up to fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), and for tax
14 years beginning on or after January 1, 2023, until the tax year beginning January 1, 2024, a
15 modification shall be allowed for up to twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), and for tax years
16 beginning on or after January 1, 2025, a modification shall be allowed for up to fifty thousand
17 dollars (\$50,000), of taxable pension and/or annuity income that is included in federal adjusted
18 gross income for the taxable year:

19 (A) For a person who has attained the age used for calculating full or unreduced Social
20 Security retirement benefits who files a return as an unmarried individual, head of household, or
21 married filing separate whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than the
22 amount used for the modification contained in subsection (c)(8)(i)(A) of this section an amount not
23 to exceed \$15,000 for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2017, until the tax year beginning
24 January 1, 2022, and an amount not to exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for tax years
25 beginning on or after January 1, 2023, until the tax year beginning January 1, 2024, and an amount
26 not to exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2025,
27 of taxable pension and/or annuity income includible in federal adjusted gross income; or

28 (B) For a married individual filing jointly or individual filing qualifying widow(er) who
29 has attained the age used for calculating full or unreduced Social Security retirement benefits whose
30 joint federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than the amount used for the
31 modification contained in subsection (c)(8)(i)(B) of this section an amount not to exceed \$15,000
32 for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2017, until the tax year beginning January 1, 2022,
33 and an amount not to exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for tax years beginning on or after
34 January 1, 2023, until the tax year beginning January 1, 2024 and an amount not to exceed fifty

1 [thousand dollars \(\\$50,000\) for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2025](#), of taxable pension
2 and/or annuity income includible in federal adjusted gross income.

3 (ii) Adjustment for inflation. The dollar amount contained by reference in subsections
4 (c)(9)(i)(A) and (c)(9)(i)(B) of this section shall be increased annually for tax years beginning on
5 or after January 1, 2018, by an amount equal to:

6 (A) Such dollar amount contained by reference in subsections (c)(9)(i)(A) and (c)(9)(i)(B)
7 of this section adjusted for inflation using a base tax year of 2000, multiplied by;

8 (B) The cost-of-living adjustment with a base year of 2000.

9 (iii) For the purposes of this section, the cost-of-living adjustment for any calendar year is
10 the percentage (if any) by which the consumer price index for the preceding calendar year exceeds
11 the consumer price index for the base year. The consumer price index for any calendar year is the
12 average of the consumer price index as of the close of the twelve-month (12) period ending on
13 August 31, of such calendar year.

14 (iv) For the purpose of this section, the term “consumer price index” means the last
15 consumer price index for all urban consumers published by the department of labor. For the purpose
16 of this section, the revision of the consumer price index which is most consistent with the consumer
17 price index for calendar year 1986 shall be used.

18 (v) If any increase determined under this section is not a multiple of fifty dollars (\$50.00),
19 such increase shall be rounded to the next lower multiple of fifty dollars (\$50.00). In the case of a
20 married individual filing a separate return, if any increase determined under this section is not a
21 multiple of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), such increase shall be rounded to the next lower multiple
22 of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).

23 (vi) For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2022, the dollar amount contained by
24 reference in subsection (c)(9)(i)(A) shall be adjusted to equal the dollar amount contained in
25 subsection (c)(8)(i)(A), as adjusted for inflation, and the dollar amount contained by reference in
26 subsection(c)(9)(i)(B) shall be adjusted to equal the dollar amount contained in subsection
27 (c)(8)(i)(B), as adjusted for inflation;

28 (10) **Modification for Rhode Island investment in opportunity zones.** For purposes of
29 a taxpayer’s state tax liability, in the case of any investment in a Rhode Island opportunity zone by
30 the taxpayer for at least seven (7) years, a modification to income shall be allowed for the
31 incremental difference between the benefit allowed under 26 U.S.C. § 1400Z-2(b)(2)(B)(iv) and
32 the federal benefit allowed under 26 U.S.C. § 1400Z-2(c);

33 (11) **Modification for military service pensions.**

34 (i) For purposes of a taxpayer’s state tax liability, a modification to income shall be allowed

1 as follows:

2 (A) For the tax years beginning on January 1, 2023, a taxpayer may subtract from federal
3 adjusted gross income the taxpayer's military service pension benefits included in federal adjusted
4 gross income;

5 (ii) As used in this subsection, the term "military service" shall have the same meaning as
6 set forth in 20 C.F.R. § 212.2;

7 (iii) At no time shall the modification allowed under this subsection alone or in conjunction
8 with subsection (c)(9) exceed the amount of the military service pension received in the tax year
9 for which the modification is claimed; ~~and~~

10 (12) Any rebate issued to the taxpayer pursuant to § 44-30-103 to the extent included in
11 gross income for federal tax purposes; ~~and~~

12 (13) For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2025, in the case of a taxpayer that is
13 licensed in accordance with chapters 28.6 and/or 28.11 of title 21, the amount equal to any
14 expenditure that is eligible to be claimed as a federal income tax deduction but is disallowed under
15 26 U.S.C. § 280E.

16 (d) **Modification for Rhode Island fiduciary adjustment.** There shall be added to, or
17 subtracted from, federal adjusted gross income (as the case may be) the taxpayer's share, as
18 beneficiary of an estate or trust, of the Rhode Island fiduciary adjustment determined under § 44-
19 30-17.

20 (e) **Partners.** The amounts of modifications required to be made under this section by a
21 partner, which relate to items of income or deduction of a partnership, shall be determined under §
22 44-30-15.

23 SECTION 22. Sections 46-12-39.1, 46-12-40 and 46-12-41 of the General Laws in Chapter
24 46-12 entitled "Water Pollution" are hereby amended to read as follows:

25 ~~**46-12-39.1. No discharge certificate decal — Required. No discharge awareness and**~~
26 ~~**education.**~~

27 (a) Definitions. As used in this section and in conjunction with this chapter, the following
28 terms shall be construed as follows:

29 (1) ~~"Certification agent" means a marina or boatyard which is capable of installing sewage~~
30 ~~disposal holding tanks and related equipment; a certified marine sewage pump out facility,~~
31 ~~including a mobile facility; other established marine businesses, included, but not limited to, marine~~
32 ~~surveyors and mobile marine repair facilities, that are experienced in the evaluation, repair and/or~~
33 ~~installation of boat sewage systems; and local harbor masters and assistant harbor masters. "Marine~~
34 ~~sanitation device" means either a marine sanitation device-type I, a marine sanitation device-type~~

1 II, or a marine sanitation device-type III with a holding tank and through-hull fitting that would
2 allow sewage to be discharged overboard.

3 (b) ~~No person shall operate or moor for more than thirty (30) days, a boat in the waters of~~
4 ~~the state, that has a permanently installed marine toilet unless such boat displays in a prominent~~
5 ~~position an approved “no discharge certificate decal.”~~ At the time of registration, a boat owner shall
6 be provided with educational material notifying them that, if the recipient boat has a marine
7 sanitation device, the marine sanitation device must be properly secured in a manner that prevents
8 overboard discharges when operating in Rhode Island waters consistent with § 46-12-39.

9 (c) ~~Subsection 45-12-39.1(b) shall not apply to any vessel carrying a valid certificate of~~
10 ~~inspection issued by the U.S. Coast Guard pursuant to title 46 of the U.S. Code.~~

11 (d) ~~Two (2) no discharge certificate decals, differing in color, shall be made available by~~
12 ~~the department of environmental management for issuance to boats subject to the requirements of~~
13 ~~this section.~~

14 (1) ~~Decals of one color shall signify that the recipient boat has a marine toilet, in proper~~
15 ~~working order, which is either a marine sanitation device type I, a marine sanitation device type II,~~
16 ~~or a marine sanitation device type III with a holding tank and through hull fitting that would allow~~
17 ~~sewage to be discharged overboard, but the boat owner or operator had taken the steps necessary~~
18 ~~to prevent the discharge of sewage into the waters of the state.~~

19 (2) ~~Decals of the other color shall signify that the recipient boat either has a marine~~
20 ~~sanitation device type III with a holding tank and no through hull fitting that would allow sewage~~
21 ~~to be discharged overboard, or no marine toilet at all.~~

22 (e) ~~Certification shall remain in effect for forty eight (48) months after each certification,~~
23 ~~and no additional certification shall be required during that period.~~

24 (f) ~~The department of environmental management shall collect and deposit into a separate~~
25 ~~general revenue account a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each certificate to defray the cost of~~
26 ~~implementation of this section.~~

27 (g) ~~Certificate decals may be obtained from any certification agent.~~

28 (h) ~~Before a certificate decal may be issued, a certification agent must visually inspect each~~
29 ~~permanently installed marine toilet on a boat, as well as any associated plumbing or holding tank~~
30 ~~fixtures, to ascertain whether the boat is in compliance with § 46-12-39. If necessary, the~~
31 ~~certification agent shall perform a color-dye flush test of each toilet to verify compliance.~~

32 (i) ~~For inspections conducted pursuant to this section, certification agents may collect and~~
33 ~~retain a fee, not to exceed twenty five dollars (\$25.00) for each permanently installed marine toilet~~
34 ~~aboard each boat. This fee shall be in addition to the minimum ten dollar (\$10.00) fee for each~~

1 ~~decal issued, which certification agents shall collect and forward to the department of~~
2 ~~environmental management pursuant to subsection (f) above.~~

3 **46-12-40. Penalty for violations.**

4 (a) Every person in violation of § 46-12-39 or owning, operating or causing to be operated,
5 upon the waters of the state, a boat in violation of the provisions of § 46-12-39 or aiding in so doing,
6 shall for the first offense be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500), or be
7 imprisoned for not more than one year in the adult correctional institutions, or both such fine and
8 imprisonment, and for a second and each subsequent offense shall be fined not more than one
9 thousand dollars (\$1,000), or be imprisoned for not more than one year in the adult correctional
10 institutions, or both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court. If a municipality
11 assists in the prosecution of a violation of § 46-12-39 any fine imposed for that violation shall be
12 paid one-half (½) thereof to the general treasurer of the state and one-half (½) thereof to the
13 treasurer of the town or city where the offense occurred.

14 (b) ~~Every person in violation of § 46-12-39.1, or owning, operating or causing to be~~
15 ~~operated, upon the waters of the state, a boat in violation of the provisions of § 46-12-39.1, shall~~
16 ~~be guilty of a civil violation and subject to a fine of up to one hundred dollars (\$100). If a~~
17 ~~municipality assists in the prosecution of a violation of § 46-12-39.1, any fine imposed for that~~
18 ~~violation shall be paid one-half (½) thereof to the general treasurer of the state and one-half (½)~~
19 ~~thereof to the treasurer of the town or city where the offense occurred.~~

20 (c) Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of law, the municipal court shall have
21 concurrent jurisdiction with the district court to hear and adjudicate violations under this section.

22 **46-12-41. Enforcement.**

23 (a) The department of environmental management, harbormasters, assistant harbormasters,
24 police officers authorized to make arrests, and employees of the department of environmental
25 management authorized to enforce the provisions of chapter 22 of this title shall have the authority
26 to enforce the provisions of § 46-12-39 ~~and § 46-12-39.1~~. In the exercise of enforcing the provisions
27 of § 46-12-39 they shall have the authority to stop and board any vessel subject to this chapter,
28 regardless of whether the vessel is under way, making way, docked, or moored.

29 (b) Harbormasters and assistant harbormasters are authorized to make periodic color dye
30 flush tests of boats ~~subject to § 46-12-39.1~~, and may check ~~such~~ boats moored in their jurisdictions
31 for ~~no discharge certificate decals, as required pursuant to § 46-12-39.1~~ compliance with § 46-12-
32 39

33 (c) Municipalities of the state may deny a mooring permit to any boat not in compliance
34 with § ~~46-12-39.1~~ 46-12-39.

1 SECTION 23. All sections shall take effect upon passage, except for Sections 13 and 14
2 which shall be effective September 1, 2024, and Sections 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21
3 and 22 which shall be effective on January 1, 2025.

ARTICLE 7 AS AMENDED

RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

SECTION 1. Section 28-43-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 28-43 entitled "Employment Security — Contributions" is hereby amended to read as follows:

28-43-1. Definitions.

The following words and phrases as used in this chapter have the following meanings, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(1) "Balancing account" means a book account to be established within the employment security fund, the initial balance of which shall be established by the director as of September 30, 1979, by transferring the balance of the solvency account on that date to the balancing account.

(2) "Computation date" means September 30 of each year; provided, however, that in calendar year 2024, for the purposes of establishing which schedule shall be in effect for tax year 2025, "computation date" means any date between September 30 and December 31 in the discretion of the director of the department of labor.

(3) "Eligible employer" means an employer who has had three (3) consecutive experience years during each of which contributions have been credited to the employer's account and benefits have been chargeable to this account.

(4) "Employer's account" means a separate account to be established within the employment security fund by the director as of September 30, 1958, for each employer subject to chapters 42 — 44 of this title, out of the money remaining in that fund after the solvency account has been established in the fund, by crediting to each employer an initial credit balance bearing the same relation to the total fund balance so distributed, as his or her tax contributions to the fund during the period beginning October 1, 1955, and ending on September 30, 1958, have to aggregate tax contributions paid by all employers during the same period; provided, that nothing contained in this section shall be construed to grant to any employer prior claim or rights to the amount contributed by him or her to the fund.

(5) "Experience rate" means the contribution rate assigned to an employer's account under whichever is applicable of schedules A — I in § 28-43-8.

(6) "Experience year" means the period of twelve (12), consecutive calendar months ending September 30 of each year.

1 (7) "Most recent employer" means the last base-period employer from whom an individual
2 was separated from employment and for whom the individual worked for at least four (4) weeks,
3 and in each of those four (4) weeks had earnings of at least twenty (20) times the minimum hourly
4 wage as defined in chapter 12 of this title.

5 (8) "Reserve percentage" means, in relation to an employer's account, the net balance of
6 that account on a computation date, including any voluntary contributions made in accordance with
7 § 28-43-5.1, stated as a percentage of the employer's twelve-month (12) average taxable payroll
8 for the last thirty-six (36) months ended on the immediately preceding June 30.

9 (9) "Reserve ratio of fund" means the ratio which the total amount available for the
10 payment of benefits in the employment security fund on September 30, 1979, or any computation
11 date thereafter, minus any outstanding federal loan balance, plus an amount equal to funds
12 transferred to the job development fund through the job development assessment adjustment for
13 the prior calendar year, bears to the aggregate of all total payrolls subject to this chapter paid during
14 the twelve-month (12) period ending on the immediately preceding June 30, or the twelve-month
15 (12) average of all total payrolls during the thirty-six-month (36) period ending on that June 30,
16 whichever percentage figure is smaller.

17 (10) "Taxable payroll" means, for the purpose of this chapter, the total of all wages as
18 defined in § 28-42-3(29).

19 (11) "Tax year" means the calendar year.

20 (12) "Total payroll" means, for the purpose of this chapter, the total of all wages paid by
21 all employers who are required to pay contributions under the provisions of chapters 42 — 44 of
22 this title.

23 (13) "Unadjusted reserve ratio of fund" means the ratio which the total amount available
24 for the payment of benefits in the employment security fund on September 30, 1979, or any
25 computation date thereafter, minus any outstanding federal loan balance, bears to the aggregate of
26 all total payrolls subject to this chapter paid during the twelve-month (12) period ending on the
27 immediately preceding June 30, or the twelve-month (12) average of all total payrolls during the
28 thirty-six-month (36) period ending on that June 30, whichever percentage figure is smaller.

29 (14) "Voluntary contribution" means a contribution paid by an employer to his or her
30 account in accordance with § 28-43-5.1 to reduce the employer's experience rate for the ensuing
31 tax year.

32 SECTION 2. Section 42-64-36 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64 entitled "Rhode
33 Island Commerce Corporation" is hereby amended to read as follows:

34 **42-64-36. Program accountability.**

1 (a) The board of the Rhode Island commerce corporation shall be responsible for
2 establishing accountability standards, reporting standards, and outcome measurements for each of
3 its programs to include, but not be limited to, the use of tax credits, loans, loan guarantees, and
4 other financial transactions managed or utilized by the corporation. Included in the standards shall
5 be a set of principles and guidelines to be followed by the board to include:

6 (1) A set of outcomes against which the board will measure each program's and offering's
7 effectiveness;

8 (2) A set of standards for risk analysis for all of the programs especially the loans and loan
9 guarantee programs; and

10 (3) A process for reporting out all loans, loan guarantees, and any other financial
11 commitments made through the corporation that includes the purpose of the loan, financial data as
12 to payment history, and other related information.

13 (b) The board shall annually prepare a report starting in January 2015 which shall be
14 submitted to the house and senate. The report shall summarize the above listed information on each
15 of its programs and offerings and contain recommendations for modification, elimination, or
16 continuation.

17 (c) The commerce corporation shall prepare a report beginning January 1, 2019, which
18 shall be submitted to the house and senate within a period of ~~thirty (30)~~ forty-five (45) days of the
19 close of each quarter. The report shall summarize the information listed in subsection (a) of this
20 section on each of its programs and offerings, including any modifications, adjustments, clawbacks,
21 reallocations, alterations, or other changes, made from the close of the prior fiscal quarter and
22 include comparison data to the reports submitted pursuant to §§ 42-64.20-9(b), 42-64.21-8(a) and
23 (c), 42-64.22-14(a), 42-64.23-5(d), 42-64.24-5(d), 42-64.25-12, 42-64.26-6, 42-64.27-4, 42-64.28-
24 9, 42-64.29-7(a), 42-64.31-3, 44-48.3-13(b) and (c), chapters 64.20, 64.21, 64.22, 64.23, 64.24,
25 64.25, 64.26, 64.27, 64.28, 64.29, 64.30, 64.31, 64.32 of title 42 and § 44-48.3-13.

26 (d) The board shall coordinate its efforts with the office of revenue analysis to not duplicate
27 information on the use of tax credits and other tax expenditures.

28 SECTION 3. Sections 42-64.16-2 and 42-64.16-3 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.16
29 entitled "The Innovate Rhode Island Small Business Program" are hereby amended to read as
30 follows:

31 **42-64.16-2. Establishment of matching funds program.**

32 (a) There is established the Rhode Island SBIR/STTR Matching Funds Program to be
33 administered by STAC. In order to foster job creation and economic development in the state,
34 STAC may provide grants to eligible businesses to match funds received by a business as a SBIR

1 or STTR Phase I or II award, and to encourage businesses to apply for further SBIR or STTR
2 awards, and commercialize their technology and research.

3 (b) Eligibility. In order to be eligible for a grant under this section, a business must satisfy
4 all of the following conditions:

5 (1) The business must be a for-profit, Rhode Island-based business with fifty (50) or fewer
6 employees. For the purposes of this section, Rhode Island-based business is one that has its
7 principal place of business and at least fifty-one percent (51%) of its employees residing in this
8 state.

9 (2) The business must have received an SBIR/STTR Phase I award from a participating
10 federal agency in response to a specific federal solicitation. To receive the full Phase I matching
11 grant, the business must also have submitted a final Phase I report, demonstrated that the sponsoring
12 agency has interest in the Phase II proposal, and submitted a Phase II proposal to the agency. To
13 receive the full Phase II matching grant, the business must also have submitted a final Phase II
14 report.

15 (3) The business must satisfy all federal SBIR/STTR requirements.

16 (4) The business shall not receive concurrent funding support from other sources that
17 duplicates the purpose of this section.

18 (5) For a Phase I and II matching grant, the business must certify that at least fifty-one
19 percent (51%) of the research described in the federal SBIR/STTR Phase I, II and any further
20 SBIR/STTR proposals and commercialization will be conducted in this state and that the business
21 will remain a Rhode Island-based business for the duration of the SBIR/STTR Phase I, II any
22 further SBIR/STTR projects and commercialization.

23 (6) For a Phase I and II matching grant, the business must demonstrate its ability to conduct
24 research in its SBIR/STTR Phase II proposal.

25 (7) For a Phase III commercialization grant, the business must have completed their Phase
26 II SBIR/STTR award and submitted a final Phase II report.

27 (8) For a Phase III commercialization grant, the business must certify that at least fifty-one
28 percent (51%) of the research described in the Phase III application and any other further
29 SBIR/STTR proposals and commercialization will be conducted in this state and that the business
30 will remain a Rhode Island-based business, as defined by § 42-64.16-2(b)(1) for at least five (5)
31 years following award of the Phase III grant.

32 (c) Phase I and II Matching Grant. STAC may award grants to match the funds received
33 by a business through a SBIR/STTR Phase I or II proposal up to a maximum of ~~one hundred fifty~~
34 three hundred thousand dollars ~~(\$150,000)~~ (\$300,000). Seventy-five percent (75%) of the total

1 grant shall be remitted to the business upon receipt of the SBIR/STTR Phase I or II award and
2 application for funds under this section. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the total grant shall be
3 remitted to the business upon submission by the business of the Phase II application to the funding
4 agency and acceptance of the Phase I or II report by the funding agency. A business may receive
5 only one grant under this section per year. A business may receive only one grant under this section
6 with respect to each federal proposal submission. Over its lifetime, a business may receive a
7 maximum of six (6) awards under this section.

8 (d) Phase III Commercialization Grant. STAC may award grants of up to five hundred
9 thousand dollars (\$500,000) to an eligible business to support commercialization of the results
10 achieved through SBIR/STTR Phase I and Phase II funding. Grants shall be approved in
11 consultation with the Rhode Island commerce corporation. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the total
12 grant funding shall be remitted to the business upon award of the Phase III grant and execution of
13 a grant agreement. Sixty-five percent (65%) of the total grant funding shall be remitted to the
14 business upon request for reimbursement for eligible research and development expenses, as
15 defined by STAC, in connection with the project for which the business received the award. Ten
16 percent (10%) of the total grant funding shall be remitted to the business five (5) years following
17 the date of award of the Phase III grant; provided that, the business has remained a Rhode Island-
18 based business, as defined by § 42-64.16-2(b)(1) for the duration of the grant period.

19 ~~(d)~~(e) Application. A business shall apply, under oath, to STAC for a grant under this
20 section on a form prescribed by STAC that includes at least all of the following:

21 (1) The name of the business, the form of business organization under which it is operated,
22 and the names and addresses of the principals or management of the business.

23 (2) For a Phase I or II matching grant, an acknowledgement of receipt of the Phase I or II
24 report and Phase II proposal by the relevant federal agency.

25 (3) For a Phase III commercialization grant, an acknowledgement of the terms of the grant
26 and proof of eligibility, as defined in subsection (b) of this section.

27 ~~(3)~~(4) Any other information necessary for STAC to evaluate the application.

28 **42-64.16-3. Establishment of bioscience & engineering internship program.**

29 (a) There is hereby established the Innovate Rhode Island Bioscience & Engineering
30 Internship Program to be administered by STAC. In order to promote workforce development and
31 education in the bioscience and engineering fields and enhance the talent pipeline for Rhode Island
32 businesses engaged in the biosciences and engineering, STAC may reimburse eligible bioscience
33 and engineering companies for eligible internship stipends. The reimbursements shall be paid from
34 the Innovate Rhode Island Small Business Account established in this chapter.

1 (b) Bioscience and engineering definitions.

2 (1) Bioscience definition. For the purposes of this section, “bioscience” shall mean
3 advanced and applied sciences that expand the understanding of human physiology and have the
4 potential to lead to medical advances or therapeutic applications.

5 (2) Engineering definition. For the purposes of this section, “engineering” shall mean the
6 creative application of advanced mathematics and natural sciences to design or develop complex
7 structures, machines, processes, or systems.

8 (c) Business eligibility. In order to be eligible for reimbursement under this section, a
9 business must satisfy all of the following conditions:

10 (1) The business must be a for-profit, Rhode Island-based business with fifty (50) or fewer
11 employees. For the purposes of this section, a Rhode Island-based business is one that has its
12 principal place of business and at least fifty-one percent (51%) of its employees in this state.

13 (2) The business must be primarily engaged in a bioscience or engineering field and must
14 demonstrate its ability to conduct research in bioscience or engineering.

15 (3) The business must host the internship in Rhode Island.

16 (4) The business must offer interns a hands-on learning experience and at least one mentor
17 directly overseeing the internship.

18 (5) Any two or more related businesses that are commonly controlled by any person or
19 entity, directly or indirectly, are limited to reimbursement under this section available for one
20 business only.

21 (d) Intern eligibility. In order to be an eligible intern under this section, a prospective intern
22 must satisfy all of the following requirements:

23 (1) The prospective intern must be a Rhode Island resident and must attend a college or
24 university located in Rhode Island.

25 (2) For students enrolled in community college, the student must be enrolled in an
26 Associate’s Degree or Certificate program or completed one within the past year; for students
27 enrolled in four-year college or university, the student must have or will have completed at least
28 sophomore year the semester before the internship, or have graduated within the past year; for
29 graduate students, the student must be enrolled in a Master’s Degree program or received their
30 Master’s Degree within the past year.

31 (3) The intern cannot be the spouse, child, grandchild, sibling, niece, nephew, or spouse of
32 a child, grandchild, sibling, niece, or nephew of any employee of the business.

33 (4) The intern cannot participate in more than one internship subsidized under this section
34 in the same calendar year.

1 (5) The intern cannot participate in more than two internships subsidized under this section,
2 over two calendar years, with the same business.

3 (e) Reimbursement. STAC may reimburse eligible companies for pay rates up to ~~twelve~~
4 ~~dollars (\$12) per hour~~ the Rhode Island minimum wage, as defined in § 28-12-3, for a total
5 reimbursement of no more than ~~three~~ six thousand five hundred dollars ~~(\$3,000)~~ (\$6,500) per
6 eligible intern in a bioscience or engineering internship program. Businesses may seek
7 reimbursement for up to two (2) interns per calendar year. Interns shall be paid directly by the
8 eligible business. Eligible businesses may seek reimbursement under this section by providing
9 certification and proof of payment to STAC.

10 (f) Business application. A business shall apply, under oath, to STAC to qualify for
11 reimbursement under this section on a form prescribed by STAC that includes at least all of the
12 following:

13 (1) The name of the business, the form of business organization under which it is operated,
14 and the names and addresses of the principals or management of the business.

15 (2) Certification that the business meets the requirements for eligibility under this section.

16 (3) A description of the bioscience or engineering internship program that the business
17 intends to offer.

18 (4) Any other information necessary for STAC to evaluate the application.

19 (g) Prospective intern application. A prospective intern shall apply, under oath, to STAC
20 to qualify for an internship under this section on a form prescribed by STAC that includes at least
21 all of the following:

22 (1) The prospective intern's name, address, college or university, program of study, year
23 of study at the college or university, and degree of attainment.

24 (2) Certification that prospective intern meets the requirements for eligibility under this
25 section.

26 (3) Proof of Rhode Island residency.

27 (4) Proof of enrollment in a college or university in Rhode Island or proof of having
28 graduated from a college or university in Rhode Island within the past year.

29 (5) Resume and cover letter.

30 (6) Any other information necessary for STAC to evaluate the application.

31 (h) Application process. STAC may receive applications from businesses and prospective
32 interns throughout the calendar year and make determinations relating to eligibility under this
33 section. STAC may make available to eligible businesses the eligible intern applications. Eligible
34 businesses looking to host interns may review applications, interview candidates, and select and

1 hire interns according to their qualifications and the businesses' needs.

2 SECTION 4. Section 42-64.19-3 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.19 entitled
3 "Executive Office of Commerce" is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 **42-64.19-3. Executive office of commerce. [Effective January 1, 2024.]**

5 (a) There is hereby established within the executive branch of state government an
6 executive office of commerce effective February 1, 2015, to serve as the principal agency of the
7 executive branch of state government for managing the promotion of commerce and the economy
8 within the state and shall have the following powers and duties in accordance with the following
9 schedule:

10 (1) On or about February 1, 2015, to operate functions from the department of business
11 regulation;

12 (2) On or about April 1, 2015, to operate various divisions and functions from the
13 department of administration;

14 (3) On or before September 1, 2015, to provide to the Senate and the House of
15 Representatives a comprehensive study and review of the roles, functions, and programs of the
16 department of administration and the department of labor and training to devise recommendations
17 and a business plan for the integration of these entities with the office of the secretary of commerce.
18 The governor may include such recommendations in the Fiscal Year 2017 budget proposal; and

19 (4) On or before July 1, 2021, to provide for the hiring of a deputy secretary of commerce
20 and housing who shall report directly to the secretary of commerce. On July 1, 2022, the deputy
21 secretary of commerce and housing shall succeed to the position of secretary of housing, and the
22 position of deputy secretary of commerce and housing shall cease to exist under this chapter. All
23 references in the general laws to the deputy secretary of commerce and housing shall be construed
24 to mean the secretary of housing. The secretary of housing shall be appointed by and report directly
25 to the governor and shall assume all powers, duties, and responsibilities formerly held by the deputy
26 secretary of commerce and housing. Until the formation of the new department of housing pursuant
27 to chapter 64.34 of this title, the secretary of housing shall reside within the executive office of
28 commerce for administrative purposes only. ~~The secretary of housing shall:~~

29 ~~(i) Prior to hiring, have completed and earned a minimum of a master's graduate degree in~~
30 ~~the field of urban planning, economics, or a related field of study or possess a juris doctor law~~
31 ~~degree. Preference shall be provided to candidates having earned an advanced degree consisting of~~
32 ~~an L.L.M. law degree or Ph.D. in urban planning or economics. Qualified candidates must have~~
33 ~~documented five (5) years' full time experience employed in the administration of housing policy~~
34 ~~and/or development;~~

1 ~~(ii) Be responsible for overseeing all housing initiatives in the state of Rhode Island and~~
2 ~~developing a housing plan, including, but not limited to, the development of affordable housing~~
3 ~~opportunities to assist in building strong community efforts and revitalizing neighborhoods;~~

4 ~~(iii) Coordinate with all agencies directly related to any housing initiatives and participate~~
5 ~~in the promulgation of any regulation having an impact on housing including, but not limited to,~~
6 ~~the Rhode Island housing and mortgage finance corporation, the coastal resources management~~
7 ~~council (CRMC), and state departments including, but not limited to: the department of~~
8 ~~environmental management (DEM), the department of business regulation (DBR), the department~~
9 ~~of transportation (DOT) and statewide planning, and the Rhode Island housing resources~~
10 ~~commission;~~

11 ~~(iv) Coordinate with the housing resources commission to formulate an integrated housing~~
12 ~~report to include findings and recommendations to the governor, speaker of the house, senate~~
13 ~~president, each chamber's finance committee, and any committee whose purview is reasonably~~
14 ~~related to, including, but not limited to, issues of housing, municipal government, and health on or~~
15 ~~before December 31, 2021, and annually thereafter which report shall include, but not be limited~~
16 ~~to, the following:~~

17 ~~(A) The total number of housing units in the state with per community counts, including~~
18 ~~the number of Americans with Disabilities Act compliant special needs units;~~

19 ~~(B) The occupancy and vacancy rate of the units referenced in subsection (a)(4)(iv)(A);~~

20 ~~(C) The change in the number of units referenced in subsection (a)(4)(iv)(A), for each of~~
21 ~~the prior three (3) years in figures and as a percentage;~~

22 ~~(D) The number of net new units in development and number of units completed since the~~
23 ~~prior report;~~

24 ~~(E) For each municipality the number of single family, two family (2), and three family~~
25 ~~(3) units, and multi unit housing delineated sufficiently to provide the lay reader a useful~~
26 ~~description of current conditions, including a statewide sum of each unit type;~~

27 ~~(F) The total number of units by income type;~~

28 ~~(G) A projection of the number of status quo units;~~

29 ~~(H) A projection of the number of units required to meet housing formation trends;~~

30 ~~(I) A comparison of regional and other similarly situated state funding sources that support~~
31 ~~housing development including a percentage of private, federal, and public support;~~

32 ~~(J) A reporting of unit types by number of bedrooms for rental properties including an~~
33 ~~accounting of all:~~

34 ~~(I) Single family units;~~

- 1 ~~(H) Accessory dwelling units;~~
- 2 ~~(III) Two-family (2) units;~~
- 3 ~~(IV) Three-family (3) units;~~
- 4 ~~(V) Multi-unit sufficiently delineated units;~~
- 5 ~~(VI) Mixed-use sufficiently delineated units; and~~
- 6 ~~(VII) Occupancy and vacancy rates for the prior three (3) years;~~
- 7 ~~(K) A reporting of unit types by ownership including an accounting of all:~~
- 8 ~~(I) Single-family units;~~
- 9 ~~(II) Accessory dwelling units;~~
- 10 ~~(III) Two-family (2) units;~~
- 11 ~~(IV) Three-family (3) units;~~
- 12 ~~(V) Multi-unit sufficiently delineated units;~~
- 13 ~~(VI) Mixed-use sufficiently delineated units; and~~
- 14 ~~(VII) Occupancy and vacancy rates for the prior three (3) years;~~
- 15 ~~(L) A reporting of the number of applications submitted or filed for each community~~
- 16 ~~according to unit type and an accounting of action taken with respect to each application to include,~~
- 17 ~~approved, denied, appealed, approved upon appeal, and if approved, the justification for each~~
- 18 ~~approval;~~
- 19 ~~(M) A reporting of permits for each community according to affordability level that were~~
- 20 ~~sought, approved, denied, appealed, approved upon appeal, and if approved, the justification for~~
- 21 ~~each approval;~~
- 22 ~~(N) A reporting of affordability by municipality that shall include the following:~~
- 23 ~~(I) The percent and number of units of extremely low, very low, low, moderate, fair-~~
- 24 ~~market rate, and above-market rate units; including the average and median costs of those units;~~
- 25 ~~(II) The percent and number of units of extremely low, very low, low, and moderate-~~
- 26 ~~income housing units required to satisfy the ten percent (10%) requirement pursuant to chapter 24~~
- 27 ~~of title 45; including the average and median costs of those units;~~
- 28 ~~(III) The percent and number of units for the affordability levels above moderate-income~~
- 29 ~~housing, including a comparison to fair-market rent and fair-market homeownership; including the~~
- 30 ~~average and median costs of those units;~~
- 31 ~~(IV) The percentage of cost burden by municipality with population equivalent;~~
- 32 ~~(V) The percentage and number of home-financing sources, including all private, federal,~~
- 33 ~~state, or other public support; and~~
- 34 ~~(VI) The cost growth for each of the previous five (5) years by unit type at each~~

1 affordability level, by unit type;

2 ~~(O) A reporting of municipal healthy housing stock by unit type and number of bedrooms~~
3 ~~and providing an assessment of the state's existing housing stock and enumerating any risks to the~~
4 ~~public health from that housing stock, including, but not limited to: the presence of lead, mold, safe~~
5 ~~drinking water, disease vectors (insects and vermin), and other conditions that are an identifiable~~
6 ~~health detriment. Additionally, the report shall provide the percentage of the prevalence of health~~
7 ~~risks by age of the stock for each community by unit type and number of bedrooms; and~~

8 ~~(P) A recommendation shall be included with the report required under this section that~~
9 ~~shall provide consideration to any and all populations, ethnicities, income levels, and other relevant~~
10 ~~demographic criteria determined by the secretary, and with regard to any and all of the criteria~~
11 ~~enumerated elsewhere in the report separately or in combination, provide recommendations to~~
12 ~~resolve any issues that provide an impediment to the development of housing, including specific~~
13 ~~data and evidence in support of the recommendation. All data and methodologies used to present~~
14 ~~evidence are subject to review and approval of the chief of revenue analysis, and that approval shall~~
15 ~~include an attestation of approval by the chief to be included in the report;~~

16 ~~(v) Have direct oversight over the office of housing and community development (OHCD)~~
17 ~~and shall be responsible for coordinating with the secretary of commerce a shared staffing~~
18 ~~arrangement until June 30, 2023, to carry out the provisions of this chapter;~~

19 ~~(vi) On or before November 1, 2022, develop a housing organizational plan to be provided~~
20 ~~to the general assembly that includes a review, analysis, and assessment of functions related to~~
21 ~~housing of all state departments, quasi public agencies, boards, and commissions. Provided,~~
22 ~~further, the secretary, with the input from each department, agency, board, and commission, shall~~
23 ~~include in the plan comprehensive options, including the advantages and disadvantages of each~~
24 ~~option and recommendations relating to the functions and structure of the new department of~~
25 ~~housing;~~

26 ~~(vii) Establish rules and regulations as set forth in § 45-24-77.~~

27 (b) In this capacity, the office shall:

28 (1) Lead or assist state departments and coordinate business permitting processes in order
29 to:

30 (i) Improve the economy, efficiency, coordination, and quality of the business climate in
31 the state;

32 (ii) Design strategies and implement best practices that foster economic development and
33 growth of the state's economy;

34 (iii) Maximize and leverage funds from all available public and private sources, including

1 federal financial participation, grants, and awards;

2 (iv) Increase public confidence by conducting customer centric operations whereby
3 commercial enterprises are supported and provided programs and services that will grow and
4 nurture the Rhode Island economy; and

5 (v) Be the state's lead agency for economic development.

6 (2) [Deleted by P.L. 2022, ch. 388, § 1 and P.L. 2022, ch. 442, § 1.]

7 (c) The office shall include the office of regulatory reform and other administration
8 functions that promote, enhance, or regulate various service and functions in order to promote the
9 reform and improvement of the regulatory function of the state.

10 SECTION 5. Sections 42-64.20-7 and 42-64.20-10 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-
11 64.20 entitled "Rebuild Rhode Island Tax Credit" are hereby amended to read as follows:

12 **42-64.20-7. Rebuild Rhode Island tax credit fund.**

13 (a) There is hereby established at the commerce corporation a restricted account known as
14 the rebuild Rhode Island tax-credit fund (the "fund") in which all amounts appropriated for the
15 program created under this chapter [and returns on investments from the fund](#) shall be deposited.
16 The fund shall be used (1) To pay for the redemption of tax credits or reimbursement to the state
17 for tax credits applied against a taxpayer's liability; and (2) To redeem or reimburse the state for
18 any sales and use tax exemptions allowed pursuant to this chapter. The commerce corporation may
19 pledge and reserve amounts deposited into the fund for the purpose of securing payment for the
20 redemption of tax credits or for making reimbursements to municipalities pursuant to chapter 64.22
21 of this title. The fund shall be exempt from attachment, levy, or any other process at law or in
22 equity. The director of the department of revenue shall make a requisition to the commerce
23 corporation for funding during any fiscal year as may be necessary to pay for the redemption of tax
24 credits presented for redemption or to reimburse the state for tax credits applied against a taxpayer's
25 tax liability. The commerce corporation shall pay from the fund such amounts as requested by the
26 director of the department of revenue necessary for redemption or reimbursement in relation to tax
27 credits granted under this chapter; provided, however, that the commerce corporation shall not be
28 required to pay from the fund such sums pledged and reserved by the commerce corporation, as
29 permitted in this section, except for redemption of tax credits.

30 (b) Notwithstanding anything in this chapter to the contrary, the commerce corporation
31 may make a loan or equity investment as an alternative incentive in lieu of the provision of tax
32 credits so long as the applicant otherwise qualifies for tax credits under this chapter. In addition to
33 the qualification requirements of this chapter, any loan or equity investment shall be subject to the
34 provisions of §§ 42-64.20-5(b), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (q), (r) and (s), 42-64.20-7, 42-64.20-8, 42-

1 64.20-9, and 42-64.20-10 as if the loan or equity investment were a tax credit. The commerce
2 corporation may pay, reserve, and/or pledge monies for a loan or equity investment from the fund.

3 **42-64.20-10. Sunset.**

4 No credits shall be authorized to be reserved pursuant to this chapter after ~~December 31,~~
5 ~~2024~~ [December 31, 2025](#).

6 SECTION 6. Section 42-64.21-9 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.21 entitled "Rhode
7 Island Tax Increment Financing" is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 **42-64.21-9. Sunset.**

9 The commerce corporation shall enter into no agreement under this chapter after ~~December~~
10 ~~31, 2024~~ [December 31, 2025](#).

11 SECTION 7. Section 42-64.22-15 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.22 entitled "Tax
12 Stabilization Incentive" is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 **42-64.22-15. Sunset.**

14 The commerce corporation shall enter into no agreement under this chapter after ~~December~~
15 ~~31, 2024~~ [December 31, 2025](#).

16 SECTION 8. Section 42-64.23-8 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.23 entitled "First
17 Wave Closing Fund" is hereby amended to read as follows:

18 **42-64.23-8. Sunset.**

19 No financing shall be authorized to be reserved pursuant to this chapter after ~~December 31,~~
20 ~~2024~~ [December 31, 2025](#).

21 SECTION 9. Section 42-64.24-8 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.24 entitled "I-195
22 Redevelopment Project Fund" is hereby amended to read as follows:

23 **42-64.24-8. Sunset.**

24 No funding, credits, or incentives shall be authorized or authorized to be reserved pursuant
25 to this chapter after ~~December 31, 2024~~ [December 31, 2025](#).

26 SECTION 10. Section 42-64.25-14 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.25 entitled
27 "Small Business Assistance Program" is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 **42-64.25-14. Sunset.**

29 No grants, funding, or incentives shall be authorized pursuant to this chapter after
30 ~~December 31, 2024~~ [December 31, 2025](#).

31 SECTION 11. Sections 42-64.26-3 and 42-64.26-12 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-
32 64.26 entitled "Stay Invested in RI Wavemaker Fellowships" are hereby amended to read as
33 follows:

34 **42-64.26-3. Definitions.**

1 As used in this chapter:

2 (1) "Applicant" means an eligible graduate who applies for a tax credit for education loan
3 repayment expenses under this chapter.

4 (2) "Award" means a tax credit awarded by the commerce corporation to an applicant as
5 provided under this chapter.

6 (3) "Commerce corporation" means the Rhode Island commerce corporation established
7 pursuant to chapter 64 of this title.

8 (4) "Eligibility period" means a term of up to four (4) consecutive service periods
9 beginning with the date that an eligible graduate receives initial notice of award under this chapter
10 and expiring at the conclusion of the fourth service period after such date specified.

11 (5) "Eligibility requirements" means the following qualifications or criteria required for an
12 applicant to claim an award under this chapter:

13 (i) That the applicant shall have graduated from an accredited two-year (2), four-year (4)
14 or graduate postsecondary institution of higher learning with an associate's, bachelor's, graduate,
15 or post-graduate degree and at which the applicant incurred education loan repayment expenses;

16 (ii) That the applicant shall be a full-time employee with a Rhode Island-based employer
17 located in this state throughout the eligibility period, whose employment is:

18 (A) For work in one or more of the following covered fields: life, natural or environmental
19 sciences; computer, information or software technology; advanced mathematics or finance;
20 engineering; industrial design or other commercially related design field; or medicine or medical
21 device technology;

22 (B) As a teacher; or

23 (C) As a healthcare applicant.

24 (6) "Eligible expenses" or "education loan repayment expenses" means annual higher
25 education loan repayment expenses, including, without limitation, principal, interest and fees, as
26 may be applicable, incurred by an eligible graduate and which the eligible graduate is obligated to
27 repay for attendance at a postsecondary institution of higher learning.

28 (7) "Eligible graduate" means an individual who meets the eligibility requirements under
29 this chapter.

30 (8) "Full-time employee" means a person who is employed by a business for consideration
31 for a minimum of at least thirty-five (35) hours per week, or who renders any other standard of
32 service generally accepted by custom or practice as full-time employment, or who is employed by
33 a professional employer organization pursuant to an employee leasing agreement between the
34 business and the professional employer organization for a minimum of thirty-five (35) hours per

1 week, or who renders any other standard of service generally accepted by custom or practice as
2 full-time employment, and whose wages are subject to withholding.

3 (9) "Fund" refers to the "Stay Invested in RI Wavemaker Fellowship Fund" established
4 pursuant to § 42-64.26-4(a).

5 (10) "Healthcare applicant" means any applicant who meets the eligibility requirements
6 and works as a full-time employee as a high-demand healthcare practitioner or mental health
7 professional, including, but not limited to, clinical social workers and mental health counselors
8 licensed by the department of health, and as defined in regulations to be promulgated by the
9 commerce corporation, in consultation with the executive office of health and human services,
10 pursuant to chapter 35 of this title.

11 (11) "Primary care" means healthcare services that cover a range of prevention, wellness
12 and treatment for common illnesses and injuries. Primary care includes patients making an initial
13 approach to a healthcare professional for treatment as well as long-term relationships established
14 between a patient and a healthcare professional and may include family medicine or medical care,
15 general internal medicine or medical care, and general medical practice.

16 ~~(11)~~(12) "Rhode Island-based employer" means: (i) An employer having a principal place
17 of business or at least fifty-one percent (51%) of its employees located in this state; or (ii) An
18 employer registered to conduct business in this state that reported Rhode Island tax liability in the
19 previous tax year.

20 ~~(12)~~(13) "Service period" means a twelve-month (12) period beginning on the date that an
21 eligible graduate receives initial notice of award under this chapter.

22 ~~(13)~~(14) "Student loan" means a loan to an individual by a public authority or private lender
23 to assist the individual to pay for tuition, books, and living expenses in order to attend a
24 postsecondary institution of higher learning.

25 ~~(14)~~(15) "Taxpayer" means an applicant who receives a tax credit under this chapter.

26 ~~(15)~~(16) "Teacher" shall have the meaning prescribed to it in rules and regulations to be
27 promulgated by the commerce corporation in consultation with the Rhode Island department of
28 elementary and secondary education.

29 **42-64.26-12. Sunset.**

30 No incentives or credits shall be authorized pursuant to this chapter after ~~December 31,~~
31 ~~2024~~ December 31, 2025.

32 SECTION 12. Section 42-64.27-6 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.27 entitled "Main
33 Street Rhode Island Streetscape Improvement Fund" is hereby amended to read as follows:

34 **42-64.27-6. Sunset.**

1 No incentives shall be authorized pursuant to this chapter after ~~December 31, 2024~~
2 [December 31, 2025](#).

3 SECTION 13. Sections 42-64.28-2, 42-64.28-3, 42-64.28-4, 42-64.28-5, 42-64.28-6, 42-
4 64.28-7, 42-64.28-9 and 42-64.28-10 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.28 entitled "Innovation
5 Initiative" are hereby amended to read as follows:

6 **42-64.28-2. Definitions.**

7 As used in this chapter:

8 (1) "Commerce corporation" means the Rhode Island commerce corporation established
9 pursuant to § 42-64-1 et seq.

10 [\(2\) "Employee-owned business" means any entity that is a small business and:](#)

11 [\(i\) Is, in whole or in part, a workers' cooperative as defined in § 7-6.2-2\(5\); or](#)

12 [\(ii\) Has an employee stock ownership plan, as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 4975\(e\)\(7\);](#)

13 ~~(3)~~ [\(3\)](#) "Manufacturer" shall mean any entity that:

14 (i) Uses any premises within the state primarily for the purpose of transforming raw
15 materials into a finished product for trade through any or all of the following operations: adapting,
16 altering, finishing, making, processing, refining, metalworking, and ornamenting, but shall not
17 include fabricating processes incidental to warehousing or distribution of raw materials, such as
18 alteration of stock for the convenience of a customer; or

19 (ii) Is described in codes 31-33 of the North American Industry Classification system, as
20 revised from time to time.

21 ~~(4)~~ [\(4\)](#) "Match" shall mean a funding match, or in kind services provided by a third party.

22 ~~(5)~~ [\(5\)](#) "Small business" means a business that is resident in Rhode Island, has its business
23 facility located within the state, and employs five hundred (500) or fewer persons.

24 ~~(6)~~ [\(6\)](#) "Small business manufacturer" shall mean a business that meets the definitions of
25 terms small business and manufacturer as defined herein.

26 ~~(7)~~ [\(7\)](#) "Targeted industry" means any advanced, promising or otherwise prioritized
27 industry identified in the economic development vision and policy promulgated pursuant to § 42-
28 64.17-1 or, until such time as any such economic development vision and policy is promulgated,
29 as identified by the commerce corporation.

30 **42-64.28-3. Programs established.**

31 (a) The Rhode Island commerce corporation shall establish a voucher program and an
32 innovation network program as provided under this chapter. The programs are subject to available
33 appropriations and such other funding as may be dedicated to the programs.

34 (b) There is established an account in the name of the "innovation initiative fund" (the

1 “fund”) under the control of the commerce corporation to fund the programs.

2 (1) The fund shall consist of:

3 (i) Money appropriated in the state budget to the fund;

4 (ii) Money made available to the fund through federal grants, programs, or private
5 contributions;

6 (iii) Application or other fees paid to the fund to process applications for awards under this
7 chapter; and

8 (iv) Any other money made available to the fund.

9 (c) Voucher program. The commerce corporation is authorized to develop and implement
10 an innovation voucher program to provide financing to small businesses to purchase research and
11 development support or other forms of technical assistance and services from Rhode Island
12 institutions of higher education and other providers and to fund research and development by and
13 for small business manufacturers.

14 (d) Innovation network program. The commerce corporation is authorized to provide
15 innovation grants to organizations, including nonprofit organizations, for-profit organizations,
16 universities, and co-working space operators that offer technical assistance, space on flexible terms,
17 and access to capital to businesses in advanced or targeted industries, or businesses that are
18 evaluating a transition to become employee-owned businesses, regardless of industry. The
19 commerce corporation shall only issue grants under this subsection when those grants are matched
20 by private-sector or nonprofit partners. The commerce corporation shall establish guidelines for
21 appropriate matching criteria under this section, including necessary matching ratios.

22 (e) Invention incentive program. The commerce corporation is authorized to develop and
23 implement an invention incentive program to provide grants to small businesses and individuals to
24 reduce barriers to filing a patent application. The commerce corporation shall establish guidelines
25 for eligible recipients under this section, including industry, business size, and other criteria.

26 **42-64.28-4. Eligible uses.**

27 (a) Vouchers available under this chapter shall be used for the benefit of small businesses
28 to access technical assistance and other services including, but not limited to: research,
29 technological development, product development, commercialization, market development,
30 technology exploration, and improved business practices that implement strategies to grow
31 business and create operational efficiencies.

32 (b) Vouchers available under this chapter shall be used to provide funding to finance
33 internal research and development by and for small business manufacturers, including, but not
34 limited to: research, technological development, product development, commercialization, market

1 development, technology exploration, and improved business practices that implement strategies
2 to grow business and create operational efficiencies. Subject to appropriation, the commerce
3 corporation shall reserve an amount not to exceed fifty percent (50%) of the voucher program's
4 annual appropriation to be made available in fiscal year 2018 for vouchers awarded to small
5 business manufacturers under this subsection.

6 (c) Matching fund awards shall be used for the benefit of small businesses in industries
7 designated from time to time by the corporation, including without limitation: life science and
8 healthcare, food and agriculture, clean technology and energy efficiency, and cyber security to pay
9 for and access technological assistance, to procure space on flexible terms, and to access capital
10 from organizations, including nonprofit organizations, for-profit organizations, universities, and
11 co-working space businesses. Provided, however, that any business that is evaluating a transition
12 to become an employee-owned business, regardless of industry, shall be an eligible beneficiary of
13 a matching fund award.

14 (d) Grant awards through the invention incentive program shall be used in the form of
15 reimbursement for allowable expenses incurred, per regulations promulgated by the commerce
16 corporation, in connection with the submission of a patent application to the United States Patent
17 and Trademark Office. Reimbursement shall only occur following the submission of a patent
18 application by the eligible recipient. No more than one award per individual shall be allowed.

19 **42-64.28-5. Qualification.**

20 (a) To qualify for a voucher, for an invention incentive grant, or for a matching fund award
21 under this chapter, a business or individual must make application to the commerce corporation,
22 and upon selection, shall enter into an agreement with the commerce corporation. The commerce
23 corporation shall have no obligation to issue any voucher, make any award, or grant any benefits
24 under this chapter.

25 (b) In a given tax year, a business shall not receive a voucher or matching-fund award
26 provided for under this chapter in conjunction with the tax credit provided for in § 44-32-3.

27 **42-64.28-6. Voucher amounts and matching fund awards**

28 (a) Voucher award amounts to a selected applicant shall be determined by the corporation,
29 to be in the minimum amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and the maximum amount of
30 seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000), subject to appropriations or other available moneys in the
31 fund.

32 (b) Matching fund awards shall be awarded to organizations in an amount approved by the
33 corporation, subject to appropriations or other available moneys in the fund.

34 (c) Invention incentive grant amounts shall not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per

1 [awardee, subject to appropriations or other available monies in the fund.](#)

2 **42-64.28-7. Rules and regulations.**

3 The commerce corporation is hereby authorized to promulgate such rules and regulations
4 as are necessary to fulfill the purposes of this chapter, including the criteria by which voucher,
5 [invention incentive grant](#), and matching fund applications will be judged, awards will be approved,
6 and vendors of services will be approved.

7 **42-64.28-9. Reporting requirements.**

8 The commerce corporation shall submit a report annually, no later than sixty (60) days
9 after the end of the fiscal year to the speaker of the house and the president of the senate detailing:
10 (1) the total amount of innovation vouchers, [invention incentive grants](#), and matching funds
11 awarded; (2) the number of innovation vouchers, [invention incentive grants](#), and matching fund
12 awards approved, (3) the amount of each voucher, [invention incentive grant](#), or matching fund
13 award and a description of services purchased; and (4) such other information as the commerce
14 corporation deems necessary.

15 **42-64.28-10. Sunset.**

16 No vouchers, grants, or incentives shall be authorized pursuant to this chapter after
17 ~~December 31, 2024~~ [December 31, 2025](#).

18 SECTION 14. Section 42-64.31-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.31 entitled "High
19 School, College, and Employer Partnerships" is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 **42-64.31-4. Sunset.**

21 No grants shall be authorized pursuant to this chapter after ~~December 31, 2024~~ [December](#)
22 [31, 2025](#).

23 SECTION 15. Section 42-64.32-6 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.32 entitled "Air
24 Service Development Fund" is hereby amended to read as follows:

25 **42-64.32-6. Sunset.**

26 No grants, credits, or incentives shall be authorized or authorized to be reserved pursuant
27 to this chapter after ~~December 31, 2024~~ [December 31, 2027](#).

28 SECTION 16. Section 42-64.33-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.33 entitled "The
29 Rhode Island Small Business Development Fund" is hereby amended to read as follows:

30 **42-64.33-4. Application, approval and allocations.**

31 (a) A small business development fund that seeks to have an equity or debt investment
32 certified as a capital investment and eligible for credits under this chapter shall apply to the
33 corporation. The corporation shall begin accepting applications within ninety (90) days of July 5,
34 2019. The small business development fund shall include the following:

- 1 (1) The amount of capital investment requested;
- 2 (2) A copy of the applicant's or an affiliate of the applicant's license as a rural business
3 investment company under 7 U.S.C. § 2009cc, or as a small business investment company under
4 15 U.S.C. § 681, and a certificate executed by an executive officer of the applicant attesting that
5 the license remains in effect and has not been revoked;
- 6 (3) Evidence that, as of the date the application is submitted, the applicant or affiliates of
7 the applicant have invested at least one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) in nonpublic
8 companies;
- 9 (4) An estimate of the number of jobs that will be created or retained in this state as a result
10 of the applicant's qualified investments;
- 11 (5) A business plan that includes a strategy for reaching out to and investing in minority
12 business enterprises and a revenue impact assessment projecting state and local tax revenue to be
13 generated by the applicant's proposed qualified investment prepared by a nationally recognized,
14 third-party, independent economic forecasting firm using a dynamic economic forecasting model
15 that analyzes the applicant's business plan over the ten (10) years following the date the application
16 is submitted to the corporation; and
- 17 (6) A nonrefundable application fee of five thousand dollars (\$5,000), payable to the
18 corporation.
- 19 (b) Within thirty (30) days after receipt of a completed application, the corporation shall
20 grant or deny the application in full or in part. The corporation shall deny the application if:
- 21 (1) The applicant does not satisfy all of the criteria described in subsection (a) of this
22 section;
- 23 (2) The revenue impact assessment submitted with the application does not demonstrate
24 that the applicant's business plan will result in a positive economic impact on this state over a ten-
25 year (10) period that exceeds the cumulative amount of tax credits that would be issued to the
26 applicant if the application were approved; or
- 27 (3) The corporation has already approved the maximum amount of capital investment
28 authority under subsection (g) of this section.
- 29 (c) If the corporation denies any part of the application, it shall inform the applicant of the
30 grounds for the denial. If the applicant provides any additional information required by the
31 corporation or otherwise completes its application within fifteen (15) days of the notice of denial,
32 the application shall be considered completed as of the original date of submission. If the applicant
33 fails to provide the information or fails to complete its application within the fifteen-day (15)
34 period, the application remains denied and must be resubmitted in full with a new submission date.

1 (d) If the application is deemed to be complete and the applicant deemed to meet all of the
2 requirements of subsections (a) and (b), the corporation shall certify the proposed equity or debt
3 investment as a capital investment that is eligible for credits under this chapter, subject to the
4 limitations contained in subsection (g) of this section. The corporation shall provide written notice
5 of the certification to the small business development fund.

6 (e) The corporation shall certify capital investments in the order that the applications were
7 received by the corporation. Applications received on the same day shall be deemed to have been
8 received simultaneously.

9 (f) For applications that are complete and received on the same day, the corporation shall
10 certify applications in proportionate percentages based upon the ratio of the amount of capital
11 investments requested in an application to the total amount of capital investments requested in all
12 applications.

13 (g) The corporation shall certify ~~sixty-five~~ forty million dollars ~~(\$65,000,000)~~
14 (\$40,000,000) in capital investments pursuant to this section; provided that not more than twenty
15 million dollars (\$20,000,000) may be allocated to any individual small business development fund
16 certified under this section.

17 (h) Within sixty (60) days of the applicant receiving notice of certification, the small
18 business development fund shall issue the capital investment to and receive cash in the amount of
19 the certified amount from a small business fund investor. At least forty-five percent (45%) of the
20 small business fund investor's capital investment shall be composed of capital raised by the small
21 business fund investor from sources, including directors, members, employees, officers, and
22 affiliates of the small business fund investor, other than the amount of capital invested by the
23 allocatee claiming the tax credits in exchange for the allocation of tax credits; provided that at least
24 ten percent (10%) of the capital investment shall be derived from the small business investment
25 fund's managers. The small business development fund shall provide the corporation with evidence
26 of the receipt of the cash investment within sixty-five (65) days of the applicant receiving notice of
27 certification. If the small business development fund does not receive the cash investment and issue
28 the capital investment within the time period following receipt of the certification notice, the
29 certification shall lapse and the small business development fund shall not issue the capital
30 investment without reapplying to the corporation for certification. Lapsed certifications revert to
31 the authority and shall be reissued pro rata to applicants whose capital investment allocations were
32 reduced pursuant to this chapter and then in accordance with the application process.

33 SECTION 17. Chapter 42-64.33 of the General Laws entitled "The Rhode Island Small
34 Business Development Fund" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

1 **42-64.33-10. Sunset.**

2 No new fund applications shall be granted and no credits shall be authorized to be reserved
3 pursuant to this chapter after June 30, 2024.

4 SECTION 18. Sections 42-64.34-1 and 42-64.34-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-
5 64.34 entitled "The Department of Housing" are hereby amended to read as follows:

6 **42-64.34-1. Department established. ~~Effective January 1, 2024.~~**

7 Effective January 1, 2023, there is hereby established within the executive branch of the
8 state government a department of housing. The head of the department shall be the secretary of
9 housing, who shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The
10 position of secretary is hereby created in the unclassified service. The secretary shall hold office at
11 the pleasure of the governor. Before entering upon the discharge of duties, the secretary shall take
12 an oath to faithfully execute the duties of the office. The secretary of housing shall:

13 (i) Prior to hiring, have completed and earned a minimum of a master's graduate degree in
14 the field of urban planning, economics, or a related field of study or possess a juris doctor law
15 degree. Preference shall be provided to candidates having earned an advanced degree consisting of
16 an L.L.M. law degree or Ph.D. in urban planning or economics. Qualified candidates must have
17 documented five (5) years' full-time experience employed in the administration of housing policy
18 and/or development;

19 (ii) Be responsible for overseeing all housing initiatives in the state of Rhode Island and
20 developing a housing plan, including, but not limited to, the development of affordable housing
21 opportunities to assist in building strong community efforts and revitalizing neighborhoods;

22 (iii) Coordinate with all agencies directly related to any housing initiatives and participate
23 in the promulgation of any regulation having an impact on housing including, but not limited to,
24 the Rhode Island housing and mortgage finance corporation, the coastal resources management
25 council (CRMC), and state departments including, but not limited to: the department of
26 environmental management (DEM), the department of business regulation (DBR), the department
27 of transportation (DOT) and statewide planning, and the Rhode Island housing resources
28 commission;

29 (iv) Coordinate with the housing resources commission to formulate an integrated housing
30 report to include findings and recommendations to the governor, speaker of the house, senate
31 president, each chamber's finance committee, and any committee whose purview is reasonably
32 related to, including, but not limited to, issues of housing, municipal government, and health on or
33 before April 15, 2025, and annually thereafter. This report shall include, but not be limited to, the
34 following:

- 1 (A) The total number of housing units in the state with per community counts;
- 2 (B) Every three (3) years, beginning in 2026 and contingent upon funding for data
3 collection, an assessment of the suitability of existing housing stock in meeting accessibility needs
4 of residents;
- 5 (C) The occupancy and vacancy rate of the units referenced in subsection (a)(4)(iv)(A);
- 6 (D) The change in the number of units referenced in subsection (a)(4)(iv)(A), for each of
7 the prior three (3) years in figures and as a percentage;
- 8 (E) The number of net new units in development and number of units completed in the
9 previous calendar year;
- 10 (F) For each municipality the number of single-family, two-family (2), and three-family
11 (3) units, and multi-unit housing delineated sufficiently to provide the lay reader a useful
12 description of current conditions, including a statewide sum of each unit type;
- 13 (G) Every three (3) years, beginning in 2026, a projection of the number of units required
14 to meet estimated population growth and based upon household formation rates;
- 15 (H) A comparison of regional and other similarly situated state funding sources that support
16 housing development including a percentage of private, federal, and public support;
- 17 (I) A reporting of unit types by number of bedrooms for rental properties including an
18 accounting of all:
- 19 (I) Single-family units;
- 20 (II) Accessory dwelling units;
- 21 (III) Two-family (2) units;
- 22 (IV) Three-family (3) units;
- 23 (V) Multi-unit sufficiently delineated units;
- 24 (VI) Mixed use sufficiently delineated units; and
- 25 (VII) Occupancy and vacancy rates for the prior three (3) years;
- 26 (J) A reporting of unit types by ownership including an accounting of all:
- 27 (I) Single-family units;
- 28 (II) Accessory dwelling units;
- 29 (III) Two-family (2) units;
- 30 (IV) Three-family (3) units;
- 31 (V) Multi-unit sufficiently delineated units;
- 32 (VI) Mixed use sufficiently delineated units; and
- 33 (VII) Occupancy and vacancy rates for the prior three (3) years;
- 34 (K) A reporting of the number of applications submitted or filed for each community

1 according to unit type and an accounting of action taken with respect to each application to include,
2 approved, denied, appealed, approved upon appeal, and if approved, the justification for each
3 appeal approval;

4 (L) A reporting of permits for each community according to affordability level that were
5 sought, approved, denied, appealed, approved upon appeal, and if approved, the justification for
6 each approval;

7 (M) A reporting of affordability that shall include the following:

8 (I) The percent and number of units of extremely low-, very low-, low-, moderate-, fair-
9 market rate, and above moderate-income; including the average and median costs of those units;

10 (II) The percent and number of units of extremely low-, very low-, low-, and moderate-
11 income housing units by municipality required to satisfy the ten percent (10%) requirement
12 pursuant to chapter 24 of title 45; including the average and median costs of those units;

13 (III) The percent and number of units for the affordability levels above moderate-income
14 housing, including a comparison to fair-market rent; including the average and median costs of
15 those units;

16 (IV) The percentage of cost burden by municipality with population equivalent;

17 (V) The percentage and number of home financing sources, including all private, federal,
18 state, or other public support;

19 (VI) The disparities in mortgage loan financing by race and ethnicity based on Home
20 Mortgage Disclosure Act data by available geographies;

21 (VII) The annual median gross rent growth for each of the previous five (5) years by
22 municipality; and

23 (VIII) The annual growth in median owner-occupied home values for each of the previous
24 five (5) years by municipality;

25 (N) A reporting of municipal healthy housing stock by unit type and number of bedrooms
26 and providing an assessment of the state's existing housing stock and enumerating any risks to the
27 public health from that housing stock, including, but not limited to: the presence of lead, mold, safe
28 drinking water, disease vectors (insects and vermin), and other conditions that are an identifiable
29 health detriment. Additionally, the report shall provide the percentage of the prevalence of health
30 risks by age of the stock for each community by unit type and number of bedrooms; and

31 (O) A recommendation shall be included with the report required under this section that
32 shall provide consideration to any and all populations, ethnicities, income levels, and other relevant
33 demographic criteria determined by the secretary, and with regard to any and all of the criteria
34 enumerated elsewhere in the report separately or in combination, provide recommendations to

1 resolve any issues that provide an impediment to the development of housing, including specific
2 data and evidence in support of the recommendation. All data and methodologies used to present
3 evidence are subject to review and approval of the chief of revenue analysis, and that approval shall
4 include an attestation of approval by the chief to be included in the report;

5 (P) Municipal governments shall provide the Department of Housing’s requested data
6 relevant to this report on or before February 15, 2025 and annually thereafter.

7 (v) Have direct oversight over the office of housing and community development (OHCD);

8 (vi) On or before November 1, 2022, and on or before December 31, 2024 develop a
9 housing organizational plan to be provided to the general assembly that includes a review, analysis,
10 and assessment of functions related to housing of all state departments, quasi-public agencies,
11 boards, and commissions. Provided, further, the secretary, with the input from each department,
12 agency, board, and commission, shall include in the plan comprehensive options, including the
13 advantages and disadvantages of each option and recommendations relating to the functions and
14 structure of the department of housing, including suggested statutory revisions.

15 (vii) Establish rules and regulations as set forth in § 45-24-77.

16 **42-64.34-2. Powers and duties. [Effective January 1, 2024.]**

17 (a) The department of housing shall be the state’s lead agency for housing, homelessness,
18 and community development in the state of Rhode Island.

19 (b) The secretary of housing shall have the following powers and duties:

20 (1) All powers and duties pursuant to ~~§ 42-64.19-3(a)(4)~~ chapter 64.34 of title 42;

21 (2) To supervise the work of the department of housing and to act as its chief administrative
22 officer;

23 (3) To coordinate the administration and financing of various departments or offices within
24 the department of housing;

25 (4) To serve as the governor’s chief advisor and liaison to federal policymakers on housing,
26 homelessness, and community development as well as the principal point of contact on any such
27 related matters;

28 (5) To coordinate the housing, homelessness, and community development programs of
29 the state of Rhode Island and its departments, agencies, commissions, corporations, and
30 subdivisions;

31 (6) To employ such personnel and contracts for such consulting services as may be required
32 to perform the powers and duties conferred upon the secretary of housing;

33 (7) To oversee and direct the administration of funds that may be appropriated from time
34 to time to the department of housing; and

1 (8) Creation of a written guide for consumers relating to the rights and duties of landlords
2 and tenants pursuant to chapter 18 of title 34, which the secretary shall update at minimum on an
3 biennial basis. The guide shall be posted on the website of the department of housing and shall be
4 published in both English and Spanish.

5 (c) In addition to such other powers as may otherwise be delegated elsewhere to the
6 department of housing, the department is hereby expressly authorized, by and through the secretary
7 of housing:

8 (1) To purchase, receive, lease, or otherwise acquire, own, hold, improve, use, and
9 otherwise deal in and with, real or personal property, or any interest in real or personal property,
10 wherever situated;

11 (2) To accept any gifts or grants or loans of funds or property or financial or other aid in
12 any form from the federal government or any agency or instrumentality of the federal government,
13 or from the state or any agency or instrumentality of the state, or from any other source and to
14 comply, subject to the provisions of this chapter, with the terms and conditions of the gifts, grants,
15 or loans;

16 (3) Subject to the provisions of § 37-2-1 et seq., to negotiate and to enter into contracts,
17 agreements, and cooperative agreements with agencies and political subdivisions of the state, not-
18 for-profit corporations, for-profit corporations, and other partnerships, associations, and persons
19 for any lawful purpose necessary and desirable to effectuate the purposes of the department of
20 housing; and

21 (4) To carry out this chapter and perform the duties of the general laws and public laws
22 insofar as those provisions relate to any regulatory areas within the jurisdiction of the department
23 of housing.

24 SECTION 19. Section 42-128-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-128 entitled "Rhode
25 Island Housing Resources Act of 1998" is hereby amended to read as follows:

26 **42-128-2. Rhode Island housing resources agency created.**

27 There is created within the executive department a housing resources agency with the
28 following purposes, organization, and powers:

29 (1) **Purposes:**

30 (i) To provide coherence to the housing programs of the state of Rhode Island and its
31 departments, agencies, commissions, corporations, and subdivisions.

32 (ii) To provide for the integration and coordination of the activities of the Rhode Island
33 housing and mortgage finance corporation and the Rhode Island housing resources commission.

34 (2) **Coordinating committee — Created — Purposes and powers:**

1 (i) The coordinating committee of the housing resources agency shall be comprised of the
2 chairperson of the Rhode Island housing and mortgage finance corporation; the chairperson of the
3 Rhode Island housing resources commission; the director of the department of administration, or
4 the designee of the director; and the executive director of the Rhode Island housing and mortgage
5 finance corporation. The chairperson of the Rhode Island housing resources commission shall be
6 chairperson of the coordinating committee.

7 (ii) The coordinating committee:

8 (A) Shall develop and implement, with the approval of the Rhode Island housing and
9 mortgage finance corporation and the Rhode Island housing resources commission, a memorandum
10 of agreement describing the fiscal and operational relationship between the Rhode Island housing
11 and mortgage finance corporation and the Rhode Island housing resources commission and shall
12 define which programs of federal assistance will be applied for on behalf of the state by the Rhode
13 Island housing and mortgage finance corporation and the Rhode Island housing resources
14 commission.

15 (B) Is authorized and empowered to negotiate and to enter into contracts and cooperative
16 agreements with agencies and political subdivisions of the state, not-for-profit corporations, for
17 profit corporations, and other partnerships, associations and persons for any lawful purpose
18 necessary and desirable to effect the purposes of this chapter, subject to the provisions of chapter 2
19 of title 37 as applicable.

20 (3) There is hereby established a restricted receipt account within the general fund of the
21 state known as the Housing Resources and Homelessness restricted receipt account. Funds from
22 this account shall be administered by the Department of Housing through the Housing Resources
23 Commission until such time as § 42-128-2(4) takes effect and shall be used to provide for housing
24 and homelessness initiatives including housing production, lead hazard abatement, housing rental
25 subsidy, housing retention assistance, and homelessness services and prevention assistance with
26 priority to veterans.

27 (4) Effective December 31, 2024 or after fulfillment of the reporting requirements
28 established under § 42-64.34-1(vi), whichever is later, the restricted account established under §
29 42-128-2(3) shall be administered by the Department of Housing in consultation with the Housing
30 Resources Commission. Funds in this account will be used in accordance with the uses established
31 in § 42-128-2(3).

32 SECTION 20. Section 44-25-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-25 entitled "Real Estate
33 Conveyance Tax" is hereby amended to read as follows:

34 **44-25-1. Tax imposed — Payment — Burden.**

1 (a) There is imposed, on each deed, instrument, or writing by which any lands, tenements,
2 or other realty sold is granted, assigned, transferred, or conveyed to, or vested in, the purchaser or
3 purchasers, or any other person or persons, by his, her, or their direction, or on any grant,
4 assignment, transfer, or conveyance or such vesting, by such persons that has the effect of making
5 any real estate company an acquired real estate company, when the consideration paid exceeds one
6 hundred dollars (\$100), a tax at the rate of two dollars and thirty cents (\$2.30) for each five hundred
7 dollars (\$500), or fractional part of it, that is paid for the purchase of property or the interest in an
8 acquired real estate company (inclusive of the value of any lien or encumbrance remaining at the
9 time the sale, grant, assignment, transfer or conveyance or vesting occurs, or in the case of an
10 interest in an acquired real estate company, a percentage of the value of such lien or encumbrance
11 equivalent to the percentage interest in the acquired real estate company being granted, assigned,
12 transferred, conveyed or vested). The tax is payable at the time of making, the execution, delivery,
13 acceptance or presentation for recording of any instrument affecting such transfer grant,
14 assignment, transfer, conveyance or vesting. In the absence of an agreement to the contrary, the tax
15 shall be paid by the grantor, assignor, transferor or person making the conveyance or vesting.

16 (b) In addition to the tax imposed by subsection (a), there is imposed, on each deed,
17 instrument, or writing by which any residential real property sold is granted, assigned, transferred,
18 or conveyed to, or vested in, the purchaser or purchasers, or any other person or persons, by his,
19 her, or their direction, or on any grant, assignment, transfer, or conveyance or such vesting, by such
20 persons that has the effect of making any real estate company an acquired real estate company,
21 when the consideration paid exceeds eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000), a tax at the rate of
22 two dollars and thirty cents (\$2.30) for each five hundred dollars (\$500), or fractional part of it, of
23 the consideration in excess of eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000) that is paid for the
24 purchase of property or the interest in an acquired real estate company (inclusive of the value of
25 any lien or encumbrance remaining at the time the sale, grant, assignment, transfer, or conveyance
26 or vesting occurs, or in the case of an interest in an acquired real estate company, a percentage of
27 the value of such lien or encumbrance equivalent to the percentage interest in the acquired real
28 estate company being granted, assigned, transferred, conveyed, or vested). The tax imposed by this
29 subsection shall be paid at the same time and in the same manner as the tax imposed by subsection
30 (a).

31 (c) In the event no consideration is actually paid for the lands, tenements, or realty, the
32 instrument or interest in an acquired real estate company of conveyance shall contain a statement
33 to the effect that the consideration is such that no documentary stamps are required.

34 (d) The tax shall be distributed as follows:

1 (1) With respect to the tax imposed by subsection (a): the tax administrator shall contribute
2 to the distressed community relief program the sum of thirty cents (\$.30) per two dollars and thirty
3 cents (\$2.30) of the face value of the stamps to be distributed pursuant to § 45-13-12, and to the
4 housing resources ~~commission and homelessness~~ restricted ~~receipts~~ receipt account established
5 pursuant to § 42-128-2 the sum of thirty cents (\$.30) per two dollars and thirty cents (\$2.30) of the
6 face value of the stamps. ~~Funds will be administered by the office of housing and community~~
7 ~~development, through the housing resources commission.~~ The state shall retain sixty cents (\$.60)
8 for state use. The balance of the tax shall be retained by the municipality collecting the tax.

9 (2) With respect to the tax imposed by subsection (b): the tax administrator shall contribute
10 the entire tax to the housing production fund established pursuant to § 42-128-2.1.

11 (3) Notwithstanding the above, in the case of the tax on the grant, transfer, assignment or
12 conveyance or vesting with respect to an acquired real estate company, the tax shall be collected
13 by the tax administrator and shall be distributed to the municipality where the real estate owned by
14 the acquired real estate company is located; provided, however, in the case of any such tax collected
15 by the tax administrator, if the acquired real estate company owns property located in more than
16 one municipality, the proceeds of the tax shall be allocated amongst said municipalities in the
17 proportion the assessed value of said real estate in each such municipality bears to the total of the
18 assessed values of all of the real estate owned by the acquired real estate company in Rhode Island.
19 Provided, however, in fiscal years 2004 and 2005, from the proceeds of this tax, the tax
20 administrator shall deposit as general revenues the sum of ninety cents (\$.90) per two dollars and
21 thirty cents (\$2.30) of the face value of the stamps. The balance of the tax on the purchase of
22 property shall be retained by the municipality collecting the tax. The balance of the tax on the
23 transfer with respect to an acquired real estate company, shall be collected by the tax administrator
24 and shall be distributed to the municipality where the property for which interest is sold is
25 physically located. Provided, however, that in the case of any tax collected by the tax administrator
26 with respect to an acquired real estate company where the acquired real estate company owns
27 property located in more than one municipality, the proceeds of the tax shall be allocated amongst
28 the municipalities in proportion that the assessed value in any such municipality bears to the
29 assessed values of all of the real estate owned by the acquired real estate company in Rhode Island.

30 (e) For purposes of this section, the term “acquired real estate company” means a real estate
31 company that has undergone a change in ownership interest if (1) The change does not affect the
32 continuity of the operations of the company; and (2) The change, whether alone or together with
33 prior changes has the effect of granting, transferring, assigning, or conveying or vesting,
34 transferring directly or indirectly, 50% or more of the total ownership in the company within a

1 period of three (3) years. For purposes of the foregoing subsection (e)(2), a grant, transfer,
2 assignment, or conveyance or vesting, shall be deemed to have occurred within a period of three
3 (3) years of another grant(s), transfer(s), assignment(s), or conveyance(s) or vesting(s) if during the
4 period the granting, transferring, assigning, or conveying party provides the receiving party a
5 legally binding document granting, transferring, assigning, or conveying or vesting the realty or a
6 commitment or option enforceable at a future date to execute the grant, transfer, assignment, or
7 conveyance or vesting.

8 (f) A real estate company is a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other
9 legal entity that meets any of the following:

10 (1) Is primarily engaged in the business of holding, selling, or leasing real estate, where
11 90% or more of the ownership of the real estate is held by 35 or fewer persons and which company
12 either (i) derives 60% or more of its annual gross receipts from the ownership or disposition of real
13 estate; or (ii) owns real estate the value of which comprises 90% or more of the value of the entity's
14 entire tangible asset holdings exclusive of tangible assets that are fairly transferrable and actively
15 traded on an established market; or

16 (2) Ninety percent or more of the ownership interest in such entity is held by 35 or fewer
17 persons and the entity owns as 90% or more of the fair market value of its assets a direct or indirect
18 interest in a real estate company. An indirect ownership interest is an interest in an entity 90% or
19 more of which is held by 35 or fewer persons and the purpose of the entity is the ownership of a
20 real estate company.

21 (g) In the case of a grant, assignment, transfer or conveyance or vesting that results in a
22 real estate company becoming an acquired real estate company, the grantor, assignor, transferor, or
23 person making the conveyance or causing the vesting, shall file or cause to be filed with the division
24 of taxation, at least five (5) days prior to the grant, transfer, assignment, or conveyance or vesting,
25 notification of the proposed grant, transfer, assignment, or conveyance or vesting, the price, terms
26 and conditions thereof, and the character and location of all of the real estate assets held by the real
27 estate company and shall remit the tax imposed and owed pursuant to subsection (a). Any such
28 grant, transfer, assignment, or conveyance or vesting which results in a real estate company
29 becoming an acquired real estate company shall be fraudulent and void as against the state unless
30 the entity notifies the tax administrator in writing of the grant, transfer, assignment, or conveyance
31 or vesting as herein required in subsection (g) and has paid the tax as required in subsection (a).
32 Upon the payment of the tax by the transferor, the tax administrator shall issue a certificate of the
33 payment of the tax which certificate shall be recordable in the land evidence records in each
34 municipality in which such real estate company owns real estate. Where the real estate company

1 has assets other than interests in real estate located in Rhode Island, the tax shall be based upon the
2 assessed value of each parcel of property located in each municipality in the state of Rhode Island.

3 SECTION 21. Section 44-31.2-11 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-31.2 entitled "Motion
4 Picture Production Tax Credits" is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 **44-31.2-11. Sunset.**

6 No credits shall be issued on or after July 1, ~~2027~~ 2029, unless the production has received
7 initial certification under § 44-31.2-6(a) prior to July 1, ~~2027~~ 2029.

8 SECTION 22. Section 44-31.3-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-31.3 entitled "Musical
9 and Theatrical Production Tax Credits" is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 **44-31.3-4. Sunset.**

11 No credits shall be issued on or after July 1, ~~2027~~ 2029, unless the production has received
12 initial certification under § 44-31.3-2(c) prior to July 1, ~~2027~~ 2029.

13 SECTION 23. Section 44-33.6-11 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-33.6 entitled
14 "Historic Preservation Tax Credits 2013" is hereby amended to read as follows:

15 **44-33.6-11. Sunset.**

16 No credits shall be authorized to be reserved pursuant to this chapter on or after June 30,
17 ~~2024~~ 2026, or upon the exhaustion of the maximum aggregate credits, whichever comes first.

18 SECTION 24. Section 44-48.3-14 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-48.3 entitled "Rhode
19 Island New Qualified Jobs Incentive Act 2015" is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 **44-48.3-14. Sunset.**

21 No credits shall be authorized to be reserved pursuant to this chapter after ~~December 31,~~
22 ~~2024~~ December 31, 2025.

23 SECTION 25. This article shall take effect upon passage.

ARTICLE 8 AS AMENDED

RELATING TO EDUCATION

SECTION 1. Sections 16-7.2-3 and 16-7.2-6 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-7.2 entitled "The Education Equity and Property Tax Relief Act" are hereby amended to read as follows:

16-7.2-3. Permanent foundation education aid established.

(a) Beginning in the 2012 fiscal year, the following foundation education-aid formula shall take effect. The foundation education aid for each district shall be the sum of the core instruction amount in subdivision (a)(1) and the amount to support high-need students in subdivision (a)(2), which shall be multiplied by the district state-share ratio calculated pursuant to § 16-7.2-4 to determine the foundation aid.

(1) The core-instruction amount shall be an amount equal to a statewide, per-pupil core-instruction amount as established by the department of elementary and secondary education, derived from the average of northeast regional expenditure data for the states of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) that will adequately fund the student instructional needs as described in the basic education program and multiplied by the district average daily membership as defined in § 16-7-22. Expenditure data in the following categories: instruction and support services for students, instruction, general administration, school administration, and other support services from the National Public Education Financial Survey, as published by NCES, and enrollment data from the Common Core of Data, also published by NCES, will be used when determining the core-instruction amount. The core-instruction amount will be updated annually. For the purpose of calculating this formula, school districts' resident average daily membership shall exclude charter school and state-operated school students.

(2) The amount to support high-need students beyond the core-instruction amount shall be determined by:

(i) ~~multiplying~~ Multiplying a student success factor of forty percent (40%) by the core instruction per-pupil amount described in subdivision (a)(1) and applying that amount for each resident child whose family income is at or below one hundred eighty-five percent (185%) of federal poverty guidelines, hereinafter referred to as "poverty status." By October 1, 2022, as part of its budget submission pursuant to § 35-3-4 relative to state fiscal year 2024 and thereafter, the

1 department of elementary and secondary education shall develop and utilize a poverty measure that
2 in the department's assessment most accurately serves as a proxy for the poverty status referenced
3 in this subsection and does not rely on the administration of school nutrition programs. The
4 department shall utilize this measure in calculations pursuant to this subsection related to the
5 application of the student success factor, in calculations pursuant to § 16-7.2-4 related to the
6 calculation of the state share ratio, and in the formulation of estimates pursuant to subsection (b)
7 below. The department may also include any recommendations which seek to mitigate any
8 disruptions associated with the implementation of this new poverty measure or improve the
9 accuracy of its calculation. Beginning with the FY 2024 calculation, students whose family income
10 is at or below one hundred eighty-five percent (185%) of federal poverty guidelines will be
11 determined by participation in the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP). The number
12 of students directly certified through the department of human services shall be multiplied by a
13 factor of 1.6; and

14 (ii) Multiplying a multilingual learner (MLL) factor of twenty percent (20%) by the core
15 instruction per-pupil amount described in subsection (a)(1) of this section, applying that amount
16 for each resident child identified in the three lowest proficiency categories using widely adopted,
17 independent standards and assessments in accordance with subsection (f)(1) of this section and as
18 identified by the commissioner and defined by regulations of the council on elementary and
19 secondary education. Local education agencies shall report annually to the department of
20 elementary and secondary education by September 1, outlining the planned and prior year use of
21 all funding pursuant to this subsection to provide services to MLL students in accordance with
22 requirements set forth by the commissioner of elementary and secondary education. The
23 department shall review the use of funds to ensure consistency with established best practices.

24 (b) The department of elementary and secondary education shall provide an estimate of the
25 foundation education aid cost as part of its budget submission pursuant to § 35-3-4. The estimate
26 shall include the most recent data available as well as an adjustment for average daily membership
27 growth or decline based on the prior year experience.

28 (c) In addition, the department shall report updated figures based on the average daily
29 membership as of October 1 by December 1.

30 (d) Local education agencies may set aside a portion of funds received under subsection
31 (a) to expand learning opportunities such as after school and summer programs, full-day
32 kindergarten and/or multiple pathway programs, provided that the basic education program and all
33 other approved programs required in law are funded.

34 (e) The department of elementary and secondary education shall promulgate such

1 regulations as are necessary to implement fully the purposes of this chapter.

2 (f)(1) By October 1, 2023, as part of its budget submission pursuant to § 35-3-4 relative to
3 state fiscal year 2025, the department of elementary and secondary education shall evaluate the
4 number of students by district who qualify as multilingual learner (MLL) students and MLL
5 students whose family income is at or below one hundred eighty-five percent (185%) of federal
6 poverty guidelines. The submission shall also include segmentation of these populations by levels
7 as dictated by the WIDA multilingual learner assessment tool used as an objective benchmark for
8 English proficiency. The department shall also prepare and produce expense data sourced from the
9 uniform chart of accounts to recommend funding levels required to support students at the various
10 levels of proficiency as determined by the WIDA assessment tool. Utilizing this information, the
11 department shall recommend a funding solution to meet the needs of multilingual learners; this may
12 include but not be limited to inclusion of MLL needs within the core foundation formula amount
13 through one or multiple weights to distinguish different students of need or through categorical
14 means.

15 (2) By October 1, 2024, as part of its budget submission pursuant to § 35-3-4 relative to
16 state fiscal year 2026, the department of elementary and secondary education shall develop
17 alternatives to identify students whose family income is at or below one hundred eighty-five percent
18 (185%) of federal poverty guidelines through participation in state-administered programs,
19 including, but not limited to, the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP), and RiteCare
20 and other programs that include the collection of required supporting documentation. The
21 department may also include any recommendations that seek to mitigate any disruptions associated
22 with implementation of this new poverty measure or improve the accuracy of its calculation.

23 (3) The department shall also report with its annual budget request information regarding
24 local contributions to education aid and compliance with §§ 16-7-23 and 16-7-24. The report shall
25 also compare these local contributions to state foundation education aid by community. The
26 department shall also report compliance to each city or town school committee and city or town
27 council.

28 **16-7.2-6. Categorical programs, state funded expenses.**

29 In addition to the foundation education aid provided pursuant to § 16-7.2-3, the permanent
30 foundation education-aid program shall provide direct state funding for:

31 (a) Excess costs associated with special education students. Excess costs are defined when
32 an individual special education student’s cost shall be deemed to be “extraordinary.” Extraordinary
33 costs are those educational costs that exceed the state-approved threshold based on an amount
34 above four times the core foundation amount (total of core-instruction amount plus student success

1 amount). The department of elementary and secondary education shall prorate the funds available
2 for distribution among those eligible school districts if the total approved costs for which school
3 districts are seeking reimbursement exceed the amount of funding appropriated in any fiscal year;
4 and the department of elementary and secondary education shall also collect data on those
5 educational costs that exceed the state-approved threshold based on an amount above two (2), three
6 (3), and five (5) times the core-foundation amount;

7 (b) Career and technical education costs to help meet initial investment requirements
8 needed to transform existing, or create new, comprehensive, career and technical education
9 programs and career pathways in critical and emerging industries and to help offset the higher-
10 than-average costs associated with facilities, equipment maintenance and repair, and supplies
11 necessary for maintaining the quality of highly specialized programs that are a priority for the state.
12 The department shall develop criteria for the purpose of allocating any and all career and technical
13 education funds as may be determined by the general assembly on an annual basis. The department
14 of elementary and secondary education shall prorate the funds available for distribution among
15 those eligible school districts if the total approved costs for which school districts are seeking
16 reimbursement exceed the amount of funding available in any fiscal year;

17 (c) Programs to increase access to voluntary, free, high-quality pre-kindergarten programs.
18 The department shall recommend criteria for the purpose of allocating any and all early childhood
19 program funds as may be determined by the general assembly;

20 (d) Central Falls, Davies, and the Met Center Stabilization Fund is established to ensure
21 that appropriate funding is available to support their students. Additional support for Central Falls
22 is needed due to concerns regarding the city's capacity to meet the local share of education costs.
23 This fund requires that education aid calculated pursuant to § 16-7.2-3 and funding for costs outside
24 the permanent foundation education-aid formula, including, but not limited to, transportation,
25 facility maintenance, and retiree health benefits shall be shared between the state and the city of
26 Central Falls. The fund shall be annually reviewed to determine the amount of the state and city
27 appropriation. The state's share of this fund may be supported through a reallocation of current
28 state appropriations to the Central Falls school district. At the end of the transition period defined
29 in § 16-7.2-7, the municipality will continue its contribution pursuant to § 16-7-24. Additional
30 support for the Davies and the Met Center is needed due to the costs associated with running a
31 stand-alone high school offering both academic and career and technical coursework. The
32 department shall recommend criteria for the purpose of allocating any and all stabilization funds as
33 may be determined by the general assembly;

34 (e) Excess costs associated with transporting students to out-of-district non-public schools.

1 This fund will provide state funding for the costs associated with transporting students to out-of-
2 district non-public schools, pursuant to chapter 21.1 of this title. The state will assume the costs of
3 non-public out-of-district transportation for those districts participating in the statewide system.
4 The department of elementary and secondary education shall prorate the funds available for
5 distribution among those eligible school districts if the total approved costs for which school
6 districts are seeking reimbursement exceed the amount of funding available in any fiscal year;

7 (f) Excess costs associated with transporting students within regional school districts. This
8 fund will provide direct state funding for the excess costs associated with transporting students
9 within regional school districts, established pursuant to chapter 3 of this title. This fund requires
10 that the state and regional school district share equally the student transportation costs net any
11 federal sources of revenue for these expenditures. The department of elementary and secondary
12 education shall prorate the funds available for distribution among those eligible school districts if
13 the total approved costs for which school districts are seeking reimbursement exceed the amount
14 of funding available in any fiscal year;

15 (g) Public school districts that are regionalized shall be eligible for a regionalization bonus
16 as set forth below:

17 (1) As used herein, the term “regionalized” shall be deemed to refer to a regional school
18 district established under the provisions of chapter 3 of this title, including the Chariho Regional
19 School district;

20 (2) For those districts that are regionalized as of July 1, 2010, the regionalization bonus
21 shall commence in FY 2012. For those districts that regionalize after July 1, 2010, the
22 regionalization bonus shall commence in the first fiscal year following the establishment of a
23 regionalized school district as set forth in chapter 3 of this title, including the Chariho Regional
24 School District;

25 (3) The regionalization bonus in the first fiscal year shall be two percent (2.0%) of the
26 state’s share of the foundation education aid for the regionalized district as calculated pursuant to
27 §§ 16-7.2-3 and 16-7.2-4 in that fiscal year;

28 (4) The regionalization bonus in the second fiscal year shall be one percent (1.0%) of the
29 state’s share of the foundation education aid for the regionalized district as calculated pursuant to
30 §§ 16-7.2-3 and 16-7.2-4 in that fiscal year;

31 (5) The regionalization bonus shall cease in the third fiscal year;

32 (6) The regionalization bonus for the Chariho regional school district shall be applied to
33 the state share of the permanent foundation education aid for the member towns; and

34 (7) The department of elementary and secondary education shall prorate the funds available

1 for distribution among those eligible regionalized school districts if the total, approved costs for
2 which regionalized school districts are seeking a regionalization bonus exceed the amount of
3 funding appropriated in any fiscal year;

4 ~~(h) Additional state support for English learners (EL). The amount to support EL students
5 shall be determined by multiplying an EL factor of fifteen percent (15%) by the core instruction
6 per pupil amount defined in § 16-7.2-3(a)(1) and applying that amount of additional state support
7 to EL students identified using widely adopted, independent standards and assessments identified
8 by the commissioner. All categorical funds distributed pursuant to this subsection must be used to
9 provide high-quality, research-based services to EL students and managed in accordance with
10 requirements set forth by the commissioner of elementary and secondary education. The
11 department of elementary and secondary education shall collect performance reports from districts
12 and approve the use of funds prior to expenditure. The department of elementary and secondary
13 education shall ensure the funds are aligned to activities that are innovative and expansive and not
14 utilized for activities the district is currently funding;~~

15 (i) State support for school resource officers. For purposes of this subsection, a school
16 resource officer (SRO) shall be defined as a career law enforcement officer with sworn authority
17 who is deployed by an employing police department or agency in a community-oriented policing
18 assignment to work in collaboration with one or more schools. School resource officers should have
19 completed at least forty (40) hours of specialized training in school policing, administered by an
20 accredited agency, before being assigned. Beginning in FY 2019, for a period of three (3) years,
21 school districts or municipalities that choose to employ school resource officers shall receive direct
22 state support for costs associated with employing such officers at public middle and high schools.
23 Districts or municipalities shall be reimbursed an amount equal to one-half (½) of the cost of
24 salaries and benefits for the qualifying positions. Funding will be provided for school resource
25 officer positions established on or after July 1, 2018, provided that:

26 (1) Each school resource officer shall be assigned to one school:

27 (i) Schools with enrollments below one thousand two hundred (1,200) students shall
28 require one school resource officer;

29 (ii) Schools with enrollments of one thousand two hundred (1,200) or more students shall
30 require two school resource officers;

31 (2) School resource officers hired in excess of the requirement noted above shall not be
32 eligible for reimbursement; and

33 (3) Schools that eliminate existing school resource officer positions and create new
34 positions under this provision shall not be eligible for reimbursement; and

1 (j) Categorical programs defined in subsections (a) through (g) shall be funded pursuant to
2 the transition plan in § 16-7.2-7.

3 SECTION 2. Section 16-7-17 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-7 entitled "Foundation
4 Level School Support [See Title 16 Chapter 97 — The Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" is
5 hereby amended to read as follows:

6 **16-7-17. Time of payment of state's share of the basic program and approved**
7 **expenditures.**

8 There shall be paid by the state to each community in twelve (12) monthly installments an
9 amount as determined by law to be the state's share of the cost of the basic program for the reference
10 year and all approved expenditures in excess of the basic program for the reference year, provided,
11 however, that these payments to a community shall be reduced by the amount of funds deposited
12 by the department into the local education agency EPSDT account in accordance with § 40-8-18
13 on behalf of the community. The July payment shall be two and fifty-four hundredths percent
14 (2.54%) of the state's share based upon the estimated pupil data, valuation data, and expenditure
15 data for the reference year and the August through June payments shall each be eight and eighty-
16 six hundredths percent (8.86%) of the aid due and payable based upon the data for the reference
17 year, ~~except for the city of East Providence which shall be paid during October and April in~~
18 ~~accordance with chapter 344 of the Public Laws of 1982.~~ This payment schedule of twelve (12)
19 monthly installments shall also apply to the city of East Providence, notwithstanding any provisions
20 to the contrary contained in Pub. L. 2012, ch. 241, art. 12, § 5.

21 SECTION 3. Section 16-7-22 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-7 entitled "Foundation
22 Level School Support [See Title 16 Chapter 97 — The Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" is
23 hereby amended to read as follows:

24 **16-7-22. Determination of average daily membership.**

25 Each community shall be paid pursuant to the provisions of § 16-7-17 an amount based
26 upon the following provisions:

27 (1) On or before September 1 of each year the average daily membership of each city and
28 town for the reference year shall be determined by the commissioner of elementary and secondary
29 education from data supplied by the school committee in each community in the following manner:
30 The aggregate number of days of membership of all pupils enrolled full time in grade twelve (12)
31 and below, except that pupils below grade one who are not full time shall be counted on a full-time
32 equivalent basis: (i) Increased by the aggregate number of days of membership of pupils residing
33 in the particular city or town whose tuition in schools approved by the department of elementary
34 and secondary education in other cities and towns is paid by the particular city or town; and (ii)

1 Decreased by the aggregate number of days of membership of nonresident pupils enrolled in the
2 public schools of the particular city or town and further decreased by the aggregate number of days
3 of membership equal to the number of group home beds calculated for the purposes of
4 reimbursement pursuant to § 16-64-1.1; and (iii) Decreased further, in the case of a city or town
5 that is a member of a regional school district during the first year of operation of the regional school
6 district by the aggregate number of days of membership of pupils residing in the city or town who
7 would have attended the public schools in the regional school district if the regional school district
8 had been operating during the previous year, divided by the number of days during which the
9 schools were officially in session during the reference year. The resulting figures shall be the
10 average, daily membership for the city or town for the reference year. For purposes of calculating
11 the permanent foundation education aid as described in § 16-7.2-3(1) and (2), the average, daily
12 membership for school districts shall exclude charter school and state school students, and
13 beginning in school year 2014-2015, include an estimate to ensure that districts converting from a
14 half-day to a full-day kindergarten program pursuant to § 16-99-4 are credited on a full-time basis
15 beginning in the first year of enrollment and are funded notwithstanding the transition plan pursuant
16 to § 16-7.2-7.

17 (2) The average daily membership of pupils attending public schools shall apply for the
18 purposes of determining the percentage of the state's share under the provisions of §§ 16-7-16(3),
19 16-7-16(10), 16-7-18, 16-7-19, 16-7-20, 16-7-21 and 16-7.2-4.

20 (3) In the case of regional school districts, the aggregate number of days of membership by
21 which each city or town is decreased in subdivision (1)(iii) of this section, divided by the number
22 of days during which the schools attended by the pupils were officially in session, shall determine
23 the average daily membership for the regional school district during the first year of operation.
24 After the first year of operation, the average, daily membership of each regional school district,
25 except the Chariho regional high school district, shall be determined by the commissioner of
26 elementary and secondary education from data supplied by the school committee of each regional
27 school district for the reference year in the manner provided in subdivision (1) of this section.

28 (4) For all fiscal years beginning after June 30, 2024, notwithstanding subsection (1)(ii)
29 above, the decrease for group home beds shall not apply to residential facility "beds" located or
30 associated with the CRAFT program pursuant to § 16-64-1.1.

31 SECTION 4. Sections 16-8-10 and 16-8-10.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-8 entitled
32 "Federal Aid [See Title 16 Chapter 97 — The Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" are hereby
33 amended to read as follows:

34 **16-8-10. Mandatory school lunch programs.**

1 All public elementary and secondary schools shall be required to make ~~type-A~~ federally
2 reimbursable lunches available to students attending those schools through the USDA's National
3 School Lunch Program (NSLP) in accordance with federal regulation as well as rules and
4 regulations adopted from time to time by the department of elementary and secondary education.
5 To the extent that federal, state, and other funds are available, free and ~~reduced-price type-A~~
6 reimbursable lunches shall be provided to all students from families that meet the current specific
7 criteria established by federal and state regulations to qualify for free or reduced-price meals. The
8 State of Rhode Island shall provide additional funds to public schools in an amount equal to the
9 difference between the federal reimbursement rate for a free lunch and the federal reimbursement
10 rate received for each student eligible for a reduced-price lunch and receiving lunch. The
11 requirement that ~~type-A~~ reimbursable lunches be provided shall apply to locally managed school
12 lunch programs, and school lunch programs administered directly by the department of elementary
13 and secondary education or by any other public agency whether using school facilities or a
14 commercial catering service. The department of elementary and secondary education is further
15 authorized to expand the school lunch program to the extent that federal, state, and/or local funds
16 are available by the utilization of one or more food preparation centers for delivery to participating
17 schools for the purpose of providing meals to students on a more economical basis than could be
18 provided by a community acting individually.

19 **16-8-10.1. Mandatory school breakfast programs.**

20 (a) All public elementary and secondary schools shall be required to make ~~a~~ federally
21 reimbursable school breakfast ~~breakfasts program~~ available to students attending ~~the school~~ those
22 schools through the USDA's School Breakfast Program (SBP) in accordance with federal
23 regulation as well as. ~~The breakfast meal shall meet any~~ rules and regulations that are adopted ~~by~~
24 ~~the commissioner~~ from time to time by the department of elementary and secondary education. To
25 the extent that federal, state, and other funds are available, free reimbursable breakfasts shall be
26 provided to all students from families that meet the current specific criteria established by federal
27 and state regulations to qualify for free or reduced-price meals. The State of Rhode Island shall
28 provide additional funds to public schools in an amount equal to the difference between the federal
29 reimbursement rate received for a free breakfast and the federal reimbursement rate received for
30 each student eligible for a reduced-price breakfast and receiving breakfast.

31 (b) The state of Rhode Island shall provide school districts a per breakfast subsidy for each
32 breakfast served to students. The general assembly shall annually appropriate some sum and
33 distribute it based on each district's proportion of the number of breakfasts served in the prior
34 school year relative to the statewide total in the same year. This subsidy shall augment the nonprofit

1 school food service account and be used for expenses incurred in providing nutritious breakfast
2 meals to students.

3 SECTION 5. The title of Chapter 16-70 of the General Laws entitled "The College Crusade
4 Scholarship [See Title 16 Chapter 97 — the Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" is hereby
5 amended to read as follows:

6 ~~CHAPTER 16-70~~

7 ~~The College Crusade Scholarship [See Title 16 Chapter 97 — the Rhode Island Board of~~
8 ~~Education Act]~~

9 CHAPTER 16-70

10 THE ONWARD WE LEARN SCHOLARSHIP ACT

11 SECTION 6. Sections 16-70-1, 16-70-3, 16-70-4, 16-70-5 and 16-70-6 of the General
12 Laws in Chapter 16-70 entitled "The College Crusade Scholarship [See Title 16 Chapter 97 — the
13 Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" are hereby amended to read as follows:

14 **16-70-1. Short title.**

15 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as ~~the "College Crusade Scholarship Act."~~
16 "The Onward We Learn Scholarship Act".

17 **16-70-3. ~~Program for the support of the college crusade established.~~ Program for the**
18 **support of the onward we learn scholarship established.**

19 The council on postsecondary education is empowered to establish and provide as part of
20 the operation of the office of the postsecondary commissioner methods and procedures for the
21 state's support of the ~~college crusade~~ onward we learn scholarship and provide financial and
22 technical assistance as needed.

23 **16-70-4. Council on postsecondary education support program — Powers and duties.**

24 The council on postsecondary education shall have the following powers and duties:

25 (1) To prepare with the assistance of the commissioner of postsecondary education and to
26 present annually to the state budget officer in accordance with § 35-3-4, as part of the state higher
27 education budget, a line-item budget request specifically designated as the state's share of support
28 for ~~the college crusade of Rhode Island~~ the onward we learn scholarship program. The budget shall
29 be designated as a specific, line-item budget request and shall be presented as part of the budget of
30 the postsecondary commissioner.

31 (2) To provide, through its office of the postsecondary commissioner, the authority to
32 designate ~~the college crusade of Rhode Island~~ the onward we learn scholarship program, a 501(c)(3)
33 nonprofit organization registered with the Rhode Island secretary of state, as the entity that will
34 administer and operate all program services and manage scholarship resources associated with the

1 [federal GEAR UP program.](#)

2 **16-70-5. Budget and appropriations.**

3 The general assembly shall annually appropriate any sums as it deems necessary as the
4 state's share for the support and maintenance of ~~the college crusade~~ [the onward we learn](#)
5 [scholarship program](#), including operational and scholarship support, and the state controller is
6 authorized and directed to draw his or her orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of the
7 appropriations upon receipt by him or her of the proper voucher the office of the postsecondary
8 commissioner may provide. The office of the postsecondary commissioner shall present the
9 voucher to the state controller no later than the last day of the first month of the fiscal year for
10 which the appropriation is made and this appropriation shall be remitted to the accounts of ~~the~~
11 ~~college crusade of Rhode Island~~ [the onward we learn scholarship program](#) by the state treasurer no
12 later than the last day of the second month of the fiscal year.

13 **16-70-6. Audit requirements.**

14 ~~The college crusade of Rhode Island~~ [The onward we learn scholarship program](#) shall
15 complete an annual audit completed by prior to the employment of private auditors. Audit work
16 papers of the private auditors shall be made available upon request to the auditor general and/or the
17 director of administration for their review, at the completion of the audit.

18 SECTION 7. Sections 16-113-7 and 16-113-10 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-113
19 entitled "Rhode Island Hope Scholarship Pilot Program Act" are hereby amended to read as
20 follows:

21 **16-113-7. Reporting and disbursement.**

22 (a) On or before November 10, 2023, and on or before November 10 [and May 10](#) thereafter
23 for every year through and including calendar year ~~2028~~ [2030](#), Rhode Island college shall submit
24 a report to the director of the office of management and budget, the state budget officer, the house
25 fiscal advisor, the senate fiscal advisor, the commissioner of postsecondary education, and the chair
26 of the council on postsecondary education, detailing the following:

- 27 (1) The number of students eligible to participate in the scholarship program;
- 28 (2) The amount of federal and institutional financial aid anticipated to be received by
29 recipient students;
- 30 (3) The aggregate tuition and mandatory fee costs attributable to recipient students;
- 31 (4) The resulting total cost of the scholarship program to the state; and
- 32 (5) The report shall contain such data for both the current fiscal year and the most up-to-
33 date forecast for the following fiscal year. Data reported shall be subdivided by student-year cohort
34 and shall be accompanied by a written explanation detailing the estimating methodology utilized

1 and any impact(s) the forecasted data may present to institutional capacity, operational costs, and
2 the tuition/fee revenue base of the institution.

3 (b) ~~On or before July 1, 2024, and on or before July 1 thereafter for every year through and~~
4 ~~including calendar year 2028, Rhode Island college, in conjunction with the office of the~~
5 ~~postsecondary commissioner, shall submit a report evaluating the program to the governor, speaker~~
6 ~~of the house, and the president of the senate.~~ On or before July 1, 2030, Rhode Island college and
7 the commissioner of postsecondary education shall submit a report evaluating the program based
8 on all cohorts to the governor, speaker of the house, and the president of the senate. This evaluation
9 shall include the following:

10 (1) The number of students who started in each cohort;

11 (2) The number of students in each cohort who have attained a degree or certification in an
12 on-time manner;

13 (3) The number of students in each cohort who have not attained a degree or certification
14 in an on-time manner and an analysis of why that has happened;

15 (4) The number of students in each cohort who began the program but have been unable to
16 continue or complete the program and an analysis of why that has happened;

17 (5) The costs of the program and the costs of continuing the program;

18 (6) Suggestions for ways to increase the success of the program;

19 (7) Recommendations as to modifying, continuing, expanding, curtailing, or discontinuing
20 the program; and

21 (8) Any such other recommendations or information as Rhode Island college and the
22 commissioner of postsecondary education deem appropriate to include in the evaluation.

23 (c) The office of management and budget, in consultation with the office of the
24 postsecondary commissioner, shall oversee the apportionment and disbursement of all funds
25 appropriated for the purpose of the scholarship program.

26 **16-113-10. Funding of and sunset of pilot program.**

27 The Rhode Island hope scholarship pilot program shall be funded from July 1, 2023,
28 through and including ~~July 1, 2028~~ June 30, 2030. There shall be no further funding of the pilot
29 program without further action of the general assembly. Any final reports due pursuant to this
30 chapter shall be filed pursuant to the dates set forth herein.

31 SECTION 8. Section 42-72.8-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-72.8 entitled
32 "Department of Children, Youth and Families' Higher Education Opportunity Incentive Grant" is
33 hereby amended to read as follows:

34 **42-72.8-2. Administration of program.**

1 (a) ~~Each year the~~ The department annually shall notify, identify and ~~recommend from~~
2 ~~among~~ outreach to those youth in its legal custody, ~~or who were in the Department's legal custody~~
3 ~~on their eighteenth (18th) birthday, those students who may be eligible to apply for a~~ beginning at
4 age fourteen (14) and until the youth exits care, who may satisfy the eligibility requirements
5 prescribed in § 42-72.8-2.1 for the Higher Education Opportunity Incentive Grant. ~~The department~~
6 ~~of elementary and secondary education shall afford all appropriate assistance to the department in~~
7 ~~the identification of youth who may be eligible for such grants.~~ Each ~~selected~~ qualified applicant
8 will receive ~~grants~~ a grant, to the extent of available funding, to supplement federal, state, private
9 and institutional scholarships, grants and ~~loans~~ work-study opportunities awarded to the higher
10 education institution for the applicant in an amount not to exceed the full cost of attendance
11 including, but not limited to: tuition, fees ~~and room and board charges~~ books, academic support,
12 transportation, food and housing: The department shall request from the higher education institution
13 the qualified applicant's unmet need calculated in accordance with federal and state laws and the
14 institution's policies. For the workforce development incentive grant, each qualified applicant shall
15 receive a grant, to the extent of available funding, in an amount not to exceed the full cost of
16 attendance including, but not limited to: training, fees, books, transportation, food, and housing
17 calculated by the department, in collaboration with the Community College of Rhode Island.
18 Payments pursuant to this chapter shall be disbursed in accordance with the requirements of the
19 higher education institution.

20 ~~(b) A grant period shall be limited to two (2) years of full-time study at the Community~~
21 ~~College of Rhode Island, four (4) years of full-time study at Rhode Island College, and the~~
22 ~~University of Rhode Island, and in no instance shall the grant period exceed a period of four (4)~~
23 ~~years. Grant recipients shall be enrolled full-time and shall continue to make satisfactory progress~~
24 ~~toward an academic certificate or degree as determined by the school in which they are enrolled;~~

25 ~~(c) The department shall make recommendations for grant awards from among those youth~~
26 ~~who:~~

27 ~~(1) Have not yet reached the age of eighteen (18) on the day of recommendation, are in the~~
28 ~~legal custody of the department on the day of recommendation and have remained in such custody~~
29 ~~for at least twenty-four (24) months prior to the day of recommendation; or, for former foster care,~~
30 ~~have reached the age of eighteen (18) prior to the date of recommendation, have not yet reached~~
31 ~~the age of twenty-one (21) and were in the custody of the department from their sixteenth (16th) to~~
32 ~~their eighteenth (18th) birthdays; and~~

33 ~~(2) Have graduated from high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma~~
34 ~~not more than one year prior to the date of recommendation; and~~

1 ~~(3) Has not reached his/her twenty first (21st) birthday; except that youth who are~~
2 ~~participating in this program on the date before his/her twenty first (21st) birthday may remain~~
3 ~~eligible until his/her twenty third (23rd) birthday, as long as he/she continues to be considered a~~
4 ~~full-time student by Community College of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College or University of~~
5 ~~Rhode Island, and is making satisfactory progress, as determined by the school in which he/she is~~
6 ~~enrolled, toward completion of his/her degree program.~~

7 SECTION 9. Chapter 42-72.8 of the General Laws entitled "Department of Children,
8 Youth and Families' Higher Education Opportunity Incentive Grant" is hereby amended by adding
9 thereto the following section:

10 **42-72.8-2.1. Eligibility.**

11 (a) To be eligible for a Higher Education Opportunity Incentive Grant, a youth:

12 (1) Must have been in foster care in Rhode Island through the department for at least six
13 (6) months on or after their fourteenth birthday. The six (6) months can be non-consecutive periods
14 of foster care placement or participation in the voluntary extension of care pursuant to §14-1-6;

15 (2) Retains eligibility through the academic year in which the student reaches their twenty-
16 third birthday;

17 (3) Must have graduated from high school or received a high school equivalency diploma;

18 (4) Must be admitted to, and must enroll, attend, and make satisfactory progress towards
19 the completion of a degreed program of study at the Community College of Rhode Island, Rhode
20 Island College or the University of Rhode Island on a full-time or part-time basis enrolled in no
21 less than six (6) credits per semester; and

22 (5) Must complete the FAFSA and any required FAFSA verification, or for persons who
23 are legally unable to complete the FAFSA, must complete a comparable form created by the
24 institution by the applicable deadline for each year in which the student seeks to receive funding
25 under the aforesaid incentive grant;

26 (b) To be eligible for a Workforce Development Incentive Grant, a youth:

27 (1) Must have been in foster care in Rhode Island through the department for at least six
28 (6) months on or after their fourteenth birthday. The six (6) months can be non-consecutive periods
29 of foster care placement or participation in the voluntary extension of care pursuant to § 14-1-6;

30 (2) Retains eligibility through the academic year in which the student reaches their twenty-
31 third birthday;

32 (3) Must have graduated from high school or received a high school equivalency diploma;

33 and

34 (4) Must be enrolled and attend a workforce development program at the community

1 college of Rhode Island approved by the commissioner of postsecondary education;

2 (c) Youth shall only be eligible for one of the incentive grants per academic year.

3 (d) Youth who meet the eligibility requirements in subsection (a) or (b) and who are
4 adopted or placed in guardianship through the department after their sixteenth birthday are eligible
5 to receive the incentive grant.

6 SECTION 10. Sections 42-72.8-3 and 42-72.8-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-72.8
7 entitled "Department of Children, Youth and Families' Higher Education Opportunity Incentive
8 Grant" are hereby amended to read as follows:

9 **42-72.8-3. Selection of grant recipients.**

10 (a) ~~There shall be a grant award selection committee which shall consist of a representative~~
11 ~~from each of the institutions of higher education appointed by their respective presidents, two (2)~~
12 ~~representatives from the department of children, youth and families appointed by the director, one~~
13 ~~representative from the department of elementary and secondary education appointed by the~~
14 ~~commissioner, and one representative from the office of higher education appointed by the~~
15 ~~commissioner and representatives of other organizations that the director of department of children,~~
16 ~~youth and families believes can help further the goals of the program.~~ Grant awards shall be made
17 by the department pursuant to its policies, procedures, rules and regulations.

18 (b) ~~Grant awards shall be made on the basis of scholastic record, aptitude, financial need~~
19 ~~and general interest in higher education. Recipients must comply with all application deadlines and~~
20 ~~criteria for admission to the institution to which the recipient is making application and, further,~~
21 ~~the recipient must have been granted admission by the admissions office of the institution.~~

22 Cumulative grant awards shall not exceed available appropriations in any fiscal year. The
23 department shall adopt policies, procedures, rules ~~and~~ or regulations, which are reasonably
24 necessary to implement the provisions of this chapter.

25 **42-72.8-4. Appropriation.**

26 The general assembly shall appropriate no less than the sum of ~~\$ 50,000 for the fiscal year~~
27 ~~ending June 30, 2000; \$ 100,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001; \$ 150,000 for the fiscal~~
28 ~~year ending June 30, 2002; and two hundred thousand dollars (\$ 200,000) annually for the fiscal~~
29 ~~year ending June 30, 2003 and thereafter.~~ No later than September 1, 2024, and annually thereafter,
30 the department shall provide an annual report to the governor, the speaker of the house of
31 representatives and the president of the senate regarding the funds distributed pursuant to this
32 chapter. The report shall include:

33 (1) The total number of applicants in relation to the total number of grants authorized by
34 the department by school and approved workforce development program;

1 (2) The average unmet need for each grant recipient by each school and approved
2 workforce development program;

3 (3) The average award amount by grant program; and

4 (4) The total amount of funding distributed to each grant program.

5 The department annually shall present the report and an update regarding the higher
6 education opportunity incentive grant and workforce development incentive grant to the youth
7 advisory board and key partners.

8 SECTION 11. This article shall take effect upon passage.

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ARTICLE 9 AS AMENDED

RELATING TO MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

SECTION 1. Section 23-17-38.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-17 entitled "Licensing of Healthcare Facilities" is hereby amended to read as follows:

23-17-38.1. Hospitals — Licensing fee.

~~(a) There is imposed a hospital licensing fee for state fiscal year 2022 against each hospital in the state. The hospital licensing fee is equal to five and six hundred fifty six thousandths percent (5.656%) of the net patient services revenue of every hospital for the hospital's first fiscal year ending on or after January 1, 2020, except that the license fee for all hospitals located in Washington County, Rhode Island shall be discounted by thirty seven percent (37%). The discount for Washington County hospitals is subject to approval by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services of a state plan amendment submitted by the executive office of health and human services for the purpose of pursuing a waiver of the uniformity requirement for the hospital license fee. This licensing fee shall be administered and collected by the tax administrator, division of taxation within the department of revenue, and all the administration, collection, and other provisions of chapter 51 of title 44 shall apply. Every hospital shall pay the licensing fee to the tax administrator on or before July 13, 2022, and payments shall be made by electronic transfer of monies to the general treasurer and deposited to the general fund. Every hospital shall, on or before June 15, 2022, make a return to the tax administrator containing the correct computation of net patient services revenue for the hospital fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and the licensing fee due upon that amount. All returns shall be signed by the hospital's authorized representative, subject to the pains and penalties of perjury.~~

~~(b)~~(a) There is ~~also~~ imposed a hospital licensing fee for state fiscal year 2023 against each hospital in the state. The hospital licensing fee is equal to five and forty-two hundredths percent (5.42%) of the net patient-services revenue of every hospital for the hospital's first fiscal year ending on or after January 1, 2021, except that the license fee for all hospitals located in Washington County, Rhode Island shall be discounted by thirty-seven percent (37%). The discount for Washington County hospitals is subject to approval by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services of a state plan amendment submitted by the executive office of health and human services for the purpose of pursuing a waiver of the uniformity requirement for the

1 hospital license fee. This licensing fee shall be administered and collected by the tax administrator,
2 division of taxation within the department of revenue, and all the administration, collection, and
3 other provisions of chapter 51 of title 44 shall apply. Every hospital shall pay the licensing fee to
4 the tax administrator on or before June 30, 2023, and payments shall be made by electronic transfer
5 of monies to the general treasurer and deposited to the general fund. Every hospital shall, on or
6 before May 25, 2023, make a return to the tax administrator containing the correct computation of
7 net patient-services revenue for the hospital fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and the
8 licensing fee due upon that amount. All returns shall be signed by the hospital's authorized
9 representative, subject to the pains and penalties of perjury.

10 ~~(b)~~ There is also imposed a hospital licensing fee described in subsections ~~(c)~~ through
11 ~~(f)~~ for state fiscal years 2024 and 2025 against net patient-services revenue of every non-
12 government owned hospital as defined herein for the hospital's first fiscal year ending on or after
13 January 1, 2022. The hospital licensing fee shall have three (3) tiers with differing fees based on
14 inpatient and outpatient net patient-services revenue. The executive office of health and human
15 services, in consultation with the tax administrator, shall identify the hospitals in each tier, subject
16 to the definitions in this section, by July 15, 2023, and shall notify each hospital of its tier by August
17 1, 2023.

18 ~~(c)~~ Tier 1 is composed of hospitals that do not meet the description of either Tier 2 or
19 Tier 3.

20 (1) The inpatient hospital licensing fee for Tier 1 is equal to thirteen and twelve hundredths
21 percent (13.12%) of the inpatient net patient-services revenue derived from inpatient net patient-
22 services revenue of every Tier 1 hospital.

23 (2) The outpatient hospital licensing fee for Tier 1 is equal to thirteen and thirty hundredths
24 percent (13.30%) of the net patient-services revenue derived from outpatient net patient-services
25 revenue of every Tier 1 hospital.

26 ~~(d)~~ Tier 2 is composed of high Medicaid/uninsured cost hospitals and independent
27 hospitals.

28 (1) The inpatient hospital licensing fee for Tier 2 is equal to two and sixty-three hundredths
29 percent (2.63%) of the inpatient net patient-services revenue derived from inpatient net patient-
30 services revenue of every Tier 2 hospital.

31 (2) The outpatient hospital licensing fee for Tier 2 is equal to two and sixty-six hundredths
32 percent (2.66%) of the outpatient net patient-services revenue derived from outpatient net patient-
33 services revenue of every Tier 2 hospital.

34 ~~(e)~~ Tier 3 is composed of hospitals that are Medicare-designated low-volume hospitals

1 and rehabilitative hospitals.

2 (1) The inpatient hospital licensing fee for Tier 3 is equal to one and thirty-one hundredths
3 percent (1.31%) of the inpatient net patient-services revenue derived from inpatient net patient-
4 services revenue of every Tier 3 hospital.

5 (2) The outpatient hospital licensing fee for Tier 3 is equal to one and thirty-three
6 hundredths percent (1.33%) of the outpatient net patient-services revenue derived from outpatient
7 net patient-services revenue of every Tier 3 hospital.

8 ~~(e)~~(f) There is also imposed a hospital licensing fee for state fiscal year 2024 against state-
9 government owned and operated hospitals in the state as defined herein. The hospital licensing fee
10 is equal to five and twenty-five hundredths percent (5.25%) of the net patient-services revenue of
11 every hospital for the hospital's first fiscal year ending on or after January 1, 2022. There is also
12 imposed a hospital licensing fee for state fiscal year 2025 against state-government owned and
13 operated hospitals in the state as defined herein equal to five and twenty-five hundredths percent
14 (5.25%) of the net patient-services revenue of every hospital for the hospital's first fiscal year
15 ending on or after January 1, 2023.

16 ~~(h)~~(g) The hospital licensing fee described in subsections ~~(e)~~(b) through ~~(e)~~(f) is subject to
17 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services approval of a request to waive the requirement
18 that healthcare-related taxes be imposed uniformly as contained in 42 C.F.R. § 433.68(d).

19 ~~(i)~~(h) This hospital licensing fee shall be administered and collected by the tax
20 administrator, division of taxation within the department of revenue, and all the administration,
21 collection, and other provisions of chapter 51 of title 44 shall apply. Every hospital shall pay the
22 licensing fee to the tax administrator before June 30 of each fiscal year, and payments shall be made
23 by electronic transfer of monies to the tax administrator and deposited to the general fund. Every
24 hospital shall, on or before August 1, 2023, make a return to the tax administrator containing the
25 correct computation of inpatient and outpatient net patient-services revenue for the hospital fiscal
26 year ending in 2022, and the licensing fee due upon that amount. All returns shall be signed by the
27 hospital's authorized representative, subject to the pains and penalties of perjury.

28 ~~(j)~~(i) For purposes of this section the following words and phrases have the following
29 meanings:

30 (1) "Gross patient-services revenue" means the gross revenue related to patient care
31 services.

32 (2) "High Medicaid/uninsured cost hospital" means a hospital for which the hospital's total
33 uncompensated care, as calculated pursuant to § 40-8.3-2(4), divided by the hospital's total net
34 patient-services revenues, is equal to six percent (6.0%) or greater.

1 (3) "Hospital" means the actual facilities and buildings in existence in Rhode Island,
2 licensed pursuant to § 23-17-1 et seq. on June 30, 2010, and thereafter any premises included on
3 that license, regardless of changes in licensure status pursuant to chapter 17.14 of this title (hospital
4 conversions) and § 23-17-6(b) (change in effective control), that provides short-term acute inpatient
5 and/or outpatient care to persons who require definitive diagnosis and treatment for injury, illness,
6 disabilities, or pregnancy. Notwithstanding the preceding language, the negotiated Medicaid
7 managed care payment rates for a court-approved purchaser that acquires a hospital through
8 receivership, special mastership, or other similar state insolvency proceedings (which court-
9 approved purchaser is issued a hospital license after January 1, 2013) shall be based upon the newly
10 negotiated rates between the court-approved purchaser and the health plan, and such rates shall be
11 effective as of the date that the court-approved purchaser and the health plan execute the initial
12 agreement containing the newly negotiated rate. The rate-setting methodology for inpatient hospital
13 payments and outpatient hospital payments set forth in §§ 40-8-13.4(b) and 40-8-13.4(b)(2),
14 respectively, shall thereafter apply to negotiated increases for each annual twelve-month (12)
15 period as of July 1 following the completion of the first full year of the court-approved purchaser's
16 initial Medicaid managed care contract.

17 (4) "Independent hospitals" means a hospital not part of a multi-hospital system.

18 (5) "Inpatient net patient-services revenue" means the charges related to inpatient care
19 services less (i) Charges attributable to charity care; (ii) Bad debt expenses; and (iii) Contractual
20 allowances.

21 (6) "Medicare-designated low-volume hospital" means a hospital that qualifies under 42
22 C.F.R. 412.101(b)(2) for additional Medicare payments to qualifying hospitals for the higher
23 incremental costs associated with a low volume of discharges.

24 (7) "Net patient-services revenue" means the charges related to patient care services less
25 (i) Charges attributable to charity care; (ii) Bad debt expenses; and (iii) Contractual allowances.

26 (8) "Non-government owned hospitals" means a hospital not owned and operated by the
27 state of Rhode Island.

28 (9) "Outpatient net patient-services revenue" means the charges related to outpatient care
29 services less (i) Charges attributable to charity care; (ii) Bad debt expenses; and (iii) Contractual
30 allowances.

31 (10) "Rehabilitative hospital" means Rehabilitation Hospital Center licensed by the Rhode
32 Island department of health.

33 (11) "State-government owned and operated hospitals" means a hospital facility licensed
34 by the Rhode Island department of health, owned and operated by the state of Rhode Island.

1 ~~(j)~~(i) The tax administrator in consultation with the executive office of health and human
2 services shall make and promulgate any rules, regulations, and procedures not inconsistent with
3 state law and fiscal procedures that he or she deems necessary for the proper administration of this
4 section and to carry out the provisions, policy, and purposes of this section.

5 ~~(k)~~(k) The licensing fee imposed by subsection (a) shall apply to hospitals as defined herein
6 that are duly licensed on July 1, ~~2021~~ 2022, and shall be in addition to the inspection fee imposed
7 by § 23-17-38 and to any licensing fees previously imposed in accordance with this section.

8 ~~(m) The licensing fee imposed by subsection (b) shall apply to hospitals as defined herein~~
9 ~~that are duly licensed on July 1, 2022, and shall be in addition to the inspection fee imposed by §~~
10 ~~23-17-38 and to any licensing fees previously imposed in accordance with this section.~~

11 ~~(n)~~(l) The licensing fees imposed by subsections ~~(e)~~(b) through ~~(g)~~(f) shall apply to
12 hospitals as defined herein that are duly licensed on July 1, 2023, and shall be in addition to the
13 inspection fee imposed by § 23-17-38 and to any licensing fees previously imposed in accordance
14 with this section.

15 SECTION 2. Section 35-17-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 35-17 entitled "Medical
16 Assistance and Public Assistance Caseload Estimating Conferences" is hereby amended to read as
17 follows:

18 **35-17-1. Purpose and membership.**

19 (a) In order to provide for a more stable and accurate method of financial planning and
20 budgeting, it is hereby declared the intention of the legislature that there be a procedure for the
21 determination of official estimates of anticipated medical assistance expenditures and public
22 assistance caseloads, upon which the executive budget shall be based and for which appropriations
23 by the general assembly shall be made.

24 (b) The state budget officer, the house fiscal advisor, and the senate fiscal advisor shall
25 meet in regularly scheduled caseload estimating conferences (C.E.C.). These conferences shall be
26 open public meetings.

27 (c) The chairpersonship of each regularly scheduled C.E.C. will rotate among the state
28 budget officer, the house fiscal advisor, and the senate fiscal advisor, hereinafter referred to as
29 principals. The schedule shall be arranged so that no chairperson shall preside over two (2)
30 successive regularly scheduled conferences on the same subject.

31 (d) Representatives of all state agencies are to participate in all conferences for which their
32 input is germane.

33 (e) The department of human services shall provide monthly data to the members of the
34 caseload estimating conference by the fifteenth day of the following month. Monthly data shall

1 include, but is not limited to, actual caseloads and expenditures for the following case assistance
2 programs: Rhode Island Works, SSI state program, general public assistance, and child care. For
3 individuals eligible to receive the payment under § 40-6-27(a)(1)(vi), the report shall include the
4 number of individuals enrolled in a managed care plan receiving long-term-care services and
5 supports and the number receiving fee-for-service benefits. The executive office of health and
6 human services shall report relevant caseload information and expenditures for the following
7 medical assistance categories: hospitals, long-term care, managed care, pharmacy, and other
8 medical services. In the category of managed care, caseload information and expenditures for the
9 following populations shall be separately identified and reported: children with disabilities,
10 children in foster care, and children receiving adoption assistance and RIte Share enrollees under §
11 40-8.4-12(j). The information shall include the number of Medicaid recipients whose estate may
12 be subject to a recovery and the anticipated amount to be collected from those subject to recovery,
13 the total recoveries collected each month and number of estates attached to the collections and each
14 month, the number of open cases and the number of cases that have been open longer than three
15 months.

16 (f) Beginning July 1, 2021, the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental
17 disabilities and hospitals shall provide monthly data to the members of the caseload estimating
18 conference by the ~~fifteenth~~ twenty-fifth day of the following month. Monthly data shall include,
19 but is not limited to, actual caseloads and expenditures for the private community developmental
20 disabilities services program. Information shall include, but not be limited to: the number of cases
21 and expenditures from the beginning of the fiscal year at the beginning of the prior month; cases
22 added and denied during the prior month; expenditures made; and the number of cases and
23 expenditures at the end of the month. The information concerning cases added and denied shall
24 include summary information and profiles of the service-demand request for eligible adults meeting
25 the state statutory definition for services from the division of developmental disabilities as
26 determined by the division, including age, Medicaid eligibility and agency selection placement with
27 a list of the services provided, and the reasons for the determinations of ineligibility for those cases
28 denied. The department shall also provide, monthly, the number of individuals in a shared-living
29 arrangement and how many may have returned to a twenty-four-hour (24) residential placement in
30 that month. The department shall also report, monthly, any and all information for the consent
31 decree that has been submitted to the federal court as well as the number of unduplicated individuals
32 employed; the place of employment; and the number of hours working. The department shall also
33 provide the amount of funding allocated to individuals above the assigned resource levels; the
34 number of individuals and the assigned resource level; and the reasons for the approved additional

1 resources. The department will also collect and forward to the house fiscal advisor, the senate fiscal
2 advisor, and the state budget officer, by November 1 of each year, the annual cost reports for each
3 community-based provider for the prior fiscal year. The department shall also provide the amount
4 of patient liability to be collected and the amount collected as well as the number of individuals
5 who have a financial obligation. The department will also provide a list of community-based
6 providers awarded an advanced payment for residential and community-based day programs; the
7 address for each property; and the value of the advancement. If the property is sold, the department
8 must report the final sale, including the purchaser, the value of the sale, and the name of the agency
9 that operated the facility. If residential property, the department must provide the number of
10 individuals residing in the home at the time of sale and identify the type of residential placement
11 that the individual(s) will be moving to. The department must report if the property will continue
12 to be licensed as a residential facility. The department will also report any newly licensed twenty-
13 four-hour (24) group home; the provider operating the facility; and the number of individuals
14 residing in the facility. Prior to December 1, 2017, the department will provide the authorizations
15 for community-based and day programs, including the unique number of individuals eligible to
16 receive the services and at the end of each month the unique number of individuals who participated
17 in the programs and claims processed.

18 (g) The executive office of health and human services shall provide direct assistance to the
19 department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals to facilitate
20 compliance with the monthly reporting requirements in addition to preparation for the caseload
21 estimating conferences.

22 SECTION 3. Section 40-8-19 of the General Laws in Chapter 40-8 entitled "Medical
23 Assistance" is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 **40-8-19. Rates of payment to nursing facilities.**

25 (a) Rate reform.

26 (1) The rates to be paid by the state to nursing facilities licensed pursuant to chapter 17 of
27 title 23, and certified to participate in Title XIX of the Social Security Act for services rendered to
28 Medicaid-eligible residents, shall be reasonable and adequate to meet the costs that must be
29 incurred by efficiently and economically operated facilities in accordance with 42 U.S.C. §
30 1396a(a)(13). The executive office of health and human services ("executive office") shall
31 promulgate or modify the principles of reimbursement for nursing facilities in effect as of July 1,
32 2011, to be consistent with the provisions of this section and Title XIX, 42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq.,
33 of the Social Security Act.

34 (2) The executive office shall review the current methodology for providing Medicaid

1 payments to nursing facilities, including other long-term-care services providers, and is authorized
2 to modify the principles of reimbursement to replace the current cost-based methodology rates with
3 rates based on a price-based methodology to be paid to all facilities with recognition of the acuity
4 of patients and the relative Medicaid occupancy, and to include the following elements to be
5 developed by the executive office:

- 6 (i) A direct-care rate adjusted for resident acuity;
- 7 (ii) An indirect-care and other direct-care rate comprised of a base per diem for all facilities;
- 8 (iii) Revision of rates as necessary based on increases in direct and indirect costs beginning
9 October 2024 utilizing data from the most recent finalized year of facility cost report. The per diem
10 rate components deferred in subsections (a)(2)(i) and (a)(2)(ii) of this section shall be adjusted
11 accordingly to reflect changes in direct and indirect care costs since the previous rate review;

- 12 (iv) Application of a fair-rental value system;
- 13 (v) Application of a pass-through system; and
- 14 (vi) Adjustment of rates by the change in a recognized national nursing home inflation

15 index to be applied on October 1 of each year, beginning October 1, 2012. This adjustment will not
16 occur on October 1, 2013, October 1, 2014, or October 1, 2015, but will occur on April 1, 2015.
17 The adjustment of rates will also not occur on October 1, 2017, October 1, 2018, October 1, 2019,
18 and October 2022. Effective July 1, 2018, rates paid to nursing facilities from the rates approved
19 by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and in effect on October 1, 2017, both fee-for-
20 service and managed care, will be increased by one and one-half percent (1.5%) and further
21 increased by one percent (1%) on October 1, 2018, and further increased by one percent (1%) on
22 October 1, 2019. Effective October 1, 2022, rates paid to nursing facilities from the rates approved
23 by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and in effect on October 1, 2021, both fee-for-
24 service and managed care, will be increased by three percent (3%). In addition to the annual nursing
25 home inflation index adjustment, there shall be a base rate staffing adjustment of one-half percent
26 (0.5%) on October 1, 2021, one percent (1.0%) on October 1, 2022, and one and one-half percent
27 (1.5%) on October 1, 2023. The inflation index shall be applied without regard for the transition
28 factors in subsections (b)(1) and (b)(2). For purposes of October 1, 2016, adjustment only, any rate
29 increase that results from application of the inflation index to subsections (a)(2)(i) and (a)(2)(ii)
30 shall be dedicated to increase compensation for direct-care workers in the following manner: Not
31 less than 85% of this aggregate amount shall be expended to fund an increase in wages, benefits,
32 or related employer costs of direct-care staff of nursing homes. For purposes of this section, direct-
33 care staff shall include registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs), certified nursing
34 assistants (CNAs), certified medical technicians, housekeeping staff, laundry staff, dietary staff, or

1 other similar employees providing direct-care services; provided, however, that this definition of
2 direct-care staff shall not include: (i) RNs and LPNs who are classified as “exempt employees”
3 under the federal Fair Labor Standards Act (29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq.); or (ii) CNAs, certified medical
4 technicians, RNs, or LPNs who are contracted, or subcontracted, through a third-party vendor or
5 staffing agency. By July 31, 2017, nursing facilities shall submit to the secretary, or designee, a
6 certification that they have complied with the provisions of this subsection (a)(2)(vi) with respect
7 to the inflation index applied on October 1, 2016. Any facility that does not comply with the terms
8 of such certification shall be subjected to a clawback, paid by the nursing facility to the state, in the
9 amount of increased reimbursement subject to this provision that was not expended in compliance
10 with that certification.

11 (3) Commencing on October 1, 2021, eighty percent (80%) of any rate increase that results
12 from application of the inflation index to subsections (a)(2)(i) and (a)(2)(ii) of this section shall be
13 dedicated to increase compensation for all eligible direct-care workers in the following manner on
14 October 1, of each year.

15 (i) For purposes of this subsection, compensation increases shall include base salary or
16 hourly wage increases, benefits, other compensation, and associated payroll tax increases for
17 eligible direct-care workers. This application of the inflation index shall apply for Medicaid
18 reimbursement in nursing facilities for both managed care and fee-for-service. For purposes of this
19 subsection, direct-care staff shall include registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs),
20 certified nursing assistants (CNAs), certified medication technicians, licensed physical therapists,
21 licensed occupational therapists, licensed speech-language pathologists, mental health workers
22 who are also certified nurse assistants, physical therapist assistants, housekeeping staff, laundry
23 staff, dietary staff or other similar employees providing direct-care services; provided, however
24 that this definition of direct-care staff shall not include:

25 (A) RNs and LPNs who are classified as “exempt employees” under the federal Fair Labor
26 Standards Act (29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq.); or

27 (B) CNAs, certified medication technicians, RNs or LPNs who are contracted or
28 subcontracted through a third-party vendor or staffing agency.

29 (4)(i) By July 31, 2021, and July 31 of each year thereafter, nursing facilities shall submit
30 to the secretary or designee a certification that they have complied with the provisions of subsection
31 (a)(3) of this section with respect to the inflation index applied on October 1. The executive office
32 of health and human services (EOHHS) shall create the certification form nursing facilities must
33 complete with information on how each individual eligible employee’s compensation increased,
34 including information regarding hourly wages prior to the increase and after the compensation

1 increase, hours paid after the compensation increase, and associated increased payroll taxes. A
2 collective bargaining agreement can be used in lieu of the certification form for represented
3 employees. All data reported on the compliance form is subject to review and audit by EOHHS.
4 The audits may include field or desk audits, and facilities may be required to provide additional
5 supporting documents including, but not limited to, payroll records.

6 (ii) Any facility that does not comply with the terms of certification shall be subjected to a
7 clawback and twenty-five percent (25%) penalty of the unspent or impermissibly spent funds, paid
8 by the nursing facility to the state, in the amount of increased reimbursement subject to this
9 provision that was not expended in compliance with that certification.

10 (iii) In any calendar year where no inflationary index is applied, eighty percent (80%) of
11 the base rate staffing adjustment in that calendar year pursuant to subsection (a)(2)(vi) of this
12 section shall be dedicated to increase compensation for all eligible direct-care workers in the
13 manner referenced in subsections (a)(3)(i), (a)(3)(i)(A), and (a)(3)(i)(B) of this section.

14 (b) Transition to full implementation of rate reform. For no less than four (4) years after
15 the initial application of the price-based methodology described in subsection (a)(2) to payment
16 rates, the executive office of health and human services shall implement a transition plan to
17 moderate the impact of the rate reform on individual nursing facilities. The transition shall include
18 the following components:

19 (1) No nursing facility shall receive reimbursement for direct-care costs that is less than
20 the rate of reimbursement for direct-care costs received under the methodology in effect at the time
21 of passage of this act; for the year beginning October 1, 2017, the reimbursement for direct-care
22 costs under this provision will be phased out in twenty-five-percent (25%) increments each year
23 until October 1, 2021, when the reimbursement will no longer be in effect; and

24 (2) No facility shall lose or gain more than five dollars (\$5.00) in its total, per diem rate the
25 first year of the transition. An adjustment to the per diem loss or gain may be phased out by twenty-
26 five percent (25%) each year; except, however, for the years beginning October 1, 2015, there shall
27 be no adjustment to the per diem gain or loss, but the phase out shall resume thereafter; and

28 (3) The transition plan and/or period may be modified upon full implementation of facility
29 per diem rate increases for quality of care-related measures. Said modifications shall be submitted
30 in a report to the general assembly at least six (6) months prior to implementation.

31 (4) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, for the twelve-month (12) period beginning
32 July 1, 2015, Medicaid payment rates for nursing facilities established pursuant to this section shall
33 not exceed ninety-eight percent (98%) of the rates in effect on April 1, 2015. Consistent with the
34 other provisions of this chapter, nothing in this provision shall require the executive office to restore

1 the rates to those in effect on April 1, 2015, at the end of this twelve-month (12) period.

2 SECTION 4. Sections 40-8.3-2 and 40-8.3-3 of the General Laws in Chapter 40-8.3 entitled
3 "Uncompensated Care" are hereby amended to read as follows:

4 **40-8.3-2. Definitions.**

5 As used in this chapter:

6 (1) "Base year" means, for the purpose of calculating a disproportionate share payment for
7 any fiscal year ending after September 30, ~~2022~~ 2023, the period from October 1, ~~2020~~ 2021,
8 through September 30, ~~2021~~ 2022, and for any fiscal year ending after September 30, ~~2023~~ 2024,
9 the period from October 1, ~~2021~~ 2022, through September 30, ~~2022~~ 2023.

10 (2) "Medicaid inpatient utilization rate for a hospital" means a fraction (expressed as a
11 percentage), the numerator of which is the hospital's number of inpatient days during the base year
12 attributable to patients who were eligible for medical assistance during the base year and the
13 denominator of which is the total number of the hospital's inpatient days in the base year.

14 (3) "Participating hospital" means any nongovernment and nonpsychiatric hospital that:

15 (i) Was licensed as a hospital in accordance with chapter 17 of title 23 during the base year
16 and shall mean the actual facilities and buildings in existence in Rhode Island, licensed pursuant to
17 § 23-17-1 et seq. on June 30, 2010, and thereafter any premises included on that license, regardless
18 of changes in licensure status pursuant to chapter 17.14 of title 23 (hospital conversions) and § 23-
19 17-6(b) (change in effective control), that provides short-term, acute inpatient and/or outpatient
20 care to persons who require definitive diagnosis and treatment for injury, illness, disabilities, or
21 pregnancy. Notwithstanding the preceding language, the negotiated Medicaid managed care
22 payment rates for a court-approved purchaser that acquires a hospital through receivership, special
23 mastership, or other similar state insolvency proceedings (which court-approved purchaser is issued
24 a hospital license after January 1, 2013), shall be based upon the newly negotiated rates between
25 the court-approved purchaser and the health plan, and the rates shall be effective as of the date that
26 the court-approved purchaser and the health plan execute the initial agreement containing the newly
27 negotiated rate. The rate-setting methodology for inpatient hospital payments and outpatient
28 hospital payments set forth in §§ 40-8-13.4(b)(1)(ii)(C) and 40-8-13.4(b)(2), respectively, shall
29 thereafter apply to negotiated increases for each annual twelve-month (12) period as of July 1
30 following the completion of the first full year of the court-approved purchaser's initial Medicaid
31 managed care contract;

32 (ii) Achieved a medical assistance inpatient utilization rate of at least one percent (1%)
33 during the base year; and

34 (iii) Continues to be licensed as a hospital in accordance with chapter 17 of title 23 during

1 the payment year.

2 (4) “Uncompensated-care costs” means, as to any hospital, the sum of: (i) The cost incurred
3 by the hospital during the base year for inpatient or outpatient services attributable to charity care
4 (free care and bad debts) for which the patient has no health insurance or other third-party coverage
5 less payments, if any, received directly from such patients; ~~and~~ (ii) The cost incurred by the hospital
6 during the base year for inpatient or outpatient services attributable to Medicaid beneficiaries less
7 any Medicaid reimbursement received therefor; ~~multiplied by the uncompensated care index; and~~
8 (iii) the sum of subsections (4)(i) and 4(ii) of this section shall be offset by the estimated hospital’s
9 commercial equivalent rates state directed payment for the current SFY in which the
10 disproportionate share hospital (DSH) payment is made. The sum of subsections (4)(i), (4)(ii), and
11 (4)(iii) of this section shall be multiplied by the uncompensated care index.

12 (5) “Uncompensated-care index” means the annual percentage increase for hospitals
13 established pursuant to § 27-19-14 [repealed] for each year after the base year, up to and including
14 the payment year; provided, however, that the uncompensated-care index for the payment year
15 ending September 30, 2007, shall be deemed to be five and thirty-eight hundredths percent (5.38%),
16 and that the uncompensated-care index for the payment year ending September 30, 2008, shall be
17 deemed to be five and forty-seven hundredths percent (5.47%), and that the uncompensated-care
18 index for the payment year ending September 30, 2009, shall be deemed to be five and thirty-eight
19 hundredths percent (5.38%), and that the uncompensated-care index for the payment years ending
20 September 30, 2010, September 30, 2011, September 30, 2012, September 30, 2013, September
21 30, 2014, September 30, 2015, September 30, 2016, September 30, 2017, September 30, 2018,
22 September 30, 2019, September 30, 2020, September 30, 2021, September 30, 2022, September
23 30, 2023, ~~and~~ September 30, 2024, and September 30, 2025, shall be deemed to be five and thirty
24 hundredths percent (5.30%).

25 **40-8.3-3. Implementation.**

26 ~~(a) For federal fiscal year 2022, commencing on October 1, 2021, and ending September~~
27 ~~30, 2022, the executive office of health and human services shall submit to the Secretary of the~~
28 ~~United States Department of Health and Human Services a state plan amendment to the Rhode~~
29 ~~Island Medicaid DSH Plan to provide:~~

30 ~~(1) That the DSH Plan to all participating hospitals, not to exceed an aggregate limit of~~
31 ~~\$145.1 million, shall be allocated by the executive office of health and human services to the Pool~~
32 ~~D component of the DSH Plan; and~~

33 ~~(2) That the Pool D allotment shall be distributed among the participating hospitals in direct~~
34 ~~proportion to the individual participating hospital’s uncompensated care costs for the base year,~~

~~1 inflated by the uncompensated care index to the total uncompensated care costs for the base year
2 inflated by the uncompensated care index for all participating hospitals. The disproportionate share
3 payments shall be made on or before June 30, 2022, and are expressly conditioned upon approval
4 on or before July 5, 2022, by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human
5 Services, or his or her authorized representative, of all Medicaid state plan amendments necessary
6 to secure for the state the benefit of federal financial participation in federal fiscal year 2022 for
7 the disproportionate share payments.~~

8 ~~(b)~~(a) For federal fiscal year 2023, commencing on October 1, 2022, and ending September
9 30, 2023, the executive office of health and human services shall submit to the Secretary of the
10 United States Department of Health and Human Services a state plan amendment to the Rhode
11 Island Medicaid DSH Plan to provide:

12 (1) That the DSH Plan to all participating hospitals, not to exceed an aggregate limit of
13 \$159.0 million, shall be allocated by the executive office of health and human services to the Pool
14 D component of the DSH Plan; and

15 (2) That the Pool D allotment shall be distributed among the participating hospitals in direct
16 proportion to the individual participating hospital's uncompensated-care costs for the base year,
17 inflated by the uncompensated-care index to the total uncompensated-care costs for the base year
18 inflated by the uncompensated-care index for all participating hospitals. The disproportionate share
19 payments shall be made on or before June 15, 2023, and are expressly conditioned upon approval
20 on or before June 23, 2023, by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human
21 Services, or his or her authorized representative, of all Medicaid state plan amendments necessary
22 to secure for the state the benefit of federal financial participation in federal fiscal year 2023 for
23 the disproportionate share payments.

24 ~~(e)~~(b) For federal fiscal year 2024, commencing on October 1, 2023, and ending September
25 30, 2024, the executive office of health and human services shall submit to the Secretary of the
26 United States Department of Health and Human Services a state plan amendment to the Rhode
27 Island Medicaid DSH Plan to provide:

28 (1) That the DSH Plan to all participating hospitals, not to exceed an aggregate limit of
29 \$14.8 million, shall be allocated by the executive office of health and human services to the Pool
30 D component of the DSH Plan; and

31 (2) That the Pool D allotment shall be distributed among the participating hospitals in direct
32 proportion to the individual participating hospital's uncompensated-care costs for the base year,
33 inflated by the uncompensated-care index to the total uncompensated-care costs for the base year
34 inflated by the uncompensated-care index for all participating hospitals. The disproportionate share

1 payments shall be made on or before June ~~15~~ 30, 2024, and are expressly conditioned upon approval
2 on or before June 23, 2024, by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human
3 Services, or his or her authorized representative, of all Medicaid state plan amendments necessary
4 to secure for the state the benefit of federal financial participation in federal fiscal year 2024 for
5 the disproportionate share payments.

6 (c) For federal fiscal year 2025, commencing on October 1, 2024, and ending September
7 30, 2025, the executive office of health and human services shall submit to the Secretary of the
8 United States Department of Health and Human Services a state plan amendment to the Rhode
9 Island Medicaid DSH plan to provide:

10 (1) The creation of Pool C which allots no more than nineteen million nine hundred
11 thousand dollars (\$19,900,000) to Medicaid eligible government-owned hospitals;

12 (2) That the DSH plan to all participating hospitals, not to exceed an aggregate limit of
13 \$34.7 million, shall be allocated by the executive office of health and human services to the Pool
14 C and D components of the DSH plan;

15 (3) That the Pool D allotment shall be distributed among the participating hospitals in direct
16 proportion to the individual participating hospital's uncompensated-care costs for the base year,
17 inflated by the uncompensated-care index to the total uncompensated-care costs for the base year
18 inflated by the uncompensated-care index of all participating hospitals. The disproportionate share
19 payments shall be made on or before June 30, 2025, and are expressly conditioned upon approval
20 on or before June 23, 2025, by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human
21 Services, or their authorized representative, of all Medicaid state plan amendments necessary to
22 secure for the state the benefit of federal financial participating in federal fiscal year 2025 for the
23 disproportionate share payments; and

24 (4) That the Pool C allotment shall be distributed among the participating hospitals in direct
25 proportion to the individual participating hospital's uncompensated-care costs for the base year,
26 inflated by the uncompensated-care index to the total uncompensated-care cost for the base year
27 inflated by the uncompensated-care index of all participating hospitals. The disproportionate share
28 payments shall be made on or before June 30, 2025, and are expressly conditioned upon approval
29 on or before June 23, 2025, by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human
30 Services, or their authorized representative, of all Medicaid state plan amendments necessary to
31 secure for the state the benefit of federal financial participating in federal fiscal year 2025 for the
32 disproportionate share payments;

33 (d) No provision is made pursuant to this chapter for disproportionate-share hospital
34 payments to participating hospitals for uncompensated-care costs related to graduate medical

1 education programs.

2 (e) The executive office of health and human services is directed, on at least a monthly
3 basis, to collect patient-level uninsured information, including, but not limited to, demographics,
4 services rendered, and reason for uninsured status from all hospitals licensed in Rhode Island.

5 (f) [Deleted by P.L. 2019, ch. 88, art. 13, § 6.]

6 SECTION 5. Rhode Island Medicaid Reform Act of 2008 Resolution.

7 WHEREAS, The General Assembly enacted Chapter 12.4 of Title 42 entitled “The Rhode
8 Island Medicaid Reform Act of 2008”; and

9 WHEREAS, A legislative enactment is required pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws
10 section 42-12.4-1, et seq.; and

11 WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Laws section 42-7.2-5(3)(i) provides that the secretary
12 of the executive office of health and human Services is responsible for the review and coordination
13 of any Medicaid section 1115 demonstration waiver requests and renewals as well as any initiatives
14 and proposals requiring amendments to the Medicaid state plan or category II or III changes as
15 described in the demonstration, “with potential to affect the scope, amount, or duration of publicly-
16 funded health care services, provider payments or reimbursements, or access to or the availability
17 of benefits and services provided by Rhode Island general and public laws”; and

18 WHEREAS, In pursuit of a more cost-effective consumer choice system of care that is
19 fiscally sound and sustainable, the secretary requests legislative approval of the following proposals
20 to amend the demonstration; and

21 WHEREAS, Implementation of adjustments may require amendments to the Rhode
22 Island’s Medicaid state plan and/or section 1115 waiver under the terms and conditions of the
23 demonstration. Further, adoption of new or amended rules, regulations and procedures may also be
24 required:

25 (a) *Nursing Facility Payment Technical Correction.* The executive office of health and
26 human services will clarify that the “other direct care” component of the nursing facility per diem
27 may be revised as necessary based on increases from the most recently finalized year of the cost
28 report used in the State’s rate review.

29 (b) *DSH Uncompensated Care Calculation.* The executive office of health and human
30 services proposes to seek approval from the federal centers for Medicare and Medicaid services to
31 evaluate the impact of the recently enacted hospital directed payments for payments as a percentage
32 of commercial equivalent rates in the calculation of base year uncompensated care used for
33 disproportionate share hospital payments.

34 (c) *Provider Reimbursement Rates.* The secretary of the executive office of health and

1 human services is authorized to pursue and implement any waiver amendments, state plan
2 amendments, and/or changes to the applicable department’s rules, regulations, and procedures
3 required to implement updates to Medicaid provider reimbursement rates consisting of rate
4 increases equal one hundred (100) percent of the increases recommended in the Social and Human
5 Service Programs Review Final Report produced by the office of the health insurance
6 commissioner pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws section 42-14.5-3(t)(2)(x) and including any
7 revisions to these recommendations noted by the executive office of health and human services in
8 its FY 2025 budget submission. This shall further include the recommendation that these rate
9 updates shall be effective on October 1, 2024. This will also include a thirty percent (30%) increase
10 to rates paid for skilled professional services provided by home care agencies omitted from the
11 Commissioner’s report.

12 (d) *HealthSource RI Automatic Enrollment.* The executive office of health and human
13 services and HealthSource RI may establish and operate a program for automatically enrolling
14 qualified individuals who lose Medicaid coverage into Qualified Health Plans ("QHP").
15 HealthSource RI may use funds available through the American Rescue Plan Act, funds collected
16 pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-157-4(a), or funds otherwise appropriated by the Rhode Island
17 General Assembly to HealthSource RI to pay the first month’s premium for individuals who qualify
18 for this program. HealthSource RI may use the information available in the state’s integrated
19 eligibility system, known as “RI Bridges,” to authorize advance payments of the premium tax
20 credit, as defined by 45 C.F.R. § 155.20, on behalf of applicable tax filers. The executive office of
21 health and human services and HealthSource RI may terminate this program if the federal
22 requirements provide that an individual whose household income is expected to be no greater than
23 one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the federal poverty level is required to contribute an amount
24 greater than zero (0) for purposes of calculating the premium assistance amount, as defined in 26
25 U.S.C. § 36B(b)(3)(A). HealthSource RI, in consultation with the executive office of health and
26 human services, may promulgate regulations establishing the scope and parameters of this program.

27 (e) *Nursing Facility Payment – RUG to PDPM.* The secretary of the executive office of
28 health and human services is authorized to pursue and implement any waiver amendments, state
29 plan amendments, and/or changes to the department’s rules, regulations, and procedures to switch
30 nursing facility payment from the Resource Utilization Group (RUG) to the Patient-Driven
31 Payment Model (PDPM) payment system and to make technical corrections to modernize nursing
32 facility payment.”

33 (f) *ORS CNOM.* The secretary of the executive office of health and human services is
34 authorized to pursue and implement any waiver amendments, state plan amendments, and/or

1 changes to the department's rules, regulations, and procedures to increase eligibility to 400 percent
2 ~~of poverty~~ [of the federal benefit care for SSI](#) for Medicaid-funded services through the Department
3 of Human Services' Office of Rehabilitation Services.

4 (g) *Adult Dental Services to Managed Care*. The secretary of the executive office of health
5 and human services is authorized to pursue and implement any waiver amendments, state plan
6 amendments, and/or changes to the department's rules, regulations, and procedures to authorize the
7 expansion of the RIte Smiles managed care program to adults and additional services. The change
8 would be in effect January 1, 2025.

9 (h) *Ambulatory Dental Rates*. The secretary of the executive office of health and human
10 services is authorized to pursue and implement any waiver amendments, state plan amendments,
11 and/or changes to the department's rules, regulations, and procedures to set Medicaid
12 reimbursements rates for dental procedures performed in an ambulatory surgical center at 95
13 percent of the total payment listed on the Medicare Part B Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment
14 System (~~OOPS~~) ([OPPS](#)) as of ~~January~~ [July](#) 1, 2024. Beginning ~~January~~ [July](#) 1, 2025, the
15 reimbursement rates will be annually updated to reflect 95 percent of the Medicare Part B ~~OOPS~~
16 [OPPS](#) rate.

17 (i) *Chiropractic Rates*. The secretary of the executive office of health and human services
18 is authorized to pursue and implement any waiver amendments, state plan amendments, and/or
19 changes to the department's rules, regulations, and procedures to pay chiropractic rates.

20 (j) *Hospital Care Transitions Initiative*. The secretary of the executive office of health and
21 human services is authorized to pursue and implement any waiver amendments, state plan
22 amendments, and/or changes to the department's rules, regulations, and procedures to leverage
23 Medicaid for the Hospital Care Transitions Initiative [at any time during or after the formal waiver](#)
24 [approval process, limited to the state appropriation](#).

25 (k) *PACE Rates*. The Secretary of the Executive Office is authorized to pursue and
26 implement a state plan amendment modifying the rate-setting methodology for Program of All
27 Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE). Under the current State Plan, the change in a single market
28 basket is used to adjust the rates in non-rebasing years. The Executive Office proposes to revise
29 this methodology to incorporate Medicaid program changes, fee schedule changes, and mix
30 changes during years that do not include a full rebasing of the rates. This change will increase
31 reimbursement parity and ensure that legislatively mandated fee schedule adjustments that apply
32 to Medicaid FFS and Medicaid Managed Care are reflected in the rates paid to PACE.

33 (l) *Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, Section 5121 Compliance*. The secretary of
34 the executive office of health and human services is authorized to pursue and implement any waiver

1 amendments, state plan amendments, and/or changes to the applicable department's rules,
2 regulations, and procedures required to provide federally mandatory Medicaid services to
3 Medicaid-eligible individuals under age 21 and individuals under 26 eligible for Medicaid under
4 the former foster care children group in the thirty (30) days prior to their release from incarceration.

5 (m) Expansion of Qualified Individuals Program. The secretary of the executive office of
6 health and human services is authorized to pursue and implement any waiver amendments, state
7 plan amendments, and/or changes to the applicable department's rules, regulations, and procedures
8 required to implement income disregards for the Qualified Individuals Medicare Savings Program
9 to increase eligibility up to one hundred and eighty-five percent (185%) of FPL, effective January
10 1, 2025. In the event that all necessary federal funding is not available, EOHHS shall prioritize
11 eligibility at the lowest income levels such that no state funds are required.

12 Now, therefore, be it:

13 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly hereby approves the proposals stated above in
14 the recitals; and be it further;

15 RESOLVED, That the secretary of the executive office of health and human services is
16 authorized to pursue and implement any waiver amendments, state plan amendments, and/or
17 changes to the applicable department's rules, regulations and procedures approved herein and as
18 authorized by Rhode Island General Laws section 42-12.4; and be it further;

19 RESOLVED, That this Joint Resolution shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

20 SECTION 6. This article shall take effect upon passage, except for Section 5 which shall
21 take effect as of July 1, 2024.

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ARTICLE 10

RELATING TO LEASES

SECTION 1. *Department of Corrections (249 Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket).*

WHEREAS, The Department of Corrections currently occupies approximately 4,700 square feet at 249 Roosevelt Avenue in the City of Pawtucket;

WHEREAS, The Department of Corrections currently has a current lease agreement, in full force and effect, with PUI O, Inc., for approximately 4,700 square feet of office space located at 249 Roosevelt Avenue, in the City of Pawtucket;

WHEREAS, The existing lease expires on July 31, 2024, and the Department of Corrections wishes to renew this lease for an additional five-year term;

WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island, acting by and through the Department of Corrections attests to the fact that there are no clauses in the lease agreement with PUI O, Inc., that would interfere with the Department of Corrections lease agreement or use of the facility;

WHEREAS, The leased premises provide a critical location for the offices of the Department of Corrections from which the Department can fulfill its mission;

WHEREAS, The annual base rent in the agreement in the current fiscal year, ending June 30, 2024 is \$99,734.04;

WHEREAS, The anticipated annual base rent of the agreement in each of the five (5) years of the renewal term will not exceed \$106,716.00;

WHEREAS, The payment of the annual base rent will be made from funds available to the Department of Corrections for the payments of rental and lease costs based on annual appropriations made by the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, The State Properties Committee now respectfully requests the approval of the General Assembly for the lease agreement between the Department of Corrections and PUI O, Inc., for leased space located at 249 Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island hereby approves the lease agreement, for a term not to exceed five (5) years and an aggregate base rent not to exceed \$533,580.00;

RESOLVED, That this Joint Resolution shall take effect upon passage by the General Assembly;

1 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State is hereby authorized and directed to transmit duly
2 certified copies of this resolution to the Governor, the Director of the Department of Corrections,
3 the Director of Administration, the State Budget Officer, and the Chair of the State Properties
4 Committee.

5 SECTION 2. Section 42-11-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-11 entitled "Department
6 of Administration" is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 **42-11-2. Powers and duties of department.**

8 The department of administration shall have the following powers and duties:

9 (1) To prepare a budget for the several state departments and agencies, subject to the
10 direction and supervision of the governor;

11 (2) To administer the budget for all state departments and agencies, except as specifically
12 exempted by law;

13 (3) To devise, formulate, promulgate, supervise, and control accounting systems,
14 procedures, and methods for the state departments and agencies, conforming to such accounting
15 standards and methods as are prescribed by law;

16 (4) To purchase or to contract for the supplies, materials, articles, equipment, printing, and
17 services needed by state departments and agencies, except as specifically exempted by law;

18 (5) To prescribe standard specifications for those purchases and contracts and to enforce
19 compliance with specifications;

20 (6) To supervise and control the advertising for bids and awards for state purchases;

21 (7) To regulate the requisitioning and storage of purchased items, the disposal of surplus
22 and salvage, and the transfer to or between state departments and agencies of needed supplies,
23 equipment, and materials;

24 (8) To maintain, equip, and keep in repair the state house, state office building, and other
25 premises owned or rented by the state for the use of any department or agency, excepting those
26 buildings, the control of which is vested by law in some other agency;

27 (9) To provide for the periodic inspection, appraisal or inventory of all state buildings and
28 property, real and personal;

29 (10) To require reports from state agencies on the buildings and property in their custody;

30 (11) To issue regulations to govern the protection and custody of the property of the state;

31 (12) To assign office and storage space and to rent and lease land and buildings for the use
32 of the several state departments and agencies in the manner provided by law;

33 (13) To control and supervise the acquisition, operation, maintenance, repair, and
34 replacement of state-owned motor vehicles by state agencies;

1 (14) To maintain and operate central duplicating and mailing service for the several state
2 departments and agencies;

3 (15) To furnish the several departments and agencies of the state with other essential office
4 services;

5 (16) To survey and examine the administration and operation of the state departments and
6 agencies, submitting to the governor proposals to secure greater administrative efficiency and
7 economy, to minimize the duplication of activities, and to effect a better organization and
8 consolidation of functions among state agencies;

9 (17) To operate a merit system of personnel administration and personnel management as
10 defined in § 36-3-3 in connection with the conditions of employment in all state departments and
11 agencies within the classified service;

12 (18) To assign or reassign, with the approval of the governor, any functions, duties, or
13 powers established by this chapter to any agency within the department;

14 (19) To establish, maintain, and operate a data processing center or centers, approve the
15 acquisition and use of electronic data processing services by state agencies, furnish staff assistance
16 in methods, systems and programming work to other state agencies, and arrange for and effect the
17 centralization and consolidation of punch card and electronic data processing equipment and
18 services in order to obtain maximum utilization and efficiency;

19 (20) To devise, formulate, promulgate, supervise, and control a comprehensive and
20 coordinated statewide information system designed to improve the database used in the
21 management of public resources, to consult and advise with other state departments and agencies
22 and municipalities to assure appropriate and full participation in this system, and to encourage the
23 participation of the various municipalities of this state in this system by providing technical or other
24 appropriate assistance toward establishing, within those municipalities, compatible information
25 systems in order to obtain the maximum effectiveness in the management of public resources;

26 (i) The comprehensive and coordinated statewide information system may include a Rhode
27 Island geographic information system of land-related economic, physical, cultural and natural
28 resources.

29 (ii) In order to ensure the continuity of the maintenance and functions of the geographic
30 information system, the general assembly may annually appropriate such sum as it may deem
31 necessary to the department of administration for its support;

32 (21) To administer a statewide planning program including planning assistance to the state
33 departments and agencies;

34 (22) To administer a statewide program of photography and photographic services;

1 (23) To negotiate with public or private educational institutions in the state, in cooperation
2 with the department of health, for state support of medical education;

3 (24) To promote the expansion of markets for recovered material and to maximize their
4 return to productive economic use through the purchase of materials and supplies with recycled
5 content by the state of Rhode Island to the fullest extent practically feasible;

6 (25) To approve costs as provided in § 23-19-32;

7 (26) To provide all necessary civil service tests for individuals seeking employment as
8 social workers at the department of human services at least twice each year and to maintain an
9 adequate hiring list for this position at all times;

10 (27)(i) To prepare a report every three (3) months of all current property leases or rentals
11 by any state ~~or quasi-state~~ agency to include the following information:

12 (A) Name of lessor;

13 (B) Description of the lease (purpose, physical characteristics, and location);

14 (C) Cost of the lease;

15 (D) Amount paid to date;

16 (E) Date initiated;

17 (F) Date covered by the lease.

18 ~~(ii) To prepare a report by October 31, 2014, of all current property owned by the state or~~
19 ~~leased by any state agency or quasi-state agency to include the following information:~~

20 ~~(A) Total square feet for each building or leased space;~~

21 ~~(B) Total square feet for each building and space utilized as office space currently;~~

22 ~~(C) Location of each building or leased space;~~

23 ~~(D) Ratio and listing of buildings owned by the state versus leased;~~

24 ~~(E) Total occupancy costs which shall include capital expenses, provided a proxy should~~
25 ~~be provided to compare properties that are owned versus leased by showing capital expenses on~~
26 ~~owned properties as a per square foot cost at industry depreciation rates;~~

27 ~~(F) Expiration dates of leases;~~

28 ~~(G) Number of workstations per building or leased space;~~

29 ~~(H) Total square feet divided by number of workstations;~~

30 ~~(I) Total number of vacant workstations;~~

31 ~~(J) Percentage of vacant workstations versus total workstations available;~~

32 ~~(K) Date when an action is required by the state to renew or terminate a lease;~~

33 ~~(L) Strategic plan for leases commencing or expiring by June 30, 2016;~~

34 ~~(M) Map of all state buildings which provides: cost per square foot to maintain, total~~

1 ~~number of square feet, total operating cost, date each lease expires, number of persons per building~~
2 ~~and total number of vacant seats per building; and~~

3 ~~(N) Industry benchmark report which shall include total operating cost by full-time~~
4 ~~equivalent employee, total operating cost by square foot and total square feet divided by full-time~~
5 ~~equivalent employee;~~

6 (28) To prepare a report to the chairs of the house and senate finance committees by
7 ~~December 15, 2021~~ February 15, 2025, and each year thereafter of all current property owned by
8 the state or leased by any state agency ~~or quasi-state agency~~ to include the following information:

9 (i) Total square feet for each building or leased space;

10 (ii) Total square feet for each building and space utilized as office space currently;

11 (iii) Location of each building or leased space;

12 (iv) Ratio and listing of buildings owned by the state versus leased;

13 (v) Total occupancy costs which shall include capital expenses, provided a proxy should
14 be provided to compare properties that are owned versus leased by showing capital expenses on
15 owned properties as a per square foot cost at industry depreciation rates;

16 (vi) Expiration dates of leases;

17 (vii) Number of workstations per building or leased space;

18 (viii) Total square feet divided by number of workstations;

19 (ix) Total number of vacant workstations;

20 (x) Percentage of vacant workstations versus total workstations available;

21 (xi) Date when an action is required by the state to renew or terminate a lease;

22 (xii) Strategic plan for leases commencing or expiring by June 30, 2022, and each
23 subsequent year thereafter;

24 (xiii) Master facility plans as required by § 42-11-2.9(a)(2);

25 ~~(xiii)~~ (xiv) Map of all state buildings that provides: cost per square foot to maintain, total
26 number of square feet, total operating cost, date each lease expires, number of persons per building
27 and total number of vacant seats per building; and

28 ~~(xiv)~~ (xv) Industry benchmark report related to office space that shall include total operating
29 cost by full-time equivalent employee, total operating cost by square foot and total square feet
30 divided by full-time equivalent employee;

31 (29) To provide by December 31, 1995, the availability of automatic direct deposit to any
32 recipient of a state benefit payment, provided that the agency responsible for making that payment
33 generates one thousand (1,000) or more such payments each month;

34 (30) To encourage municipalities, school districts, and quasi-public agencies to achieve

1 cost savings in health insurance, purchasing, or energy usage by participating in state contracts, or
2 by entering into collaborative agreements with other municipalities, districts, or agencies. To assist
3 in determining whether the benefit levels including employee cost sharing and unit costs of such
4 benefits and costs are excessive relative to other municipalities, districts, or quasi-public agencies
5 as compared with state benefit levels and costs; and

6 (31) To administer a health benefit exchange in accordance with chapter 157 of this title.

7 SECTION 3. This article shall take effect upon passage.

ARTICLE 11 AS AMENDED

RELATING TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SECTION 1. Title 23 of the General Laws entitled "HEALTH AND SAFETY" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

CHAPTER 17.29

PRIMARY CARE TRAINING SITES PROGRAM

23-17.29-1. Short title.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Primary Care Training Sites Program".

23-17.29-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following words and phrases are construed as follows:

(1) "Director" means the director of the department of health;

(2) "Grant" means a sum awarded pursuant to a contract executed pursuant to § 23-17.29-4;

(3) "National Committee for Quality Assurance" or "NCQA" means the nonprofit organization headquartered in the District of Columbia working to improve healthcare quality through the administration of evidence-based standards, measures, programs and accreditation;

(4) "Office" means the office of primary care training established pursuant to the provisions of § 23-17.29-3;

(5) "Patient-centered medical home" or "PCMH" means a model of healthcare that puts patients at the forefront of care by providing team-based healthcare delivery led by a healthcare provider to render comprehensive and continuous medical care to patients with a goal to obtain maximal health outcomes;

(6) "Primary care" means day-to-day healthcare provided by a healthcare professional. Typically, the healthcare professional acts as the first contact and principal point of continuing care for patients within a healthcare system, and coordinates other specialist care that the patient may require; and

(7) "Primary care site" means a site, location or medical practice that serves as the patient's entry point into the healthcare system and acts as the continuing focal point for all required healthcare services.

1 **23-17.29-3. Creation of office of primary care training -- Purpose.**

2 There is hereby authorized, created and established an office of primary care training
3 within the department of health. The purpose of the office shall be to:

4 (1) Assist the director in developing an application and selection process for the awarding
5 of grants pursuant to the provisions of this chapter;

6 (2) Provide oversight of grant recipients;

7 (3) Coordinate meetings and related logistics to implement the provisions of this chapter;

8 (4) Assist applicants for grants to comply with the process to include providing information
9 and assistance in processing of grant awards;

10 (5) Recommend acceptance or rejection of proposed contracts and grants to be approved
11 by the director in accordance with the provisions of § 42-11-11;

12 (6) Coordinate with the approval of the director, and with the director of administration,
13 the approval of all contracts negotiated pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and the provisions
14 of § 42-11-11;

15 (7) Establish evidence-based standards to measure the success and performance of all
16 recipients of grants provided pursuant to the provisions of this chapter; and

17 (8) Perform all other duties as assigned by the director.

18 The office of primary care training shall be staffed by the person or persons assigned by
19 the director.

20 **23-17.29-4. Contracts.**

21 In compliance with the provisions of § 42-11-11, the director shall have the authority to
22 enter into contracts, subject to appropriation, for medical education to be conducted at primary care
23 practice sites. Any contract entered into shall not exceed ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000) per
24 primary care site contract recipient, per calendar year and shall contain, at a minimum, the
25 following terms, conditions and provisions:

26 (1) The primary care site shall serve as an enhanced interdisciplinary clinical training site;

27 (2) The primary care site shall have achieved and shall maintain NCQA PCMH distinction;

28 (3) The primary care site shall provide integrated behavioral health services;

29 (4) The primary care site shall provide an agreed curriculum of training for physicians,
30 nurse practitioners and physician assistants; and

31 (5) Training shall include a minimum of five (5) hours didactic training and shall introduce
32 the trainees to the concept of PCMH and how the principles of the model have been operationalized
33 in the primary care delivery setting.

34 **23-17.29-5. Rules and regulations.**

1 The director shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this
2 chapter.

3 **23-17.29-6. Reports.**

4 The director shall report annually to the general assembly and the governor no later than
5 December 31 of each year on the status and progress of the primary care training sites program
6 established and administered pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

7 **23-17.29-7. Severability.**

8 If any provision of this chapter or any rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to the
9 provisions of this chapter, or its application to any person or circumstance, is held invalid by a court
10 of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the chapter, rule or regulation and the application of the
11 provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected by its invalidity. The invalidity of
12 any section or sections or portion of any section or sections of this chapter shall not affect the
13 validity of the remainder of this chapter.

14 SECTION 2. Sections 40-5.2-10, 40-5.2-11, and 40-5.2-12 of the General Laws in Chapter
15 40-5.2 entitled "The Rhode Island Works Program" are hereby amended to read as follows:

16 **40-5.2-10. Necessary requirements and conditions.**

17 The following requirements and conditions shall be necessary to establish eligibility for
18 the program.

19 (a) **Citizenship, alienage, and residency requirements.**

20 (1) A person shall be a resident of the State of Rhode Island.

21 (2) Effective October 1, 2008, a person shall be a United States citizen, or shall meet the
22 alienage requirements established in § 402(b) of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity
23 Reconciliation Act of 1996, PRWORA, Pub. L. No. 104-193 and as that section may hereafter be
24 amended [8 U.S.C. § 1612]; a person who is not a United States citizen and does not meet the
25 alienage requirements established in PRWORA, as amended, is not eligible for cash assistance in
26 accordance with this chapter.

27 (b) The family/assistance unit must meet any other requirements established by the
28 department of human services by rules and regulations adopted pursuant to the Administrative
29 Procedures Act, as necessary to promote the purpose and goals of this chapter.

30 (c) Receipt of cash assistance is conditional upon compliance with all program
31 requirements.

32 (d) All individuals domiciled in this state shall be exempt from the application of
33 subdivision 115(d)(1)(A) of Pub. L. No. 104-193, the Personal Responsibility and Work
34 Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, PRWORA [21 U.S.C. § 862a], which makes any

1 individual ineligible for certain state and federal assistance if that individual has been convicted
2 under federal or state law of any offense that is classified as a felony by the law of the jurisdiction
3 and that has as an element the possession, use, or distribution of a controlled substance as defined
4 in § 102(6) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. § 802(6)).

5 **(e) Individual employment plan as a condition of eligibility.**

6 (1) Following receipt of an application, the department of human services shall assess the
7 financial conditions of the family, including the non-parent caretaker relative who is applying for
8 cash assistance for themselves as well as for the minor child(ren), in the context of an eligibility
9 determination. If a parent or non-parent caretaker relative is unemployed or under-employed, the
10 department shall conduct an initial assessment, taking into account:

11 (A) The physical capacity, skills, education, work experience, health, safety, family
12 responsibilities, and place of residence of the individual; and

13 (B) The child care and supportive services required by the applicant to avail themselves of
14 employment opportunities and/or work readiness programs.

15 (2) On the basis of this assessment, the department of human services and the department
16 of labor and training, as appropriate, in consultation with the applicant, shall develop an individual
17 employment plan for the family that requires the individual to participate in the intensive
18 employment services. Intensive employment services shall be defined as the work requirement
19 activities in § 40-5.2-12(g) and (i).

20 (3) The director, or the director's designee, may assign a case manager to an
21 applicant/participant, as appropriate.

22 (4) The department of labor and training and the department of human services in
23 conjunction with the participant shall develop a revised individual employment plan that shall
24 identify employment objectives, taking into consideration factors above, and shall include a
25 strategy for immediate employment and for preparing for, finding, and retaining employment
26 consistent, to the extent practicable, with the individual's career objectives.

27 (5) The individual employment plan must include the provision for the participant to
28 engage in work requirements as outlined in § 40-5.2-12.

29 (6)(i) The participant shall attend and participate immediately in intensive assessment and
30 employment services as the first step in the individual employment plan, unless temporarily exempt
31 from this requirement in accordance with this chapter. Intensive assessment and employment
32 services shall be defined as the work requirement activities in § 40-5.2-12(g) and (i).

33 (ii) Parents under age twenty (20) without a high school diploma or general equivalency
34 diploma (GED) shall be referred to special teen-parent programs that will provide intensive services

1 designed to assist teen parents to complete high school education or GED, and to continue approved
2 work plan activities in accord with Rhode Island works program requirements.

3 (7) The applicant shall become a participant in accordance with this chapter at the time the
4 individual employment plan is signed and entered into.

5 (8) Applicants and participants of the Rhode Island works program shall agree to comply
6 with the terms of the individual employment plan, and shall cooperate fully with the steps
7 established in the individual employment plan, including the work requirements.

8 (9) The department of human services has the authority under the chapter to require
9 attendance by the applicant/participant, either at the department of human services or at the
10 department of labor and training, at appointments deemed necessary for the purpose of having the
11 applicant enter into and become eligible for assistance through the Rhode Island works program.
12 The appointments include, but are not limited to: the initial interview, orientation and assessment;
13 job readiness; and job search. Attendance is required as a condition of eligibility for cash assistance
14 in accordance with rules and regulations established by the department.

15 (10) As a condition of eligibility for assistance pursuant to this chapter, the
16 applicant/participant shall be obligated to keep appointments; attend orientation meetings at the
17 department of human services and/or the Rhode Island department of labor and training; participate
18 in any initial assessments or appraisals; and comply with all the terms of the individual employment
19 plan in accordance with department of human services rules and regulations.

20 (11) A participant, including a parent or non-parent caretaker relative included in the cash
21 assistance payment, shall not voluntarily quit a job or refuse a job unless there is good cause as
22 defined in this chapter or the department's rules and regulations.

23 (12) A participant who voluntarily quits or refuses a job without good cause, as defined in
24 § 40-5.2-12(l), while receiving cash assistance in accordance with this chapter, shall be sanctioned
25 in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the department.

26 (f) **Resources.**

27 (1) The family or assistance unit's countable resources shall be less than the allowable
28 resource limit established by the department in accordance with this chapter.

29 (2) No family or assistance unit shall be eligible for assistance payments if the combined
30 value of its available resources (reduced by any obligations or debts with respect to such resources)
31 exceeds five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

32 (3) For purposes of this subsection, the following shall not be counted as resources of the
33 family/assistance unit in the determination of eligibility for the works program:

34 (i) The home owned and occupied by a child, parent, relative, or other individual;

1 (ii) Real property owned by a husband and wife as tenants by the entirety, if the property
2 is not the home of the family and if the spouse of the applicant refuses to sell his or her interest in
3 the property;

4 (iii) Real property that the family is making a good faith effort to dispose of, however, any
5 cash assistance payable to the family for any such period shall be conditioned upon such disposal
6 of the real property within six (6) months of the date of application and any payments of assistance
7 for that period shall (at the time of disposal) be considered overpayments to the extent that they
8 would not have occurred at the beginning of the period for which the payments were made. All
9 overpayments are debts subject to recovery in accordance with the provisions of the chapter;

10 (iv) Income-producing property other than real estate including, but not limited to,
11 equipment such as farm tools, carpenter's tools, and vehicles used in the production of goods or
12 services that the department determines are necessary for the family to earn a living;

13 (v) One vehicle for each adult household member, but not to exceed two (2) vehicles per
14 household, and in addition, a vehicle used primarily for income-producing purposes such as, but
15 not limited to, a taxi, truck, or fishing boat; a vehicle used as a family's home; a vehicle that
16 annually produces income consistent with its fair market value, even if only used on a seasonal
17 basis; a vehicle necessary to transport a family member with a disability where the vehicle is
18 specially equipped to meet the specific needs of the person with a disability or if the vehicle is a
19 special type of vehicle that makes it possible to transport the person with a disability;

20 (vi) Household furnishings and appliances, clothing, personal effects, and keepsakes of
21 limited value;

22 (vii) Burial plots (one for each child, relative, and other individual in the assistance unit)
23 and funeral arrangements;

24 (viii) For the month of receipt and the following month, any refund of federal income taxes
25 made to the family by reason of § 32 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. § 32 (relating
26 to earned income tax credit), and any payment made to the family by an employer under § 3507 of
27 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. § 3507 [repealed] (relating to advance payment of
28 such earned income credit);

29 (ix) The resources of any family member receiving supplementary security income
30 assistance under the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 301 et seq.;

31 (x) Any veteran's disability pension benefits received as a result of any disability sustained
32 by the veteran while in the military service.

33 (g) **Income.**

34 (1) Except as otherwise provided for herein, in determining eligibility for and the amount

1 of cash assistance to which a family is entitled under this chapter, the income of a family includes
2 all of the money, goods, and services received or actually available to any member of the family.

3 (2) In determining the eligibility for and the amount of cash assistance to which a
4 family/assistance unit is entitled under this chapter, income in any month shall not include the first
5 ~~three hundred dollars (\$300)~~ five hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$525) of gross earnings plus
6 fifty percent (50%) of the gross earnings of the family in excess of ~~three hundred dollars (\$300)~~
7 five hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$525) earned during the month.

8 (3) The income of a family shall not include:

9 (i) The first fifty dollars (\$50.00) in child support received in any month from each
10 noncustodial parent of a child plus any arrearages in child support (to the extent of the first fifty
11 dollars (\$50.00) per month multiplied by the number of months in which the support has been in
12 arrears) that are paid in any month by a noncustodial parent of a child;

13 (ii) Earned income of any child;

14 (iii) Income received by a family member who is receiving Supplemental Security Income
15 (SSI) assistance under Title XVI of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1381 et seq.;

16 (iv) The value of assistance provided by state or federal government or private agencies to
17 meet nutritional needs, including: value of USDA-donated foods; value of supplemental food
18 assistance received under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended, and the special food service
19 program for children under Title VII, nutrition program for the elderly, of the Older Americans Act
20 of 1965 as amended, and the value of food stamps;

21 (v) Value of certain assistance provided to undergraduate students, including any grant or
22 loan for an undergraduate student for educational purposes made or insured under any loan program
23 administered by the United States Commissioner of Education (or the Rhode Island council on
24 postsecondary education or the Rhode Island division of higher education assistance);

25 (vi) Foster care payments;

26 (vii) Home energy assistance funded by state or federal government or by a nonprofit
27 organization;

28 (viii) Payments for supportive services or reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses made
29 to foster grandparents, senior health aides, or senior companions and to persons serving in SCORE
30 and ACE and any other program under Title II and Title III of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act
31 of 1973, 42 U.S.C. § 5000 et seq.;

32 (ix) Payments to volunteers under AmeriCorps VISTA as defined in the department's rules
33 and regulations;

34 (x) Certain payments to native Americans; payments distributed per capita to, or held in

1 trust for, members of any Indian Tribe under P.L. 92-254, 25 U.S.C. § 1261 et seq., P.L. 93-134,
2 25 U.S.C. § 1401 et seq., or P.L. 94-540; receipts distributed to members of certain Indian tribes
3 which are referred to in § 5 of P.L. 94-114, 25 U.S.C. § 459d, that became effective October 17,
4 1975;

5 (xi) Refund from the federal and state earned income tax credit and any federal or state
6 child tax credits or rebates;

7 (xii) The value of any state, local, or federal government rent or housing subsidy, provided
8 that this exclusion shall not limit the reduction in benefits provided for in the payment standard
9 section of this chapter;

10 (xiii) The earned income of any adult family member who gains employment while an
11 active RI Works household member. This income is excluded for the first six (6) months of
12 employment in which the income is earned, or until the household's total gross income exceeds
13 one hundred eighty-five percent (185%) of the federal poverty level, unless the household reaches
14 its sixty-month (60) time limit first;

15 (xiv) Any veteran's disability pension benefits received as a result of any disability
16 sustained by the veteran while in the military service.

17 (4) The receipt of a lump sum of income shall affect participants for cash assistance in
18 accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the department.

19 **(h) Time limit on the receipt of cash assistance.**

20 (1) On or after January 1, 2020, no cash assistance shall be provided, pursuant to this
21 chapter, to a family or assistance unit that includes an adult member who has received cash
22 assistance for a total of sixty (60) months (whether or not consecutive), to include any time
23 receiving any type of cash assistance in any other state or territory of the United States of America
24 as defined herein. Provided further, in no circumstances other than provided for in subsection (h)(3)
25 with respect to certain minor children, shall cash assistance be provided pursuant to this chapter to
26 a family or assistance unit that includes an adult member who has received cash assistance for a
27 total of a lifetime limit of sixty (60) months.

28 (2) Cash benefits received by a minor dependent child shall not be counted toward their
29 lifetime time limit for receiving benefits under this chapter should that minor child apply for cash
30 benefits as an adult.

31 (3) Certain minor children not subject to time limit. This section regarding the lifetime time
32 limit for the receipt of cash assistance, shall not apply only in the instances of a minor child(ren)
33 living with a parent who receives SSI benefits and a minor child(ren) living with a responsible adult
34 non-parent caretaker relative who is not in the cash assistance payment.

1 (4) Receipt of family cash assistance in any other state or territory of the United States of
2 America shall be determined by the department of human services and shall include family cash
3 assistance funded in whole or in part by Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds
4 [Title IV-A of the federal Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 601 et seq.] and/or family cash assistance
5 provided under a program similar to the Rhode Island families work and opportunity program or
6 the federal TANF program.

7 (5)(i) The department of human services shall mail a notice to each assistance unit when
8 the assistance unit has six (6) months of cash assistance remaining and each month thereafter until
9 the time limit has expired. The notice must be developed by the department of human services and
10 must contain information about the lifetime time limit, the number of months the participant has
11 remaining, the hardship extension policy, the availability of a post-employment-and-closure bonus;
12 and any other information pertinent to a family or an assistance unit nearing the sixty-month (60)
13 lifetime time limit.

14 (ii) For applicants who have less than six (6) months remaining in the sixty-month (60)
15 lifetime time limit because the family or assistance unit previously received cash assistance in
16 Rhode Island or in another state, the department shall notify the applicant of the number of months
17 remaining when the application is approved and begin the process required in subsection (h)(5)(i).

18 (6) If a cash assistance recipient family was closed pursuant to Rhode Island's Temporary
19 Assistance for Needy Families Program (federal TANF described in Title IV-A of the Federal
20 Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 601 et seq.), formerly entitled the Rhode Island family
21 independence program, more specifically under § 40-5.1-9(2)(c) [repealed], due to sanction
22 because of failure to comply with the cash assistance program requirements; and that recipient
23 family received sixty (60) months of cash benefits in accordance with the family independence
24 program, then that recipient family is not able to receive further cash assistance for his/her family,
25 under this chapter, except under hardship exceptions.

26 (7) The months of state or federally funded cash assistance received by a recipient family
27 since May 1, 1997, under Rhode Island's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program
28 (federal TANF described in Title IV-A of the Federal Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 601 et seq.),
29 formerly entitled the Rhode Island family independence program, shall be countable toward the
30 time-limited cash assistance described in this chapter.

31 **(i) Time limit on the receipt of cash assistance.**

32 (1) No cash assistance shall be provided, pursuant to this chapter, to a family assistance
33 unit in which an adult member has received cash assistance for a total of sixty (60) months (whether
34 or not consecutive) to include any time receiving any type of cash assistance in any other state or

1 territory of the United States as defined herein effective August 1, 2008. Provided further, that no
2 cash assistance shall be provided to a family in which an adult member has received assistance for
3 twenty-four (24) consecutive months unless the adult member has a rehabilitation employment plan
4 as provided in § 40-5.2-12(g)(5).

5 (2) Effective August 1, 2008, no cash assistance shall be provided pursuant to this chapter
6 to a family in which a child has received cash assistance for a total of sixty (60) months (whether
7 or not consecutive) if the parent is ineligible for assistance under this chapter pursuant to subsection
8 (a)(2) to include any time they received any type of cash assistance in any other state or territory
9 of the United States as defined herein.

10 (j) **Hardship exceptions.**

11 (1) The department may extend an assistance unit's or family's cash assistance beyond the
12 time limit, by reason of hardship; provided, however, that the number of families to be exempted
13 by the department with respect to their time limit under this subsection shall not exceed twenty
14 percent (20%) of the average monthly number of families to which assistance is provided for under
15 this chapter in a fiscal year; provided, however, that to the extent now or hereafter permitted by
16 federal law, any waiver granted under § 40-5.2-34, for domestic violence, shall not be counted in
17 determining the twenty percent (20%) maximum under this section.

18 (2) Parents who receive extensions to the time limit due to hardship must have and comply
19 with employment plans designed to remove or ameliorate the conditions that warranted the
20 extension.

21 (k) **Parents under eighteen (18) years of age.**

22 (1) A family consisting of a parent who is under the age of eighteen (18), and who has
23 never been married, and who has a child; or a family consisting of a person under the age of eighteen
24 (18) from onset of pregnancy shall be eligible for cash assistance only if the family resides in the
25 home of an adult parent, legal guardian, or other adult relative. The assistance shall be provided to
26 the adult parent, legal guardian, or other adult relative on behalf of the individual and child unless
27 otherwise authorized by the department.

28 (2) This subsection shall not apply if the minor parent or pregnant minor has no parent,
29 legal guardian, or other adult relative who is living and/or whose whereabouts are unknown; or the
30 department determines that the physical or emotional health or safety of the minor parent, or his or
31 her child, or the pregnant minor, would be jeopardized if he or she was required to live in the same
32 residence as his or her parent, legal guardian, or other adult relative (refusal of a parent, legal
33 guardian, or other adult relative to allow the minor parent or his or her child, or a pregnant minor,
34 to live in his or her home shall constitute a presumption that the health or safety would be so

1 jeopardized); or the minor parent or pregnant minor has lived apart from his or her own parent or
2 legal guardian for a period of at least one year before either the birth of any child to a minor parent
3 or the onset of the pregnant minor's pregnancy; or there is good cause, under departmental
4 regulations, for waiving the subsection; and the individual resides in a supervised supportive-living
5 arrangement to the extent available.

6 (3) For purposes of this section, "supervised supportive-living arrangement" means an
7 arrangement that requires minor parents to enroll and make satisfactory progress in a program
8 leading to a high school diploma or a general education development certificate, and requires minor
9 parents to participate in the adolescent parenting program designated by the department, to the
10 extent the program is available; and provides rules and regulations that ensure regular adult
11 supervision.

12 (l) **Assignment and cooperation.** As a condition of eligibility for cash and medical
13 assistance under this chapter, each adult member, parent, or caretaker relative of the
14 family/assistance unit must:

15 (1) Assign to the state any rights to support for children within the family from any person
16 that the family member has at the time the assignment is executed or may have while receiving
17 assistance under this chapter;

18 (2) Consent to and cooperate with the state in establishing the paternity and in establishing
19 and/or enforcing child support and medical support orders for all children in the family or assistance
20 unit in accordance with title 15 of the general laws, as amended, unless the parent or caretaker
21 relative is found to have good cause for refusing to comply with the requirements of this subsection.

22 (3) Absent good cause, as defined by the department of human services through the
23 rulemaking process, for refusing to comply with the requirements of subsections (l)(1) and (l)(2),
24 cash assistance to the family shall be reduced by twenty-five percent (25%) until the adult member
25 of the family who has refused to comply with the requirements of this subsection consents to and
26 cooperates with the state in accordance with the requirements of this subsection.

27 (4) As a condition of eligibility for cash and medical assistance under this chapter, each
28 adult member, parent, or caretaker relative of the family/assistance unit must consent to and
29 cooperate with the state in identifying and providing information to assist the state in pursuing any
30 third party who may be liable to pay for care and services under Title XIX of the Social Security
31 Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq.

32 **40-5.2-11. Cash assistance.**

33 (a) A family or assistance unit found by the department to meet the eligibility criteria set
34 forth in this chapter shall be eligible to receive cash assistance as of the date a signed, written

1 application, signed under a penalty of perjury, is received by the department.

2 (b) The family members or assistance unit shall be eligible for cash assistance for so long
3 as they continue to meet the eligibility criteria outlined in accordance with this chapter. Parents and
4 adult non-parent caretaker relatives receiving cash assistance shall be eligible so long as they meet
5 the terms and conditions of the work requirements of § 40-5.2-12. An adult caretaker relative shall
6 be eligible for assistance as a member of the assistance unit so long as he or she meets all the
7 eligibility requirements of this chapter.

8 (c) The monthly amount of cash assistance shall be equal to the payment standard for the
9 family minus the countable income of the family in that month. The department is authorized to
10 reduce the amount of assistance in the month of application to reflect the number of the days
11 between the first day of the month and the effective date of the application.

12 (d) A decision on the application for assistance shall be made or rejected by the department
13 no later than thirty (30) days following the date submitted and shall be effective as of the date of
14 application.

15 (e) The payment standard is equal to the sum of the following: ~~four hundred twenty-five~~
16 ~~dollars (\$425)~~ five hundred ten dollars (\$510) ~~(three hundred sixty dollars (\$360))~~ (four hundred
17 forty-five dollars (\$445)) for a family residing in subsidized housing) for the first person; ~~one~~
18 ~~hundred fifty-nine dollars (\$159)~~ one hundred ninety-one dollars (\$191) for the second person; ~~one~~
19 ~~hundred thirty-seven dollars (\$137)~~ one hundred sixty-four dollars (\$164) for the third person; and
20 ~~one hundred four dollars (\$104)~~ one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125) for each additional person.

21 **40-5.2-12. Work requirements for receipt of cash assistance.**

22 (a) The department of human services and the department of labor and training shall assess
23 the applicant/parent or non-parent caretaker relative's work experience, educational, and vocational
24 abilities, and the department, together with the parent, shall develop and enter into a mandatory,
25 individual employment plan in accordance with § 40-5.2-10(e).

26 (b) In the case of a family including two (2) parents, at least one of the parents shall be
27 required to participate in an employment plan leading to full-time employment. The department
28 may also require the second parent in a two-parent (2) household to develop an employment plan
29 if, and when, the youngest child reaches six (6) years of age or older.

30 (c) The written, individual employment plan shall specify, at minimum, the immediate
31 steps necessary to support a goal of long-term, economic independence.

32 (d) All applicants and participants in the Rhode Island works employment program must
33 attend and participate in required appointments, employment plan development, and employment-
34 related activities, unless temporarily exempt for reasons specified in this chapter.

1 (e) A recipient/participant temporarily exempted from the work requirements may
2 participate in an individual employment plan on a voluntary basis, however, the individual remains
3 subject to the same program compliance requirements as a participant without a temporary
4 exemption.

5 (f) The individual employment plan shall specify the participant's work activity(ies) and
6 the supportive services that will be provided by the department to enable the participant to engage
7 in the work activity(ies).

8 (g) Work requirements for single-parent families. In single-parent households, the
9 participant parent or non-parent caretaker relative in the cash assistance payment, shall participate
10 as a condition of eligibility, for a minimum of twenty (20) hours per week if the youngest child in
11 the home is under the age of six (6), and for a minimum of thirty (30) hours per week if the youngest
12 child in the home is six (6) years of age or older, in one or more of their required work activities,
13 as appropriate, in order to help the parent obtain stable, full-time, paid employment, as determined
14 by the department of human services and the department of labor and training; provided, however,
15 that he or she shall begin with intensive employment services as the first step in the individual
16 employment plan. Required work activities are as follows:

17 (1) At least twenty (20) hours per week must come from participation in one or more of
18 the following ten (10) work activities:

19 (i) Unsubsidized employment;

20 (ii) Subsidized private-sector employment;

21 (iii) Subsidized public-sector employment;

22 (iv) Work experience;

23 (v) On-the-job training;

24 (vi) Job search and job readiness;

25 (vii) Community service programs;

26 (viii) Vocational educational training not to exceed twelve (12) months; provided,
27 however, that a participant who successfully completes their first year of education at the
28 community college of Rhode Island may participate in vocational education training for an
29 additional twelve (12) months;

30 (ix) Providing childcare services to another participant parent who is participating in an
31 approved community service program; and

32 (x) Adult education in an intensive work-readiness program.

33 (2) Above twenty (20) hours per week, the parent may participate in one or more of the
34 following three (3) activities in order to satisfy a thirty-hour (30) requirement:

1 (i) Job skills training directly related to employment;
2 (ii) Education directly related to employment; and
3 (iii) Satisfactory attendance at a secondary school or in a course of study leading to a
4 certificate of general equivalence if it is a teen parent under the age of twenty (20) who is without
5 a high school diploma or General Equivalence Diploma (GED).

6 (3) In the case of a parent under the age of twenty (20), attendance at a secondary school
7 or the equivalent during the month, or twenty (20) hours per week on average for the month in
8 education directly related to employment, will be counted as engaged in work.

9 (4) A parent who participates in a work experience or community service program for the
10 maximum number of hours per week allowable by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) is deemed
11 to have participated in his or her required minimum hours per week in core activities if actual
12 participation falls short of his or her required minimum hours per week.

13 (5) A parent who has been determined to have a physical or mental impairment affecting
14 employment, but who has not been found eligible for Social Security Disability benefits or
15 Supplemental Security Income must participate in his or her rehabilitation employment plan as
16 developed with the office of rehabilitation services that leads to employment and/or to receipt of
17 disability benefits through the Social Security Administration.

18 (6) A required work activity may be any other work activity permissible under federal
19 TANF provisions or state-defined Rhode Island works program activity, including up to ten (10)
20 hours of activities required by a parent's department of children, youth and families service plan.

21 (h) Exemptions from work requirements for the single-parent family. Work requirements
22 outlined in subsection (g) shall not apply to a single parent if (and for so long as) the department
23 finds that he or she is:

24 (1) Caring for a child below the age of one; provided, however, that a parent may opt for
25 the deferral from an individual employment plan for a maximum of twelve (12) months during the
26 twenty-four (24) months of eligibility for cash assistance and provided, further, that a minor parent
27 without a high school diploma or the equivalent, and who is not married, shall not be exempt for
28 more than twelve (12) weeks from the birth of the child;

29 (2) Caring for a disabled family member who resides in the home and requires full-time
30 care;

31 (3) A recipient of Social Security Disability benefits or Supplemental Security Income or
32 other disability benefits that have the same standard of disability as defined by the Social Security
33 Administration;

34 (4) An individual receiving assistance who is a victim of domestic violence as determined

1 by the department in accordance with rules and regulations;

2 (5) An applicant for assistance in her third trimester or a pregnant woman in her third
3 trimester who is a recipient of assistance and has medical documentation that she cannot work;

4 (6) An individual otherwise exempt by the department as defined in rules and regulations
5 promulgated by the department.

6 (i) Work requirement for two-parent families.

7 (1) In families consisting of two (2) parents, one or both parents are required, and shall be
8 engaged in, work activities as defined below, for an individual or combined total of at least thirty-
9 five (35) hours per week during the month, not fewer than thirty (30) hours per week of which are
10 attributable to one or more of the following listed work activities; provided, however, that he or she
11 shall begin with intensive employment services as the first step in the individual employment plan.

12 Two-parent work requirements shall be defined as the following:

13 (i) Unsubsidized employment;

14 (ii) Subsidized private-sector employment;

15 (iii) Subsidized public-sector employment;

16 (iv) Work experience;

17 (v) On-the-job training;

18 (vi) Job search and job readiness;

19 (vii) Community service program;

20 (viii) Vocational educational training not to exceed twelve (12) months; provided,
21 however, that a participant who successfully completes their first year of education at the
22 community college of Rhode Island may participate in vocational education training for an
23 additional twelve (12) months;

24 (ix) The provision of childcare services to a participant individual who is participating in a
25 community service program; and

26 (x) Adult education in an intensive work-readiness program.

27 (2) Above thirty (30) hours per week, the following three (3) activities may also count for
28 participation:

29 (i) Job skills training directly related to employment;

30 (ii) Education directly related to employment; and

31 (iii) Satisfactory attendance at secondary school or in a course of study leading to a
32 certificate of general equivalence.

33 (3) A family with two (2) parents, in which one or both parents participate in a work
34 experience or community service program, shall be deemed to have participated in core work

1 activities for the maximum number of hours per week allowable by the Fair Labor Standards Act
2 (FLSA) if actual participation falls short of his or her required minimum hours per week.

3 (4) If the family receives childcare assistance and an adult in the family is not disabled or
4 caring for a severely disabled child, then the work-eligible individuals must be participating in work
5 activities for an average of at least fifty-five (55) hours per week to count as a two-parent family
6 engaged in work for the month.

7 (5) At least fifty (50) of the fifty-five (55) hours per week must come from participation in
8 the activities listed in subsection (i)(1).

9 Above fifty (50) hours per week, the three (3) activities listed in subsection (i)(2) may also
10 count as participation.

11 (6) A family with two (2) parents receiving child care in which one or both parents
12 participate in a work experience or community service program for the maximum number of hours
13 per week allowable by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) will be considered to have met their
14 required core hours if actual participation falls short of the required minimum hours per week. For
15 families that need additional hours beyond the core activity requirement, these hours must be
16 satisfied in some other TANF work activity.

17 (j) Exemptions from work requirements for two-parent families. Work requirements
18 outlined in subsection (i) shall not apply to two-parent families if (and for so long as) the department
19 finds that:

20 (1) Both parents receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI);

21 (2) One parent receives SSI, and the other parent is caring for a disabled family member
22 who resides in the home and who requires full-time care; or

23 (3) The parents are otherwise exempt by the department as defined in rules and regulations.

24 (k) Failure to comply with work requirements — Sanctions ~~and terminations~~.

25 (1) The cash assistance to which an otherwise eligible family/assistance unit is entitled
26 under this chapter shall be reduced ~~for three (3) months, whether or not consecutive~~, in accordance
27 with rules and regulations promulgated by the department, whenever any participant, without good
28 cause as defined by the department in its rules and regulations, has failed to enter into an individual
29 employment plan; has failed to attend a required appointment; has refused or quit employment; or
30 has failed to comply with any other requirements for the receipt of cash assistance under this
31 chapter. The reduction in cash assistance shall not exceed the share of the payment made to the
32 participant, i.e., the amount paid in addition to the payment for the dependent children. If the
33 family's benefit has been reduced, benefits shall be restored to the full amount beginning with the
34 initial payment made on the first of the month following the month in which the parent: (i) Enters

1 into an individual employment plan ~~or rehabilitation plan~~ and demonstrates compliance with the
2 terms thereof; or (ii) Demonstrates compliance with the terms of his or her existing individual
3 employment plan ~~or rehabilitation plan~~, as such plan may be amended by agreement of the parent
4 and the department.

5 (2) In the case where appropriate child care has been made available in accordance with
6 this chapter, a participant's failure, without good cause, to accept a bona fide offer of work,
7 including full-time, part-time, and/or temporary employment, or unpaid work experience or
8 community service, shall be deemed a failure to comply with the work requirements of this section
9 and shall result in reduction or termination of cash assistance, as defined by the department in rules
10 and regulations duly promulgated.

11 ~~(3) If the family/assistance unit's benefit has been reduced for a total of three (3) months,~~
12 ~~whether or not consecutive in accordance with this section due to the failure by one or more parents~~
13 ~~to enter into an individual employment plan, or failure to comply with the terms of his or her~~
14 ~~individual employment plan, or the failure to comply with the requirements of this chapter, cash~~
15 ~~assistance to the entire family shall end. The family/assistance unit may reapply for benefits, and~~
16 ~~the benefits shall be restored to the family/assistance unit in the full amount the family/assistance~~
17 ~~unit is otherwise eligible for under this chapter beginning on the first of the month following the~~
18 ~~month in which all parents in the family/assistance unit who are subject to the employment or~~
19 ~~rehabilitation plan requirements under this chapter: (i) Enter into an individual employment or~~
20 ~~rehabilitation plan as applicable, and demonstrate compliance with the terms thereof, or (ii)~~
21 ~~Demonstrate compliance with the terms of the parent's individual employment or rehabilitation~~
22 ~~employment plan in effect at the time of termination of benefits, as such plan may be amended by~~
23 ~~agreement of the parent and the department.~~

24 ~~(4)~~(3) Up to ten (10) days following a notice of adverse action to reduce ~~or terminate~~
25 benefits under this subsection, the client may request the opportunity to meet with a social worker
26 to identify the reasons for non-compliance, establish good cause, and seek to resolve any issues
27 that have prevented the parent from complying with the employment plan requirements.

28 ~~(5)~~(4) Participants whose cases had closed in sanction status pursuant to Rhode Island's
29 prior Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program (federal TANF described in Title IV-A
30 of the federal Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 601 et seq.), the family independence program, more
31 specifically, § 40-5.1-9(2)(c) [repealed], due to failure to comply with the cash assistance program
32 requirements, but who had received less than forty-eight (48) months of cash assistance at the time
33 of closure, and who reapply for cash assistance under the Rhode Island works program, must
34 demonstrate full compliance, as defined by the department in its rules and regulations, before they

1 shall be eligible for cash assistance pursuant to this chapter.

2 (l) Good cause. Good cause for failing to meet any program requirements including leaving
3 employment, and failure to fulfill documentation requirements, shall be outlined in rules and
4 regulations promulgated by the department of human services.

5 SECTION 3. Section 40-5.2-20 of the General Laws in Chapter 40-5.2 entitled "The Rhode
6 Island Works Program" is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 **40-5.2-20. Childcare assistance — Families or assistance units eligible.**

8 (a) The department shall provide appropriate child care to every participant who is eligible
9 for cash assistance and who requires child care in order to meet the work requirements in
10 accordance with this chapter.

11 (b) **Low-income child care.** The department shall provide child care to all other working
12 families with incomes at or below ~~two hundred percent (200%)~~ two hundred sixty-one percent
13 (261%) of the federal poverty level if, and to the extent, these other families require child care in
14 order to work at paid employment as defined in the department's rules and regulations. The
15 department shall also provide child care to families with incomes below ~~two hundred~~ two hundred
16 sixty-one percent ~~(200%)~~ (261%) of the federal poverty level if, and to the extent, these families
17 require child care to participate on a short-term basis, as defined in the department's rules and
18 regulations, in training, apprenticeship, internship, on-the-job training, work experience, work
19 immersion, or other job-readiness/job-attachment program sponsored or funded by the human
20 resource investment council (governor's workforce board) or state agencies that are part of the
21 coordinated program system pursuant to § 42-102-11. Effective from January 1, 2021, through June
22 30, 2022, the department shall also provide childcare assistance to families with incomes below
23 one hundred eighty percent (180%) of the federal poverty level when such assistance is necessary
24 for a member of these families to enroll or maintain enrollment in a Rhode Island public institution
25 of higher education provided that eligibility to receive funding is capped when expenditures reach
26 \$200,000 for this provision. Effective July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024, the department
27 shall also provide childcare assistance to families with incomes below two hundred percent (200%)
28 of the federal poverty level when such assistance is necessary for a member of these families to
29 enroll or maintain enrollment in a Rhode Island public institution of higher education. Effective
30 January 1, 2025, the department shall also provide childcare assistance to families with incomes
31 below two hundred sixty-one percent (261%) of the federal poverty level when such assistance is
32 necessary for a member of these families to enroll or maintain enrollment in a Rhode Island public
33 institution of higher education.

34 (c) No family/assistance unit shall be eligible for childcare assistance under this chapter if

1 the combined value of its liquid resources exceeds one million dollars (\$1,000,000), which
2 corresponds to the amount permitted by the federal government under the state plan and set forth
3 in the administrative rulemaking process by the department. Liquid resources are defined as any
4 interest(s) in property in the form of cash or other financial instruments or accounts that are readily
5 convertible to cash or cash equivalents. These include, but are not limited to: cash, bank, credit
6 union, or other financial institution savings, checking, and money market accounts; certificates of
7 deposit or other time deposits; stocks; bonds; mutual funds; and other similar financial instruments
8 or accounts. These do not include educational savings accounts, plans, or programs; retirement
9 accounts, plans, or programs; or accounts held jointly with another adult, not including a spouse.
10 The department is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to determine the ownership and
11 source of the funds in the joint account.

12 (d) As a condition of eligibility for childcare assistance under this chapter, the parent or
13 caretaker relative of the family must consent to, and must cooperate with, the department in
14 establishing paternity, and in establishing and/or enforcing child support and medical support
15 orders for any children in the family receiving appropriate child care under this section in
16 accordance with the applicable sections of title 15, as amended, unless the parent or caretaker
17 relative is found to have good cause for refusing to comply with the requirements of this subsection.

18 (e) For purposes of this section, “appropriate child care” means child care, including infant,
19 toddler, preschool, nursery school, and school-age, that is provided by a person or organization
20 qualified, approved, and authorized to provide the care by the state agency or agencies designated
21 to make the determinations in accordance with the provisions set forth herein.

22 (f)(1) Families with incomes below one hundred percent (100%) of the applicable federal
23 poverty level guidelines shall be provided with free child care. Families with incomes greater than
24 one hundred percent (100%) and less than two hundred percent (200%) of the applicable federal
25 poverty guideline shall be required to pay for some portion of the child care they receive, according
26 to a sliding-fee scale adopted by the department in the department’s rules, not to exceed seven
27 percent (7%) of income as defined in subsection (h) of this section.

28 (2) Families who are receiving childcare assistance and who become ineligible for
29 childcare assistance as a result of their incomes exceeding ~~two hundred percent (200%)~~ [two](#)
30 [hundred sixty-one percent \(261%\)](#) of the applicable federal poverty guidelines shall continue to be
31 eligible for childcare assistance until their incomes exceed three hundred percent (300%) of the
32 applicable federal poverty guidelines. To be eligible, the families must continue to pay for some
33 portion of the child care they receive, as indicated in a sliding-fee scale adopted in the department’s
34 rules, not to exceed seven percent (7%) of income as defined in subsection (h) of this section, and

1 in accordance with all other eligibility standards.

2 (g) In determining the type of child care to be provided to a family, the department shall
3 take into account the cost of available childcare options; the suitability of the type of care available
4 for the child; and the parent's preference as to the type of child care.

5 (h) For purposes of this section, "income" for families receiving cash assistance under §
6 40-5.2-11 means gross, earned income and unearned income, subject to the income exclusions in
7 §§ 40-5.2-10(g)(2) and 40-5.2-10(g)(3), and income for other families shall mean gross, earned and
8 unearned income as determined by departmental regulations.

9 (i) The caseload estimating conference established by chapter 17 of title 35 shall forecast
10 the expenditures for child care in accordance with the provisions of § 35-17-1.

11 (j) In determining eligibility for childcare assistance for children of members of reserve
12 components called to active duty during a time of conflict, the department shall freeze the family
13 composition and the family income of the reserve component member as it was in the month prior
14 to the month of leaving for active duty. This shall continue until the individual is officially
15 discharged from active duty.

16 (k) Effective from August 1, 2023, through July 31, ~~2024~~ 2025, the department shall
17 provide funding for child care for eligible childcare educators, and childcare staff, who work at
18 least twenty (20) hours a week in licensed childcare centers and licensed family childcare homes
19 as defined in the department's rules and regulations. Eligibility is limited to qualifying childcare
20 educators and childcare staff with family incomes up to three hundred percent (300%) of the
21 applicable federal poverty guidelines and will have no copayments. Qualifying participants may
22 select the childcare center or family childcare home for their children. The department shall
23 promulgate regulations necessary to implement this section, and will collect applicant and
24 participant data to report estimated demand for state-funded child care for eligible childcare
25 educators and childcare staff. The report shall be due to the governor and the general assembly by
26 November 1, 2024.

27 SECTION 4. Section 40-6.2-1.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 40-6.2 entitled "Child
28 Care — State Subsidies" is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 **40-6.2-1.1. Rates established.**

30 (a) Through June 30, 2015, subject to the payment limitations in subsection (c), the
31 maximum reimbursement rates to be paid by the departments of human services and children, youth
32 and families for licensed childcare centers and licensed family childcare providers shall be based
33 on the following schedule of the 75th percentile of the 2002 weekly market rates adjusted for the
34 average of the 75th percentile of the 2002 and the 2004 weekly market rates:

1	Licensed Childcare Centers	75th Percentile of Weekly
2		Market Rate
3	Infant	\$182.00
4	Preschool	\$150.00
5	School-Age	\$135.00
6	Licensed Family Childcare	75th Percentile of Weekly
7	Providers	Market Rate
8	Infant	\$150.00
9	Preschool	\$150.00
10	School-Age	\$135.00

11 Effective July 1, 2015, subject to the payment limitations in subsection (c), the maximum
12 reimbursement rates to be paid by the departments of human services and children, youth and
13 families for licensed childcare centers and licensed family childcare providers shall be based on the
14 above schedule of the 75th percentile of the 2002 weekly market rates adjusted for the average of
15 the 75th percentile of the 2002 and the 2004 weekly market rates. These rates shall be increased by
16 ten dollars (\$10.00) per week for infant/toddler care provided by licensed family childcare
17 providers and license-exempt providers and then the rates for all providers for all age groups shall
18 be increased by three percent (3%). For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, licensed childcare
19 centers shall be reimbursed a maximum weekly rate of one hundred ninety-three dollars and sixty-
20 four cents (\$193.64) for infant/toddler care and one hundred sixty-one dollars and seventy-one
21 cents (\$161.71) for preschool-age children.

22 (b) Effective July 1, 2018, subject to the payment limitations in subsection (c), the
23 maximum infant/toddler and preschool-age reimbursement rates to be paid by the departments of
24 human services and children, youth and families for licensed childcare centers shall be
25 implemented in a tiered manner, reflective of the quality rating the provider has achieved within
26 the state's quality rating system outlined in § 42-12-23.1.

27 (1) For infant/toddler child care, tier one shall be reimbursed two and one-half percent
28 (2.5%) above the FY 2018 weekly amount, tier two shall be reimbursed five percent (5%) above
29 the FY 2018 weekly amount, tier three shall be reimbursed thirteen percent (13%) above the FY
30 2018 weekly amount, tier four shall be reimbursed twenty percent (20%) above the FY 2018 weekly
31 amount, and tier five shall be reimbursed thirty-three percent (33%) above the FY 2018 weekly
32 amount.

33 (2) For preschool reimbursement rates, tier one shall be reimbursed two and one-half
34 (2.5%) percent above the FY 2018 weekly amount, tier two shall be reimbursed five percent (5%)

1 above the FY 2018 weekly amount, tier three shall be reimbursed ten percent (10%) above the FY
2 2018 weekly amount, tier four shall be reimbursed thirteen percent (13%) above the FY 2018
3 weekly amount, and tier five shall be reimbursed twenty-one percent (21%) above the FY 2018
4 weekly amount.

5 (c) [Deleted by P.L. 2019, ch. 88, art. 13, § 4.]

6 (d) By June 30, 2004, and biennially through June 30, 2014, the department of labor and
7 training shall conduct an independent survey or certify an independent survey of the then-current
8 weekly market rates for child care in Rhode Island and shall forward the weekly market rate survey
9 to the department of human services. The next survey shall be conducted by June 30, 2016, and
10 triennially thereafter. The departments of human services and labor and training will jointly
11 determine the survey criteria including, but not limited to, rate categories and sub-categories.

12 (e) In order to expand the accessibility and availability of quality child care, the department
13 of human services is authorized to establish, by regulation, alternative or incentive rates of
14 reimbursement for quality enhancements, innovative or specialized child care, and alternative
15 methodologies of childcare delivery, including nontraditional delivery systems and collaborations.

16 (f) Effective January 1, 2007, all childcare providers have the option to be paid every two
17 (2) weeks and have the option of automatic direct deposit and/or electronic funds transfer of
18 reimbursement payments.

19 (g) Effective July 1, 2019, the maximum infant/toddler reimbursement rates to be paid by
20 the departments of human services and children, youth and families for licensed family childcare
21 providers shall be implemented in a tiered manner, reflective of the quality rating the provider has
22 achieved within the state's quality rating system outlined in § 42-12-23.1. Tier one shall be
23 reimbursed two percent (2%) above the prevailing base rate for step 1 and step 2 providers, three
24 percent (3%) above prevailing base rate for step 3 providers, and four percent (4%) above the
25 prevailing base rate for step 4 providers; tier two shall be reimbursed five percent (5%) above the
26 prevailing base rate; tier three shall be reimbursed eleven percent (11%) above the prevailing base
27 rate; tier four shall be reimbursed fourteen percent (14%) above the prevailing base rate; and tier
28 five shall be reimbursed twenty-three percent (23%) above the prevailing base rate.

29 (h) Through December 31, 2021, the maximum reimbursement rates paid by the
30 departments of human services, and children, youth and families to licensed childcare centers shall
31 be consistent with the enhanced emergency rates provided as of June 1, 2021, as follows:

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5
32 Infant/Toddler	\$257.54	\$257.54	\$257.54	\$257.54	\$273.00
33 Preschool Age	\$195.67	\$195.67	\$195.67	\$195.67	\$260.00

1 School Age \$200.00 \$200.00 \$200.00 \$200.00 \$245.00

2 The maximum reimbursement rates paid by the departments of human services, and
 3 children, youth and families to licensed family childcare providers shall be consistent with the
 4 enhanced emergency rates provided as of June 1, 2021, as follows:

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5
6 Infant/Toddler	\$224.43	\$224.43	\$224.43	\$224.43	\$224.43
7 Preschool Age	\$171.45	\$171.45	\$171.45	\$171.45	\$171.45
8 School Age	\$162.30	\$162.30	\$162.30	\$162.30	\$162.30

9 (i) Effective January 1, 2022, the maximum reimbursement rates to be paid by the
 10 departments of human services and children, youth and families for licensed childcare centers shall
 11 be implemented in a tiered manner, reflective of the quality rating the provider has achieved within
 12 the state’s quality rating system outlined in § 42-12-23.1. Maximum weekly rates shall be
 13 reimbursed as follows:

14 Licensed Childcare Centers

	Tier One	Tier Two	Tier Three	Tier Four	Tier Five
16 Infant/Toddler	\$236.36	\$244.88	\$257.15	\$268.74	\$284.39
17 Preschool	\$207.51	\$212.27	\$218.45	\$223.50	\$231.39
18 School-Age	\$180.38	\$182.77	\$185.17	\$187.57	\$189.97

19 The maximum reimbursement rates for licensed family childcare providers paid by the
 20 departments of human services, and children, youth and families is determined through collective
 21 bargaining. The maximum reimbursement rates for infant/toddler and preschool age children paid
 22 to licensed family childcare providers by both departments is implemented in a tiered manner that
 23 reflects the quality rating the provider has achieved in accordance with § 42-12-23.1.

24 (j) Effective July 1, 2022, the maximum reimbursement rates to be paid by the departments
 25 of human services and children, youth and families for licensed childcare centers shall be
 26 implemented in a tiered manner, reflective of the quality rating the provider has achieved within
 27 the state’s quality rating system outlined in § 42-12-23.1. Maximum weekly rates shall be
 28 reimbursed as follows:

29 Licensed Childcare Centers

	Tier One	Tier Two	Tier Three	Tier Four	Tier Five
31 Infant/Toddler	\$265	\$270	\$282	\$289	\$300
32 Infant/Toddler					
33 <u>Preschool</u>	\$225	\$235	\$243	\$250	\$260
34 School-Age	\$200	\$205	\$220	\$238	\$250

1 (k) Effective July 1, 2024, the maximum reimbursement rates to be paid by the departments
2 of human services and children, youth and families for licensed childcare centers shall be
3 implemented in a tiered manner, reflective of the quality rating the provider has achieved within
4 the state's quality rating system outlined in § 42-12-23.1. Maximum weekly rates shall be
5 reimbursed as follows:

6 Licensed Childcare Centers

	<u>Tier One</u>	<u>Tier Two</u>	<u>Tier Three</u>	<u>Tier Four</u>	<u>Tier Five</u>
<u>Infant/Toddler</u>	<u>\$278</u>	<u>\$284</u>	<u>\$296</u>	<u>\$303</u>	<u>\$315</u>
<u>Preschool</u>	<u>\$236</u>	<u>\$247</u>	<u>\$255</u>	<u>\$263</u>	<u>\$273</u>
<u>School-Age</u>	<u>\$210</u>	<u>\$215</u>	<u>\$231</u>	<u>\$250</u>	<u>\$263</u>

11 SECTION 5. Title 42 of the General Laws entitled "STATE AFFAIRS AND
12 GOVERNMENT" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

13 CHAPTER 166

14 THE LADDERS TO LICENSURE PROGRAM

15 **42-166-1. The ladders to licensure grant program.**

16 The executive office of health and human services is hereby directed to establish the ladders
17 to licensure grant program, a public-private partnership to:

18 (1) Increase the number of licensed health professionals;

19 (2) Increase racial, ethnic, cultural and linguistic diversity of health professionals;

20 (3) Provide academic, financial and wrap around supports to enable working adults to
21 obtain health professional higher education degrees and license;

22 (4) Leverage employer support for academic, financial and wraparound supports;

23 (5) Align with existing state workforce and higher education initiatives;

24 (6) Develop and implement career ladders with tiered training and education requirements
25 and corresponding salary increases;

26 (7) Develop and implement interscholastic and interdepartmental agreements that accept
27 prior learning, credentials, work experience, and academic credits towards requirement for higher
28 education health professional degrees;

29 (8) Establish policies and initiatives to counter systemic racism and other institutional
30 barriers to participation and advancement of underrepresented populations;

31 (9) Establish policies and initiatives that provide flexible scheduling of work hours and/or
32 academic programs to reduce barriers to participation; and

33 (10) Identify state policy barriers to entry and advancement in the field.

34 **42-166-2. Use of appropriated funds.**

1 Any appropriated funds shall be used to provide grants to three (3) or four (4) grantee
2 partnerships, consisting of multiple private sector health and human services employer
3 organizations and education grantee partnerships (with at least one focused on behavioral health
4 and one focused on nursing). Employers will be required to contribute a twenty-five percent (25%)
5 in-kind match and a ten percent (10%) cash match.

6 **42-166-3. Oversight.**

7 The executive office of health and human services shall collaborate and coordinate with
8 the department of labor and training and the office of the postsecondary commissioner in the
9 development, implementation and oversight of the program.

10 **42-166-4. Reporting.**

11 The executive office of health and human services shall provide quarterly reports to the
12 speaker of the house of representatives and senate president documenting the progress of the
13 implementation of the program.

14 SECTION 6. Section 3 of this article shall take effect January 1, 2025, except for the
15 provisions of § 40-5.2-20(k) which shall take effect July 1, 2024. The remainder of this article shall
16 take effect July 1, 2024.

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ARTICLE 12 AS AMENDED

RELATING TO PENSIONS

SECTION 1. Section 8-3-15 of the General Laws in Chapter 8-3 entitled "Justices of Supreme, Superior, and Family Courts" is hereby amended to read as follows:

8-3-15. Cost-of-living allowance.

(a) All justices of the supreme court, superior court, family court, or district court, or their surviving spouses or domestic partners, who retire after January 1, 1970, and who receive a retirement allowance pursuant to the provisions of this title shall, on the first day of January next following the third anniversary date of retirement, receive a cost-of-living retirement adjustment in addition to his or her retirement allowance in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of the original retirement allowance. In each succeeding year thereafter during the month of January, the retirement allowance shall be increased an additional three percent (3%) of the original allowance, not compounded, to be continued during the lifetime of the justice or his or her surviving spouse or domestic partner. For the purpose of such computation, credit shall be given for a full calendar year regardless of the effective date of the retirement allowance.

(b) Any justice who retired prior to January 31, 1977, shall be deemed for the purpose of this section to have retired on January 1, 1977.

(c) For justices not eligible to retire as of September 30, 2009, and not eligible upon passage of this article, and for their beneficiaries, the cost of living adjustment described in subsection (a) above shall only apply to the first thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) of retirement allowance, indexed annually, and shall commence upon the third (3rd) anniversary of the date of retirement or when the retiree reaches age sixty-five (65), whichever is later. The thirty-five thousand dollar (\$35,000) limit shall increase annually by the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumer (CPI-U) as published by the United States Department of Labor Statistics determined as of September 30 of the prior calendar year or three percent (3%), whichever is less. The first thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000), as indexed, of retirement allowance shall be multiplied by the percentage of increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as published by the United States Department of Labor Statistics determined as of September 30 of the prior calendar year or three percent (3%), whichever is less, on the month following the anniversary date of each succeeding year. For justices eligible to retire as of

1 September 30, 2009, or eligible upon passage of this article, and for their beneficiaries, the
2 provisions of this subsection (c) shall not apply.

3 (d) This subsection (d) shall be effective for the period July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015.

4 (1) Notwithstanding the prior paragraphs of this section, and subject to paragraph (d)(2)
5 below, for all present and former justices, active and retired justices, and beneficiaries receiving
6 any retirement, disability, or death allowance or benefit of any kind, whether provided for or on
7 behalf of justices engaged on or prior to December 31, 1989, as a non-contributory justice or
8 engaged after December 31, 1989, as a contributory justice, the annual benefit adjustment provided
9 in any calendar year under this section shall be equal to (A) multiplied by (B) where (A) is equal
10 to the percentage determined by subtracting five and one-half percent (5.5%) (the “subtrahend”)
11 from the Five-Year Average Investment Return of the retirement system determined as of the last
12 day of the plan year preceding the calendar year in which the adjustment is granted, said percentage
13 not to exceed four percent (4%) and not to be less than zero percent (0%), and (B) is equal to the
14 lesser of the justice’s retirement allowance or the first twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) of
15 retirement allowance, such twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) amount to be indexed annually
16 in the same percentage as determined under (d)(1)(A) above. The “Five-Year Average Investment
17 Return” shall mean the average of the investment return of the most recent five (5) plan years as
18 determined by the retirement board. Subject to paragraph (d)(2) below, the benefit adjustment
19 provided by this paragraph shall commence upon the third (3rd) anniversary of the date of
20 retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches his or her Social Security retirement age,
21 whichever is later. In the event the retirement board adjusts the actuarially assumed rate of return
22 for the system, either upward or downward, the subtrahend shall be adjusted either upward or
23 downward in the same amount.

24 (2) Except as provided in paragraph (d)(3), the benefit adjustments under this section for
25 any plan year shall be suspended in their entirety unless the Funded Ratio of the Employees’
26 Retirement System of Rhode Island, the Judicial Retirement Benefits Trust, and the State Police
27 Retirement Benefits Trust, calculated by the system’s actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty
28 percent (80%) in which event the benefit adjustment will be reinstated for all justices for such plan
29 year.

30 In determining whether a funding level under this paragraph (d)(2) has been achieved, the
31 actuary shall calculate the funding percentage after taking into account the reinstatement of any
32 current or future benefit adjustment provided under this section.

33 (3) Notwithstanding paragraph (d)(2), in each fifth plan year commencing after June 30,
34 2012, commencing with the plan year ending June 30, 2017, and subsequently at intervals of five

1 (5) plan years, a benefit adjustment shall be calculated and made in accordance with paragraph
2 (d)(1) above until the Funded Ratio of the Employees' Retirement System of Rhode Island, the
3 Judicial Retirement Benefits Trust, and the State Police Retirement Benefits Trust, calculated by
4 the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty percent (80%).

5 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the provisions of this paragraph
6 (d) of § 8-3-15 shall become effective July 1, 2012, and shall apply to any benefit adjustment not
7 granted on or prior to June 30, 2012.

8 (e) This subsection (e) shall become effective July 1, 2015.

9 (1)(A) As soon as administratively reasonable following the enactment into law of this
10 subsection (e)(1)(A), a one-time benefit adjustment shall be provided to justices and/or
11 beneficiaries of justices who retired on or before June 30, 2012, in the amount of two percent (2%)
12 of the lesser of either the justice's retirement allowance or the first twenty-five thousand dollars
13 (\$25,000) of the justice's retirement allowance. This one-time benefit adjustment shall be provided
14 without regard to the retiree's age or number of years since retirement.

15 (B) Notwithstanding the prior subsections of this section, for all present and former
16 justices, active and retired justices, and beneficiaries receiving any retirement, disability or death
17 allowance or benefit of any kind, whether provided for or on behalf of justices engaged on or prior
18 to December 31, 1989, as a non-contributory justice or engaged after December 31, 1989, as a
19 contributory justice, the annual benefit adjustment provided in any calendar year under this section
20 for adjustments on and after January 1, 2016, and subject to subsection (e)(2) below, shall be equal
21 to (I) multiplied by (II):

22 (I) Shall equal the sum of fifty percent (50%) of (i) plus fifty percent (50%) of (ii) where:

23 (i) Is equal to the percentage determined by subtracting five and one-half percent (5.5%)
24 (the "subtrahend") from the five-year average investment return of the retirement system
25 determined as of the last day of the plan year preceding the calendar year in which the adjustment
26 is granted, said percentage not to exceed four percent (4%) and not to be less than zero percent
27 (0%). The "five-year average investment return" shall mean the average of the investment returns
28 of the most recent five (5) plan years as determined by the retirement board. In the event the
29 retirement board adjusts the actuarially assumed rate of return for the system, either upward or
30 downward, the subtrahend shall be adjusted either upward or downward in the same amount.

31 (ii) Is equal to the lesser of three percent (3%) or the percentage increase in the Consumer
32 Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as published by the U.S. Department of Labor
33 Statistics determined as of September 30 of the prior calendar year. In no event shall the sum of (i)
34 plus (ii) exceed three and one-half percent (3.5%) or be less than zero percent (0%).

1 (II) Is equal to the lesser of either the justice's retirement allowance or the first twenty-five
2 thousand eight hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$25,855) of retirement allowance, such amount to be
3 indexed annually in the same percentage as determined under subsection (e)(1)(B)(I) above.

4 The benefit adjustments provided by this subsection (e)(1)(B) shall be provided to all
5 retirees entitled to receive a benefit adjustment as of June 30, 2012, under the law then in effect,
6 and for all other retirees the benefit adjustments shall commence upon the third anniversary of the
7 date of retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches his or her Social Security retirement age,
8 whichever is later.

9 (2) Except as provided in subsection (e)(3), the benefit adjustments under subsection
10 (e)(1)(B) for any plan year shall be suspended in their entirety unless the funded ratio of the
11 employees' retirement system of Rhode Island, the judicial retirement benefits trust, and the state
12 police retirement benefits trust, calculated by the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds
13 eighty percent (80%) in which event the benefit adjustment will be reinstated for all justices for
14 such plan year. Effective July 1, 2024, the funded ratio of the employees' retirement system of
15 Rhode Island, the judicial retirement benefits trust and the state police retirement benefits trust,
16 calculated by the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, of exceeding eighty percent (80%) for the
17 benefit adjustment to be reinstated for all members for such plan year shall be replaced with
18 seventy-five percent (75%).

19 In determining whether a funding level under this subsection (e)(2) has been achieved, the
20 actuary shall calculate the funding percentage after taking into account the reinstatement of any
21 current or future benefit adjustment provided under this section.

22 (3) Notwithstanding subsection (e)(2), in each fourth plan year commencing after June 30,
23 2012, commencing with the plan year ending June 30, 2016, and subsequently at intervals of four
24 plan years: (i) A benefit adjustment shall be calculated and made in accordance with paragraph
25 (e)(1)(B) above; and (ii) Effective for members and/or beneficiaries of members who retired on or
26 before June 30, 2015, the dollar amount in subsection (e)(1)(B)(II) of twenty-five thousand eight
27 hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$25,855) shall be replaced with thirty-one thousand and twenty-six
28 dollars (\$31,026) until the funded ratio of the employees' retirement system of Rhode Island, the
29 judicial retirement benefits trust, and the state police retirement benefits trust, calculated by the
30 system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty percent (80%). Effective July 1, 2024, the
31 funded ratio of the employees' retirement system of Rhode Island, the judicial retirement benefits
32 trust and the state police retirement benefits trust, calculated by the system's actuary on an
33 aggregate basis, of exceeding eighty percent (80%) shall be replaced with seventy-five percent
34 (75%).

1 (A) Effective for members and or beneficiaries of members who have retired on or before
2 July 1, 2015, a one-time stipend of five hundred dollars (\$500) shall be payable within sixty (60)
3 days following the enactment of the legislation implementing this provision, and a second one-time
4 stipend of five hundred dollars (\$500) in the same month of the following year. These stipends
5 shall be payable to all retired members or beneficiaries receiving a benefit as of the applicable
6 payment date and shall not be considered cost of living adjustments under the prior provisions of
7 this § 8-3-15.

8 SECTION 2. Section 8-8.2-12 of the General Laws in Chapter 8-8.2 entitled "Traffic
9 Tribunal" is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 **8-8.2-12. Additional benefits payable to retired judges and their surviving spouses or**
11 **domestic partners.**

12 (a) All judges of the administrative adjudication court and all judges of the administrative
13 adjudication court who have been reassigned to the traffic tribunal, or their surviving spouses or
14 domestic partners, who retire after January 1, 1970 and who receive a retirement allowance
15 pursuant to the provisions of this title, shall, on the first day of January, next following the third
16 anniversary of the retirement, receive a cost of living retirement adjustment in addition to his or her
17 retirement allowance in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of the original retirement allowance.
18 In each succeeding year thereafter during the month of January, the retirement allowance shall be
19 increased an additional three percent (3%) of the original allowance, compounded annually from
20 the year cost of living adjustment was first payable to be continued during the lifetime of the judge
21 or his or her surviving spouse or domestic partner. For the purpose of such computation, credit shall
22 be given for a full calendar year regardless of the effective date of the retirement allowance.

23 (b) Any judge who retired prior to January 31, 1980, shall be deemed for the purpose of
24 this section to have retired on January 1, 1980.

25 (c) For judges not eligible to retire as of September 30, 2009, and not eligible upon passage
26 of this article, and for their beneficiaries, the cost of living adjustment described in subsection (a)
27 above shall only apply to the first thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) of retirement allowance,
28 indexed annually, and shall commence upon the third (3rd) anniversary of the date of retirement or
29 when the retiree reaches age sixty-five (65), whichever is later. The thirty-five thousand dollar
30 (\$35,000) limit shall increase annually by the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for
31 all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as published by the United States Department of Labor Statistics
32 determined as of September 30 of the prior calendar year or three percent (3%), whichever is less.
33 The first thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000), as indexed, of retirement allowance shall be
34 multiplied by the percentage of increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers

1 (CPI-U) as published by the United States Department of Labor Statistics determined as of
2 September 30 of the prior calendar year or three percent (3%), whichever is less on the month
3 following the anniversary date of each succeeding year. For judges eligible to retire as of September
4 30, 2009, or eligible upon passage of this article, and for their beneficiaries, the provisions of this
5 subsection (c) shall not apply.

6 (d) This subsection (d) shall be effective for the period July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015.

7 (d)(1) Notwithstanding the prior paragraphs of this section, and subject to paragraph (d)(2)
8 below, for all present and former justices, active and retired justices, and beneficiaries receiving
9 any retirement, disability or death allowance or benefit of any kind, whether provided for or on
10 behalf of justices engaged on or prior to December 31, 1989 as a non-contributory justice or
11 engaged after December 31, 1989 as a contributory justice, the annual benefit adjustment provided
12 in any calendar year under this section shall be equal to (A) multiplied by (B) where (A) is equal
13 to the percentage determined by subtracting five and one-half percent (5.5%) (the "subtrahend")
14 from the Five-Year Average Investment Return of the retirement system determined as of the last
15 day of the plan year preceding the calendar year in which the adjustment is granted, said percentage
16 not to exceed four percent (4%) and not to be less than zero percent (0%), and (B) is equal to the
17 lesser of the justice's retirement allowance or the first twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) of
18 retirement allowance, such twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) amount to be indexed annually
19 in the same percentage as determined under (d)(1)(A) above. The "Five-Year Average Investment
20 Return" shall mean the average of the investment return of the most recent five (5) plan years as
21 determined by the retirement board. Subject to paragraph (d)(2) below, the benefit adjustment
22 provided by this paragraph shall commence upon the third (3rd) anniversary of the date of
23 retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches his or her Social Security retirement age,
24 whichever is later. In the event the retirement board adjusts the actuarially assumed rate of return
25 for the system, either upward or downward, the subtrahend shall be adjusted either upward or
26 downward in the same amount.

27 (2) Except as provided in paragraph (d)(3), the benefit adjustments under this section for
28 any plan year shall be suspended in their entirety unless the Funded Ratio of the Employees'
29 Retirement System of Rhode Island, the Judicial Retirement Benefits Trust, and the State Police
30 Retirements Benefits Trust, calculated by the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds
31 eighty percent (80%) in which even the benefit adjustment will be reinstated for all justices for such
32 plan year.

33 In determining whether a funding level under this paragraph (d)(2) has been achieved, the
34 actuary shall calculate the funding percentage after taking into account the reinstatement of any

1 current or future benefit adjustment provided under this section.

2 (3) Notwithstanding paragraph (d)(2), in each fifth plan year commencing after June 30,
3 2012, commencing with the plan year ending June 30, 2017, and subsequently at intervals of five
4 (5) plan years, a benefit adjustment shall be calculated and made in accordance with paragraph
5 (d)(1) above until the Funded Ratio of the Employees' Retirement System of Rhode Island, the
6 Judicial Retirement Benefits Trust, and the State Police Retirement Benefits Trust, calculated by
7 the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty percent (80%).

8 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the provisions of this paragraph
9 (d) of § 8-8.2-12 shall become effective July 1, 2012, and shall apply to any benefit adjustment not
10 granted on or prior to June 30, 2012.

11 (e) This subsection (e) shall become effective July 1, 2015.

12 (1)(A) As soon as administratively reasonable following the enactment into law of this
13 subsection (e)(1)(A), a one-time benefit adjustment shall be provided to justices and/or
14 beneficiaries of justices who retired on or before June 30, 2012, in the amount of two percent (2%)
15 of the lesser of either the justice's retirement allowance or the first twenty-five thousand dollars
16 (\$25,000) of the justice's retirement allowance. This one-time benefit adjustment shall be provided
17 without regard to the retiree's age or number of years since retirement.

18 (B) Notwithstanding the prior subsections of this section, for all present and former
19 justices, active and retired justices, and beneficiaries receiving any retirement, disability or death
20 allowance or benefit of any kind, whether provided for or on behalf of justices engaged on or prior
21 to December 31, 1989 as a non-contributory justice or engaged after December 31, 1989 as a
22 contributory justice, the annual benefit adjustment provided in any calendar year under this section
23 for adjustments on and after January 1, 2016, and subject to subsection (e)(2) below, shall be equal
24 to (I) multiplied by (II):

25 (I) Shall equal the sum of fifty percent (50%) of (i) plus fifty percent (50%) of (ii) where:

26 (i) Is equal to the percentage determined by subtracting five and one-half percent (5.5%)
27 (the "subtrahend") from the five-year average investment return of the retirement system
28 determined as of the last day of the plan year preceding the calendar year in which the adjustment
29 is granted, said percentage not to exceed four percent (4%) and not to be less than zero percent
30 (0%). The "five-year average investment return" shall mean the average of the investment returns
31 of the most recent five (5) plan years as determined by the retirement board. In the event the
32 retirement board adjusts the actuarially assumed rate of return for the system, either upward or
33 downward, the subtrahend shall be adjusted either upward or downward in the same amount.

34 (ii) Is equal to the lesser of three percent (3%) or the percentage increase in the Consumer

1 Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as published by the U.S. Department of Labor
2 Statistics determined as of September 30 of the prior calendar year.

3 In no event shall the sum of (i) plus (ii) exceed three and one-half percent (3.5%) or be less
4 than zero percent (0%).

5 (II) Is equal to the lesser of either the justice's retirement allowance or the first twenty-five
6 thousand eight hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$25,855) of retirement allowance, such amount to be
7 indexed annually in the same percentage as determined under subsection (e)(1)(B)(I) above.

8 The benefit adjustments provided by this subsection (e)(1)(B) shall be provided to all
9 retirees entitled to receive a benefit adjustment as of June 30, 2012, under the law then in effect,
10 and for all other retirees the benefit adjustments shall commence upon the third anniversary of the
11 date of retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches his or her Social Security retirement age,
12 whichever is later.

13 (2) Except as provided in subsection (e)(3), the benefit adjustments under subsection
14 (e)(1)(B) for any plan year shall be suspended in their entirety unless the funded ratio of the
15 employees' retirement system of Rhode Island, the judicial retirement benefits trust, and the state
16 police retirement benefits trust, calculated by the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds
17 eighty percent (80%) in which event the benefit adjustment will be reinstated for all justices for
18 such plan year. [Effective July 1, 2024, the funded ratio of the employees' retirement system of
19 Rhode Island, the judicial retirement benefits trust and the state police retirement benefits trust,
20 calculated by the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, of exceeding eighty percent \(80%\) for the
21 benefit adjustment to be reinstated for all members for such plan year shall be replaced with
22 seventy-five percent \(75%\).](#)

23 In determining whether a funding level under this subsection (e)(2) has been achieved, the
24 actuary shall calculate the funding percentage after taking into account the reinstatement of any
25 current or future benefit adjustment provided under this section.

26 (3) Notwithstanding subsection (e)(2), effective for members and/or beneficiaries of
27 members who retired on or before June 30, 2015, in each fourth plan year commencing after June
28 30, 2012, commencing with the plan year ending June 30, 2016, and subsequently at intervals of
29 four plan years: (i) A benefit adjustment shall be calculated and made in accordance with subsection
30 (e)(1)(B) above; and (ii) The dollar amount in subsection (e)(1)(B)(II) of twenty-five thousand
31 eight hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$25,855) shall be replaced with thirty-one thousand and
32 twenty-six dollars (\$31,026) until the funded ratio of the employees' retirement system of Rhode
33 Island, the judicial retirement benefits trust, and the state police retirement benefits trust, calculated
34 by the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty percent (80%). [Effective July 1,](#)

1 [2024, the funded ratio of the employees' retirement system of Rhode Island, the judicial retirement](#)
2 [benefits trust and the state police retirement benefits trust, calculated by the system's actuary on an](#)
3 [aggregate basis, of exceeding eighty percent \(80%\) shall be replaced with seventy-five percent](#)
4 [\(75%\).](#)

5 (A) Effective for members and or beneficiaries of members who have retired on or before
6 July 1, 2015, a one-time stipend of five hundred dollars (\$500) shall be payable within sixty (60)
7 days following the enactment of the legislation implementing this provision, and a second one-time
8 stipend of five hundred dollars (\$500) in the same month of the following year. These stipends
9 shall be payable to all retired members or beneficiaries receiving a benefit as of the applicable
10 payment date and shall not be considered cost of living adjustments under the prior provisions of
11 this § 8-8.2-12.

12 SECTION 3. Sections 16-16-1, 16-16-13, 16-16-24.2 and 16-16-40 of the General Laws
13 in Chapter 16-16 entitled "Teachers' Retirement [See Title 16 Chapter 97 — The Rhode Island
14 Board of Education Act]" are hereby amended to read as follows:

15 **16-16-1. Definitions.**

16 (a) The following words and phrases used in this chapter, unless a different meaning is
17 plainly required by the context, have the following meanings:

18 (1) "Active member" means any teacher as defined in this section for whom the retirement
19 system is currently receiving regular contributions pursuant to §§ 16-16-22 and 16-16-22.1.

20 Except as otherwise provided in this section, the words and phrases used in this chapter, so
21 far as applicable, have the same meanings as they have in chapters 8 to 10 of title 36.

22 (2) "Beneficiary" means any person in receipt of annuity, benefit, or retirement allowance
23 from the retirement system as provided in this chapter.

24 (3) "Child" includes a stepchild of a deceased member who has been a stepchild for at least
25 one year immediately preceding the date on which the member died or an adopted child of a
26 deceased member without regard to the length of time the child has been adopted.

27 (4) "Former spouse divorced" means a person divorced from a deceased member, but only
28 if the person meets one of the following conditions:

29 (i) Is the mother or father of the deceased member's child(ren);

30 (ii) Legally adopted the deceased member's child(ren) while married to the deceased
31 member and while the child(ren) was under the age of eighteen (18) years;

32 (iii) Was married to the deceased member at the time both of them legally adopted a
33 child(ren) under the age of eighteen (18) years; or

34 (iv) Was married to the deceased member for ten (10) or more years and to whom the

1 deceased member was required by a court order to contribute post-divorce support.

2 (5) "Member" means any person included in the membership of the retirement system
3 under the provisions of this chapter.

4 (6) "Prior service" means service as a teacher rendered prior to the first day of July, 1949,
5 certified on the teacher's prior service certificate and allowable as prior service under the provisions
6 of this chapter.

7 (7) "Retired teacher" means any teacher who retired prior to July 1, 1949, pursuant to the
8 provisions of G.L. 1938, ch. 195, as amended, and who on June 30, 1949, was in receipt of a pension
9 under the provisions of that chapter.

10 (8) "Retirement system" and "system" means the employees' retirement system of the state
11 of Rhode Island created by chapter 8 of title 36, and "retirement board" means the board established
12 under that chapter.

13 (9) "Salary" or "compensation" includes any and all salary paid for teaching services
14 regardless of whether any part of the salary or compensation is derived from any state or federal
15 grant or appropriation for teachers' salaries, as the term is defined in § 36-8-1(8). "Average
16 compensation" shall be defined in accordance with section 36-8-1(5)~~(a)~~(b).

17 (10) "Service" means service as a teacher as described in subdivision (12) of this section.
18 Periods of employment as teacher, principal, assistant principal, supervisor, superintendent, or
19 assistant superintendent shall be combined in computing periods of service and employment.

20 (11) "Spouse" means the surviving person who was married to a deceased member, but
21 only if the surviving person meets one of the following conditions:

22 (i) Was married to the deceased member for not less than one year immediately prior to the
23 date on which the member died;

24 (ii) Is the mother or father of the deceased member's child(ren);

25 (iii) Legally adopted the deceased member's child(ren) while married to the deceased
26 member and while the child(ren) was under the age of eighteen (18) years; or

27 (iv) Was married to the deceased member at the time both of them legally adopted a
28 child(ren) under the age of eighteen (18) years.

29 (12) "Teacher" means a person required to hold a certificate of qualification issued by or
30 under the authority of the board of regents for elementary and secondary education and who is
31 engaged in teaching as their principal occupation and is regularly employed as a teacher in the
32 public schools of any city or town in the state, or any formalized, commissioner approved,
33 cooperative service arrangement. The term includes a person employed as a teacher, supervisor,
34 principal, assistant principal, superintendent, or assistant superintendent of schools, director,

1 assistant director, coordinator, consultant, dean, assistant dean, educational administrator, nurse
2 teacher, and attendance officer or any person who has worked in the field of education or is working
3 in the field of education who holds a teaching or administrative certificate. In determining the
4 number of days served by a teacher the total number of days served in any public school of any city
5 or town in the state may be combined for any one school year. The term also includes a school
6 business administrator whether or not the administrator holds a teaching or administrative
7 certificate, and also includes occupational therapists and physical therapists licensed by the
8 department of health and employed by a school committee in the state, or by any formalized,
9 commissioner approved, cooperative service arrangement.

10 (13) "Teaching" includes teaching, supervising, and superintending or assistant
11 superintending of schools.

12 (14) "Total service" means prior service as defined in subdivision (6) of this section, plus
13 service rendered as a member of the system on or after the first day of July, 1949.

14 (15) For purposes of this chapter, "domestic partner" shall be defined as a person who,
15 prior to the decedent's death, was in an exclusive, intimate, and committed relationship with the
16 decedent, and who certifies by affidavit that their relationship met the following qualifications:

17 (i) Both partners were at least eighteen (18) years of age and were mentally competent to
18 contract;

19 (ii) Neither partner was married to anyone else;

20 (iii) Partners were not related by blood to a degree that would prohibit marriage in the state
21 of Rhode Island;

22 (iv) Partners resided together and had resided together for at least one year at the time of
23 death; and

24 (v) Partners were financially interdependent as evidenced by at least two (2) of the
25 following:

26 (A) Domestic partnership agreement or relationship contract;

27 (B) Joint mortgage or joint ownership of primary residence;

28 (C) Two (2) of: (I) Joint ownership of motor vehicle; (II) Joint checking account; (III) Joint
29 credit account; (IV) Joint lease; and/or

30 (D) The domestic partner had been designated as a beneficiary for the decedent's will,
31 retirement contract, or life insurance.

32 (b) The masculine pronoun wherever used shall also include the feminine pronoun.

33 (c) Any term not specifically defined in this chapter and specifically defined in chapters 8
34 — 10 of title 36 shall have the same definition as set forth in chapters 8 — 10 of title 36.

1 or her average highest three (3) consecutive years of compensation multiplied by the number of
2 years of total service, but in no case to exceed eighty percent (80%) of the compensation, payable
3 at completion of thirty-five (35) years of service; provided, however, for teachers retiring on or
4 after October 1, 2009, who were not eligible to retire as of September 30, 2009, the calculation
5 shall be based on the average highest five (5) consecutive years of compensation; provided,
6 however for teachers retiring on or after July 1, 2024, the calculation shall be based on the average
7 highest three (3) consecutive years of compensation.

8 The retirement allowance of any teacher whose membership commenced after July 1, 2005,
9 or who has not completed at least ten (10) years of contributory service as of July 1, 2005, shall be
10 in an amount equal to the percentage allowance specified in Schedule B of his or her average
11 highest three (3) consecutive years of compensation multiplied by the number of years of total
12 service, but in no case to exceed seventy-five percent (75%) of the compensation, payable at
13 completion of thirty-eight (38) years of service; provided, however, for teachers retiring on or after
14 October 1, 2009, who were not eligible to retire as of September 30, 2009 the calculation shall be
15 based on the average highest five (5) consecutive years of compensation; provided, however for
16 teachers retiring on or after July 1, 2024, the calculation shall be based on the average highest three
17 (3) consecutive years of compensation.

18 Any teacher who has in excess of thirty-five (35) years on or before June 2, 1985, shall not
19 be entitled to any refund, and any teacher with thirty-five (35) years or more on or after June 2,
20 1985, shall contribute from July 1, 1985, until his or her retirement.

21 (c) For service prior to July 2012, the retirement allowance of a teacher shall be determined
22 in accordance with subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) above. For service on and after July 1, 2012:

23 (i) For teachers with fewer than twenty (20) years of total service as of June 30, 2012, a
24 teacher's retirement allowance shall be equal to one percent (1%) of the teacher's average
25 compensation multiplied by the teacher's years of total service on and after July 1, 2012; and

26 (ii) For teachers with twenty (20) or more years of total service as of June 30, 2012, a
27 teacher's retirement allowance shall be equal to one percent (1%) of the teacher's average
28 compensation multiplied by the teacher's years of total service between July 1, 2012, and June 30,
29 2015, and two percent (2%) of the teacher's average compensation multiplied by the teacher's years
30 of total service on and after July 1, 2015. For purposes of computing a teacher's total service under
31 the preceding sentence, service purchases shall be included in total service only with respect to
32 those service purchases approved prior to June 30, 2012, and those applications for service
33 purchases received by the retirement system on or before June 30, 2012. In no event shall a
34 teacher's retirement allowance exceed the maximum limitations set forth in subsection (b) above.

1 **16-16-24.2. Substitute teaching and post-retirement employment related to statewide**
2 **staffing.**

3 (a) Notwithstanding any public or general law, or rule or regulation to the contrary, any
4 teacher, administrator, or staff member who has retired under the provisions of title 16, 36, or 45
5 may exceed the ninety-day (90) cap on post-retirement employment upon:

6 (1) A determination by the local education authority that there exists a specialized need,
7 within their authority, to fill positions on a temporary basis, that may exceed the ninety-day (90)
8 cap on post-retirement employment;

9 (2) Retired teachers, administrators, and staff members being asked to exceed the ninety-
10 day (90) cap on post-retirement employment possess the skills, training, and knowledge necessary
11 to help address teacher and administrative staffing shortages; and

12 (3) The local education authority has notified the state retirement board that it has
13 determined that exceeding the ninety-day (90) cap on post-retirement employment is necessary to
14 help address teacher and administrative staffing shortages.

15 Provided, however, that no employment may be offered to a retiree subject to this section
16 unless the employer has made a good-faith effort each school year to fill the position with a
17 nonretired employee without success, and certifies, in writing, that it has done so to the employees'
18 retirement system and to the bargaining agents of all education unions with whom the employer
19 has collective bargaining agreements.

20 (b) Any teacher, administrator, or staff member who has retired under the provisions of
21 title 16, 36, or 45, and has been employed or re-employed under the provisions of this section, shall
22 not be entitled to additional service credits for such employment, and the teacher, administrator, or
23 staff member shall not be responsible for any contribution to the pension system as a result of the
24 employment; provided however, the local educational authority shall make the employer
25 contribution for the teacher, administrator, or staff member as if the district had hired a new teacher,
26 administrator or staff member.

27 (c) This section shall become effective on June 21, 2024, and unless Unless extended by
28 the general assembly, this section shall sunset on June 20, ~~2024~~ 2025.

29 **16-16-40. Additional benefits payable to retired teachers.**

30 (a) All teachers and all beneficiaries of teachers receiving any service retirement or
31 ordinary or accidental disability retirement allowance pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and
32 chapter 17 of this title, on or before December 31, 1967, shall receive a cost of living retirement
33 adjustment equal to one and one-half percent (1.5%) per year of the original retirement allowance,
34 not compounded, for each year the retirement allowance has been in effect. For purposes of

1 computation credit shall be given for a full calendar year regardless of the effective date of the
2 retirement allowance. This cost of living retirement adjustment shall be added to the amount of the
3 service retirement allowance as of January 1, 1970, and payment shall begin as of July 1, 1970. An
4 additional cost of living retirement adjustment shall be added to the original retirement allowance
5 equal to three percent (3%) of the original retirement allowance on the first day of January, 1971,
6 and each year thereafter through December 31, 1980.

7 (b) All teachers and beneficiaries of teachers receiving any service retirement or ordinary
8 disability retirement allowance pursuant to the provisions of this title who retired on or after January
9 1, 1968, shall, on the first day of January, next following the third (3rd) year on retirement, receive
10 a cost of living adjustment, in addition to his or her retirement allowance, an amount equal to three
11 percent (3%) of the original retirement allowance. In each succeeding year thereafter, on the first
12 day of January, the retirement allowance shall be increased an additional three percent (3%) of the
13 original retirement allowance, not compounded, to be continued through December 31, 1980.

14 (c)(1) Beginning on January 1, 1981, for all teachers and beneficiaries of teachers receiving
15 any service retirement and all teachers and all beneficiaries of teachers who have completed at least
16 ten (10) years of contributory service on or before July 1, 2005, pursuant to the provisions of this
17 chapter, and for all teachers and beneficiaries of teachers who receive a disability retirement
18 allowance pursuant to §§ 16-16-14 — 16-16-17, the cost of living adjustment shall be computed
19 and paid at the rate of three percent (3%) of the original retirement allowance or the retirement
20 allowance as computed in accordance with § 16-16-40.1, compounded annually from the year for
21 which the cost of living adjustment was determined to be payable by the retirement board pursuant
22 to the provisions of subsection (a) or (b) of this section. Such cost of living adjustments are available
23 to teachers who retire before October 1, 2009, or are eligible to retire as of September 30, 2009.

24 (2) The provisions of this subsection shall be deemed to apply prospectively only and no
25 retroactive payment shall be made.

26 (3) The retirement allowance of all teachers and all beneficiaries of teachers who have not
27 completed at least ten (10) years of contributory service on or before July 1, 2005, or were not
28 eligible to retire as of September 30, 2009, shall, on the month following the third anniversary date
29 of the retirement, and on the month following the anniversary date of each succeeding year be
30 adjusted and computed by multiplying the retirement allowance by three percent (3%) or the
31 percentage of increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as published
32 by the United States Department of Labor Statistics, determined as of September 30 of the prior
33 calendar year, whichever is less; the cost of living adjustment shall be compounded annually from
34 the year for which the cost of living adjustment was determined payable by the retirement board;

1 provided, that no adjustment shall cause any retirement allowance to be decreased from the
2 retirement allowance provided immediately before such adjustment.

3 (d) For teachers not eligible to retire in accordance with this chapter as of September 30,
4 2009, and not eligible upon passage of this article, and for their beneficiaries, the cost of living
5 adjustment described in subsection (c)(3) of this section shall only apply to the first thirty-five
6 thousand dollars (\$35,000) of retirement allowance, indexed annually, and shall commence upon
7 the third (3rd) anniversary of the date of retirement or when the retiree reaches age sixty-five (65),
8 whichever is later. The thirty-five thousand dollar (\$35,000) limit shall increase annually by the
9 percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumer (CPI-U) as published by
10 the United States Department of Labor Statistics determined as of September 30 of the prior
11 calendar year or three percent (3%), whichever is less. The first thirty-five thousand dollars
12 (\$35,000), as indexed, of retirement allowance shall be multiplied by the percentage of increase in
13 the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as published by the United States
14 Department of Labor Statistics determined as of September 30 of the prior calendar year or three
15 percent (3%), whichever is less, on the month following the anniversary date of each succeeding
16 year. For teachers eligible to retire as of September 30, 2009, or eligible upon passage of this article,
17 and for their beneficiaries, the provisions of this subsection (d) shall not apply.

18 (e) The provisions of §§ 45-13-7 — 45-13-10 shall not apply to this section.

19 (f) This subsection (f) shall be effective for the period July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015.

20 (1) Notwithstanding the prior paragraphs of this section, and subject to subsection (f)(2)
21 below, for all present and former teachers, active and retired teachers, and beneficiaries receiving
22 any retirement, disability or death allowance or benefit of any kind, the annual benefit adjustment
23 provided in any calendar year under this section shall be equal to (A) multiplied by (B) where (A)
24 is equal to the percentage determined by subtracting five and one-half percent (5.5%) (the
25 “subtrahend”) from the Five-Year Average Investment Return of the retirement system determined
26 as of the last day of the plan year preceding the calendar year in which the adjustment is granted,
27 said percentage not to exceed four percent (4%) and not to be less than zero percent (0%), and (B)
28 is equal to the lesser of the teacher’s retirement allowance or the first twenty-five thousand dollars
29 (\$25,000) of retirement allowance, such twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) amount to be
30 indexed annually in the same percentage as determined under (f)(1)(A) above. The “Five-Year
31 Average Investment Return” shall mean the average of the investment returns of the most recent
32 five (5) plan years as determined by the retirement board. Subject to subsection (f)(2) below, the
33 benefit adjustment provided by this subsection (f)(1) shall commence upon the third (3rd)
34 anniversary of the date of retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches his or her Social

1 Security retirement age, whichever is later. In the event the retirement board adjusts the actuarially
2 assumed rate of return for the system, either upward or downward, the subtrahend shall be adjusted
3 either upward or downward in the same amount.

4 (2) Except as provided in subsection (f)(3), the benefit adjustments under this section for
5 any plan year shall be suspended in their entirety unless the Funded Ratio of the Employees'
6 Retirement System of Rhode Island, the Judicial Retirement Benefits Trust and the State Police
7 Retirement Benefits Trust, calculated by the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty
8 percent (80%) in which event the benefit adjustment will be reinstated for all teachers for such plan
9 year.

10 In determining whether a funding level under this subsection (f)(2) has been achieved, the
11 actuary shall calculate the funding percentage after taking into account the reinstatement of any
12 current or future benefit adjustment provided under this section.

13 (3) Notwithstanding subsection (f)(2), in each fifth plan year commencing after June 30,
14 2012, commencing with the plan year ending June 30, 2017, and subsequently at intervals of five
15 plan years, a benefit adjustment shall be calculated and made in accordance with subsection (f)(1)
16 above until the Funded Ratio of the Employees' Retirement System of Rhode Island, the Judicial
17 Retirement Benefits Trust and the State Police Retirement Benefits Trust, calculated by the
18 system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty percent (80%).

19 (4) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, the provisions of this subsection
20 (f) shall become effective July 1, 2012, and shall apply to any benefit adjustments not granted on
21 or prior to June 30, 2012.

22 (g) This subsection (g) shall become effective July 1, 2015.

23 (1)(A) As soon as administratively reasonable following the enactment into law of this
24 subsection (g)(1)(A), a one-time benefit adjustment shall be provided to teachers and/or
25 beneficiaries of teachers who retired on or before June 30, 2012, in the amount of two percent (2%)
26 of the lesser of either the teacher's retirement allowance or the first twenty-five thousand dollars
27 (\$25,000) of the teacher's retirement allowance. This one-time benefit adjustment shall be provided
28 without regard to the retiree's age or number of years since retirement.

29 (B) Notwithstanding the prior subsections of this section, for all present and former
30 teachers, active and retired teachers, and beneficiaries receiving any retirement, disability or death
31 allowance or benefit of any kind, the annual benefit adjustment provided in any calendar year under
32 this section for adjustments on and after January 1, 2016, and subject to subsection (g)(2) below,
33 shall be equal to (I) multiplied by (II):

34 (I) Shall equal the sum of fifty percent (50%) of (i) plus fifty percent (50%) of (ii) where:

1 (i) Is equal to the percentage determined by subtracting five and one-half percent (5.5%)
2 (the “subtrahend”) from the five-year average investment return of the retirement system
3 determined as of the last day of the plan year preceding the calendar year in which the adjustment
4 is granted, said percentage not to exceed four percent (4%) and not to be less than zero percent
5 (0%). The “five-year average investment return” shall mean the average of the investment returns
6 of the most recent five (5) plan years as determined by the retirement board. In the event the
7 retirement board adjusts the actuarially assumed rate of return for the system, either upward or
8 downward, the subtrahend shall be adjusted either upward or downward in the same amount.

9 (ii) Is equal to the lesser of three percent (3%) or the percentage increase in the Consumer
10 Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as published by the U.S. Department of Labor
11 Statistics determined as of September 30 of the prior calendar year.

12 In no event shall the sum of (i) plus (ii) exceed three and one-half percent (3.5%) or be less
13 than (0%) percent.

14 (II) is equal to the lesser of either the teacher’s retirement allowance or the first twenty-
15 five thousand eight hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$25,855) of retirement allowance, such amount
16 to be indexed annually in the same percentage as determined under subsection (g)(1)(B)(I) above.

17 The benefit adjustments provided by this subsection (g)(1)(B) shall be provided to all
18 retirees entitled to receive a benefit adjustment as of June 30, 2012, under the law then in effect,
19 and for all other retirees the benefit adjustments shall commence upon the third anniversary of the
20 date of retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches his or her Social Security retirement age,
21 whichever is later.

22 (2) Except for teachers and/or beneficiaries of teachers who retired on or before June 30,
23 2012, the ~~The~~ benefit adjustments under subsection (g)(1)(B) for any plan year shall be reduced to
24 twenty-five percent (25%) of the benefit adjustment unless the funded ratio of the employees’
25 retirement system of Rhode Island, the judicial retirement benefits trust and the state police
26 retirement benefits trust, calculated by the system’s actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty
27 percent (80%) in which event the benefit adjustment will be reinstated for all teachers for such plan
28 year. Effective July 1, 2024, the funded ratio of the employees’ retirement system of Rhode Island,
29 the judicial retirement benefits trust and the state police retirement benefits trust, calculated by the
30 system’s actuary on an aggregate basis, of exceeding eighty percent (80%) for the benefit
31 adjustment to be reinstated for all teachers for such plan year shall be replaced with seventy-five
32 percent (75%).

33 In determining whether a funding level under this subsection (g)(2) has been achieved, the
34 actuary shall calculate the funding percentage after taking into account the reinstatement of any

1 current or future benefit adjustment provided under this section.

2 (3) Effective for teachers and/or beneficiaries of teachers who retired [after June 30, 2012](#)
3 [or](#) on or before June 30, 2015, the dollar amount in subsection (g)(1)(B)(II) of twenty-five thousand
4 eight hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$25,855) shall be replaced with thirty-one thousand and
5 twenty-six dollars (\$31,026) until the funded ratio of the employees' retirement system of Rhode
6 Island, the judicial retirement benefits trust and the state police retirement benefits trust, calculated
7 by the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty percent (80%). [Effective July 1,](#)
8 [2024, the funded ratio of the employees' retirement system of Rhode Island, the judicial retirement](#)
9 [benefits trust and the state police retirement benefits trust, calculated by the system's actuary on an](#)
10 [aggregate basis, of exceeding eighty percent \(80%\) shall be replaced with seventy-five percent](#)
11 [\(75%\).](#)

12 (4) Effective for teachers and or beneficiaries of teachers who have retired on or before
13 July 1, 2015, a one-time stipend of five hundred dollars (\$500) shall be payable within sixty (60)
14 days following the enactment of the legislation implementing this provision, and a second one-time
15 stipend of five hundred dollars (\$500) in the same month of the following year. These stipends
16 shall be payable to all retired teachers or beneficiaries receiving a benefit as of the applicable
17 payment date and shall not be considered cost of living adjustments under the prior provisions of
18 this section.

19 SECTION 4. Section 36-8-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 36-8 entitled "Retirement
20 System — Administration" is hereby amended to read as follows:

21 **36-8-1. Definition of terms.**

22 The following words and phrases as used in chapters 8 to 10 of this title unless a different
23 meaning is plainly required by the context, shall have the following meanings:

24 (1) "Accumulated contributions" shall mean the sum of all the amounts deducted from the
25 compensation of a member and credited to his or her individual pension account.

26 (2) "Active member" shall mean any employee of the state of Rhode Island as defined in
27 this section for whom the retirement system is currently receiving regular contributions pursuant to
28 §§ 36-10-1 and 36-10-1.1.

29 (3) "Actuarial equivalent" shall mean an allowance or benefit of equal value to any other
30 allowance or benefit when computed upon the basis of the actuarial tables in use by the system.

31 (4) "Annuity reserve" shall mean the present value of all payments to be made on account
32 of any annuity, benefit, or retirement allowance granted under the provisions of chapter 10 of this
33 title computed upon the basis of such mortality tables as shall be adopted from time to time by the
34 retirement board with regular interest.

1 (5)(a) "Average compensation" for members eligible to retire as of September 30, 2009
2 shall mean the average of the highest three (3) consecutive years of compensation, within the total
3 service when the average compensation was the highest. For members eligible to retire on or after
4 October 1, 2009, "Average compensation" shall mean the average of the highest five (5)
5 consecutive years of compensation within the total service when the average compensation was the
6 highest.

7 (b) For members eligible to and who retire on or after July 1, 2024, "average compensation"
8 means the average of the highest three (3) consecutive years of compensation within the total
9 service when the average compensation was the highest.

10 ~~(b)~~(c) For members who become eligible to retire on or after July 1, 2012, if more than
11 one-half (½) of the member's total years of service consist of years of service during which the
12 member devoted less than thirty (30) business hours per week to the service of the state, but the
13 member's average compensation consists of three (3) or more years during which the member
14 devoted more than thirty (30) business hours per week to the service of the state, such member's
15 average compensation shall mean the average of the highest ten (10) consecutive years of
16 compensation within the total service when the average compensation was the highest; provided
17 however, effective July 1, 2015, if such member's average compensation as defined in subsection
18 (a) Above is equal to or less than thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000), such amount to be indexed
19 annually in accordance with § 36-10-35(h)(1)(B), such member's average compensation shall mean
20 the greater of: (i) The average of the highest ten (10) consecutive years of compensation within the
21 total service when the average compensation was the highest; or (ii) The member's average
22 compensation as defined in subsection (a) above. To protect a member's accrued benefit on June
23 30, 2012 under this § 36-8-1(5)~~(b)~~(c), in no event shall a member's average compensation be lower
24 than his or her average compensation determined as of June 30, 2012.

25 (6) "Beneficiary" shall mean any person in receipt of a pension, an annuity, a retirement
26 allowance, or other benefit as provided by chapter 10 of this title.

27 (7) "Casual employee" shall mean those persons hired for a temporary period, a period of
28 emergency or an occasional period.

29 (8) "Compensation" as used in chapters 8 — 10 of this title, chapters 16 and 17 of title 16,
30 and chapter 21 of title 45 shall mean salary or wages earned and paid for the performance of duties
31 for covered employment, including regular longevity or incentive plans approved by the board, but
32 shall not include payments made for overtime or any other reason other than performance of duties,
33 including but not limited to the types of payments listed below:

34 (i) Payments contingent on the employee having terminated or died;

1 (ii) Payments made at termination for unused sick leave, vacation leave, or compensatory
2 time;

3 (iii) Payments contingent on the employee terminating employment at a specified time in
4 the future to secure voluntary retirement or to secure release of an unexpired contract of
5 employment;

6 (iv) Individual salary adjustments which are granted primarily in anticipation of the
7 employee's retirement;

8 (v) Additional payments for performing temporary or extra duties beyond the normal or
9 regular work day or work year.

10 (9) "Employee" shall mean any officer or employee of the state of Rhode Island whose
11 business time is devoted exclusively to the services of the state, but shall not include one whose
12 duties are of a casual or seasonal nature. The retirement board shall determine who are employees
13 within the meaning of this chapter. The governor of the state, the lieutenant governor, the secretary
14 of state, the attorney general, the general treasurer, and the members of the general assembly, ex
15 officio, shall not be deemed to be employees within the meaning of that term unless and until they
16 elect to become members of the system as provided in § 36-9-6, but in no case shall it deem as an
17 employee, for the purposes of this chapter, any individual who devotes less than twenty (20)
18 business hours per week to the service of the state, and who receives less than the equivalent of
19 minimum wage compensation on an hourly basis for his or her services, except as provided in §
20 36-9-24. Any commissioner of a municipal housing authority or any member of a part-time state,
21 municipal or local board, commission, committee or other public authority shall not be deemed to
22 be an employee within the meaning of this chapter.

23 (10) "Full actuarial costs" or "full actuarial value" shall mean the lump sum payable by a
24 member claiming service credit for certain employment for which that payment is required which
25 is determined according to the age of the member and the employee's annual rate of compensation
26 at the time he or she applies for service credit and which is expressed as a rate percent of the
27 employee's annual rate of compensation to be multiplied by the number of years for which he or
28 she claims service credit as prescribed in a schedule adopted by the retirement board from time to
29 time on the basis of computation by the actuary. Except as provided in §§ 16-16-7.1, 36-5-3, 36-9-
30 31, 36-10-10.4, 45-21-53, 36-10-8, 45-21-29, 8-3-16(c), 8-8-10.1(c), 42-28-22.1(d) and 28-30-
31 18.1(c):

32 (i) all service credit purchases requested after June 16, 2009 and prior to July 1, 2012, shall
33 be at full actuarial value; and

34 (ii) all service credit purchases requested after June 30, 2012 shall be at full actuarial value

1 which shall be determined using the system's assumed investment rate of return minus one percent
2 (1%).

3 The rules applicable to a service credit purchase shall be the rules of the retirement system
4 in effect at the time the purchase application is submitted to the retirement system.

5 (11) "Funded ratio" shall mean the ratio of the actuarial value of assets to the actuarial
6 accrued liability consistent with the funding policy of the retirement board as defined in § 36-8-4.

7 (12) "Inactive member" shall mean a member who has withdrawn from service as an
8 employee but who has not received a refund of contributions.

9 (13) "Members" shall mean any person included in the membership of the retirement
10 system as provided in §§ 36-9-1 — 36-9-7.

11 (14) "Prior service" shall mean service as a member rendered before July 1, 1936, certified
12 on his or her prior service certificate and allowable as provided in § 36-9-28.

13 (15) "Regular interest" shall mean interest at the assumed investment rate of return,
14 compounded annually, as may be prescribed from time to time by the retirement board.

15 (16) "Retirement allowance" shall mean annual payments for life made after retirement
16 under and in accordance with chapters 8 to 10 of this title. All allowances shall be paid in equal
17 monthly installments beginning as of the effective date thereof; provided, that a smaller pro rata
18 amount may be paid for part of a month where separation from service occurs during the month in
19 which the application was filed, and when the allowance ceases before the last day of the month.

20 (17) "Retirement board" or "board" shall mean the board provided in § 36-8-3 to administer
21 the retirement system.

22 (18) "Retirement system" shall mean the employees' retirement system of the state of
23 Rhode Island as defined in § 36-8-2.

24 (19) "Service" shall mean service as an employee of the state of Rhode Island as described
25 in subdivision (9) of this section.

26 (20) "Social Security retirement age" shall mean a member's full retirement age as
27 determined in accordance with the federal Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance Act, not to
28 exceed age sixty-seven (67).

29 (21) "Total service" shall mean prior service as defined above, plus service rendered as a
30 member on or after July 1, 1936.

31 SECTION 5. Sections 36-10-1, 36-10-10, 36-10-35 and 36-10-36 of the General Laws in
32 Chapter 36-10 entitled "Retirement System — Contributions and Benefits" are hereby amended to
33 read as follows:

34 **36-10-1. Member contributions — Deduction from compensation.**

1 (a)(1) Prior to July 1, 2012, each member of the retirement system shall contribute an
2 amount equal to eight and three-quarters percent (8.75%) of his or her compensation as his or her
3 share of the cost of annuities, benefits, and allowances. Effective July 1, 2012, each member of the
4 retirement system shall contribute an amount equal to three and three quarters percent (3.75%) of
5 his or her compensation, except for correctional officers as defined in § 36-10-9.2 who shall
6 contribute an amount equal to eight and three quarters percent (8.75%) of his or her compensation.
7 Effective July 1, 2015, each member of the retirement system, except for correctional officers as
8 defined in § 36-10-9.2, with twenty (20) or more years of total service as of June 30, 2012 shall
9 contribute an amount equal to eleven percent (11%) of compensation. The contributions shall be
10 made in the form of deductions from compensation.

11 2) Effective January 1, 2025, those members of the retirement system who are state
12 employees employed as deputy sheriffs, capitol police officers, environmental police officers,
13 juvenile program workers, shift coordinators, firefighters, crew chiefs, assistant chiefs, fire
14 investigators, fire safety inspectors, fire safety training officers, explosives and flammable liquids
15 technicians, and campus police officers employed by the State of Rhode Island shall contribute an
16 amount equal to ten percent (10%) of compensation.

17 (3) The contributions shall be made in the form of deductions from compensation.

18 (b) The deductions provided for herein shall be made notwithstanding that the minimum
19 compensation provided by law for any member shall be reduced thereby. Every member shall be
20 deemed to consent and agree to the deductions made and provided for herein and receipt of his or
21 her full compensation and payment of compensation, less the deductions, shall be a full and
22 complete discharge and acquittance of all claims and demands whatsoever for the services rendered
23 by the person during the period covered by the payment except as to the benefit provided under this
24 chapter.

25 **36-10-10. Amount of service retirement allowance.**

26 (a)(1)(i) For employees eligible to retire on or before September 30, 2009, upon retirement
27 for service under § 36-10-9, a member whose membership commenced before July 1, 2005, and
28 who has completed at least ten (10) years of contributory service on or before July 1, 2005, shall
29 receive a retirement allowance which shall be determined in accordance with schedule A below for
30 service prior to July 1, 2012:

31 Schedule A

32 Years of Service	Percentage Allowance
33 1st through 10th inclusive	1.7%
34 11th through 20th inclusive	1.9%

1	21st through 34th inclusive	3.0%
2	35 th	2.0%

3 (ii) For employees eligible to retire on or after October 1, 2009, who were not eligible to
4 retire on or before September 30, 2009, upon retirement from service under § 36-10-9, a member
5 whose membership commenced before July 1, 2005, and who has completed at least ten (10) years
6 of contributory service on or before July 1, 2005, shall receive a retirement allowance which shall
7 be determined in accordance with schedule A above for service on before September 30, 2009, and
8 shall be determined in accordance with schedule B in subsection (a)(2) below for service on or after
9 October 1, 2009, and prior to July 1, 2012.

10 (2) Upon retirement for service under § 36-10-9, a member whose membership commenced
11 after July 1, 2005, or who has not completed at least ten (10) years of contributory service as of
12 July 1, 2005, shall, receive a retirement allowance which shall be determined in accordance with
13 Schedule B below for service prior to July 1, 2012:

14 Schedule B

15	Years of Service	Percentage Allowance
16	1st through 10th inclusive	1.60%
17	11th through 20th inclusive	1.80%
18	21st through 25th inclusive	2.0%
19	26th through 30th inclusive	2.25%
20	31st through 37th inclusive	2.50%
21	38 th	2.25%

22 (b) The retirement allowance of any member whose membership commenced before July
23 1, 2005, and who has completed at least ten (10) years of contributory service on or before July 1,
24 2005, shall be in an amount equal to the percentage allowance specified in subsection (a)(1) of his
25 or her average highest three (3) consecutive years of compensation multiplied by the number of
26 years of total service, but in no case to exceed eighty percent (80%) of the compensation payable
27 at completion of thirty-five (35) years of service; provided, however, for employees retiring on or
28 after October 1, 2009, who were not eligible to retire as of September 30, 2009 the calculation shall
29 be based on the average highest five (5) consecutive years of compensation; provided, however,
30 for employees retiring on or after July 1, 2024, the calculation shall be based on the average highest
31 three (3) consecutive years of compensation. Any member who has in excess of thirty-five (35)
32 years on or before June 2, 1985, shall not be entitled to any refund, and any member with thirty-
33 five (35) years or more on or after June 2, 1985, shall contribute from July 1, 1985, until his or her
34 retirement.

1 The retirement allowance of any member whose membership commenced after July 1,
2 2005, or who had not completed at least ten (10) years of contributory service as of July 1, 2005,
3 shall, be in an amount equal to the percentage allowance specified in Schedule B of his or her
4 average highest three (3) consecutive years of compensation multiplied by the number of years of
5 total service, but in no case to exceed seventy-five percent (75%) of the compensation payable at
6 the completion of thirty-eight (38) years of service; provided, however, for employees retiring on
7 or after October 1, 2009, who were not eligible to retire as of September 30, 2009, the calculation
8 shall be based on the average highest five (5) consecutive years of compensation; provided,
9 however, for employees retiring on or after July 1, 2024, the calculation shall be based on the
10 average highest three (3) consecutive years of compensation.

11 (c) Any member with thirty-eight (38) years or more of service prior to December 31, 1985,
12 shall not be required to make additional contributions. Contributions made between December 31,
13 1985, and July 1, 1987, by members with thirty-eight (38) or more years of service prior to
14 December 31, 1985, shall be refunded by the retirement board to the persons, their heirs,
15 administrators, or legal representatives.

16 (d) For service prior to July 1, 2012, the retirement allowance of a member shall be
17 determined in accordance with subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) above. For service on and after July 1,
18 2012, a member's retirement allowance shall be equal to:

19 (i) For members with fewer than twenty (20) years of total service as of June 30, 2012, one
20 percent (1%) of the member's average compensation multiplied by the member's years of total
21 service on and after July 1 2012; and

22 (ii) For members with twenty (20) or more years of total service as of June 30, 2012, a
23 member's retirement allowance shall be equal to one percent (1%) of the member's average
24 compensation multiplied by the member's years of total service between July 1, 2012, and June 30,
25 2015, and two percent (2%) of the member's average compensation multiplied by the member's
26 years of total service on and after July 1, 2015. For purposes of computing a member's total service
27 under the preceding sentence, service purchases shall be included in total service only with respect
28 to those service purchases approved prior to June 30, 2012, and those applications for service
29 purchases received by the retirement system on or before June 30, 2012.

30 In no event shall a member's retirement allowance exceed the maximum limitations set
31 forth in paragraph (b) above.

32 **36-10-35. Additional benefits payable to retired employees.**

33 (a) All state employees and all beneficiaries of state employees receiving any service
34 retirement or ordinary or accidental disability retirement allowance pursuant to the provisions of

1 this title on or before December 31, 1967, shall receive a cost of living retirement adjustment equal
2 to one and one-half percent (1.5%) per year of the original retirement allowance, not compounded,
3 for each calendar year the retirement allowance has been in effect. For the purposes of computation,
4 credit shall be given for a full calendar year regardless of the effective date of the retirement
5 allowance. This cost of living adjustment shall be added to the amount of the retirement allowance
6 as of January 1, 1968, and an additional one and one-half percent (1.5%) shall be added to the
7 original retirement allowance in each succeeding year during the month of January, and provided
8 further, that this additional cost of living increase shall be three percent (3%) for the year beginning
9 January 1, 1971, and each year thereafter, through December 31, 1980. Notwithstanding any of the
10 above provisions, no employee receiving any service retirement allowance pursuant to the
11 provisions of this title on or before December 31, 1967, or the employee's beneficiary, shall receive
12 any additional benefit hereunder in an amount less than two hundred dollars (\$200) per year over
13 the service retirement allowance where the employee retired prior to January 1, 1958.

14 (b) All state employees and all beneficiaries of state employees retired on or after January
15 1, 1968, who are receiving any service retirement or ordinary or accidental disability retirement
16 allowance pursuant to the provisions of this title shall, on the first day of January next following
17 the third anniversary date of the retirement, receive a cost of living retirement adjustment, in
18 addition to his or her retirement allowance, in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of the original
19 retirement allowance. In each succeeding year thereafter through December 31, 1980, during the
20 month of January, the retirement allowance shall be increased an additional three percent (3%) of
21 the original retirement allowance, not compounded, to be continued during the lifetime of the
22 employee or beneficiary. For the purposes of computation, credit shall be given for a full calendar
23 year regardless of the effective date of the service retirement allowance.

24 (c)(1) Beginning on January 1, 1981, for all state employees and beneficiaries of the state
25 employees receiving any service retirement and all state employees, and all beneficiaries of state
26 employees, who have completed at least ten (10) years of contributory service on or before July 1,
27 2005, pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, and for all state employees, and all beneficiaries
28 of state employees who receive a disability retirement allowance pursuant to §§ 36-10-12 — 36-
29 10-15, the cost of living adjustment shall be computed and paid at the rate of three percent (3%) of
30 the original retirement allowance or the retirement allowance as computed in accordance with §
31 36-10-35.1, compounded annually from the year for which the cost of living adjustment was
32 determined to be payable by the retirement board pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) or (b)
33 of this section. Such cost of living adjustments are available to members who retire before October
34 1, 2009, or are eligible to retire as of September 30, 2009.

1 (2) The provisions of this subsection shall be deemed to apply prospectively only and no
2 retroactive payment shall be made.

3 (3) The retirement allowance of all state employees and all beneficiaries of state employees
4 who have not completed at least ten (10) years of contributory service on or before July 1, 2005, or
5 were not eligible to retire as of September 30, 2009, shall, on the month following the third
6 anniversary date of retirement, and on the month following the anniversary date of each succeeding
7 year be adjusted and computed by multiplying the retirement allowance by three percent (3%) or
8 the percentage of increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as
9 published by the United States Department of Labor Statistics determined as of September 30 of
10 the prior calendar year, whichever is less; the cost of living adjustment shall be compounded
11 annually from the year for which the cost of living adjustment was determined payable by the
12 retirement board; provided, that no adjustment shall cause any retirement allowance to be decreased
13 from the retirement allowance provided immediately before such adjustment.

14 (d) For state employees not eligible to retire in accordance with this chapter as of
15 September 30, 2009, and not eligible upon passage of this article, and for their beneficiaries, the
16 cost of living adjustment described in subsection (c)(3) of this section shall only apply to the first
17 thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) of retirement allowance, indexed annually, and shall
18 commence upon the third (3rd) anniversary of the date of retirement or when the retiree reaches
19 age sixty-five (65), whichever is later. The thirty-five thousand dollar (\$35,000) limit shall increase
20 annually by the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-
21 U) as published by the United States Department of Labor Statistics determined as of September
22 30 of the prior calendar year or three percent (3%), whichever is less. The first thirty-five thousand
23 dollars (\$35,000) of retirement allowance, as indexed, shall be multiplied by the percentage of
24 increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as published by the United
25 States Department of Labor Statistics determined as of September 30 of the prior calendar year or
26 three percent (3%), whichever is less, on the month following the anniversary date of each
27 succeeding year. For state employees eligible to retire as of September 30, 2009, or eligible upon
28 passage of this article, and for their beneficiaries, the provisions of this subsection (d) shall not
29 apply.

30 (e) All legislators and all beneficiaries of legislators who are receiving a retirement
31 allowance pursuant to the provisions of § 36-10-9.1 for a period of three (3) or more years, shall,
32 commencing January 1, 1982, receive a cost of living retirement adjustment, in addition to a
33 retirement allowance, in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of the original retirement allowance.
34 In each succeeding year thereafter during the month of January, the retirement allowance shall be

1 increased an additional three percent (3%) of the original retirement allowance, compounded
2 annually, to be continued during the lifetime of the legislator or beneficiary. For the purposes of
3 computation, credit shall be given for a full calendar year regardless of the effective date of the
4 service retirement allowance.

5 (f) The provisions of §§ 45-13-7 — 45-13-10 shall not apply to this section.

6 (g) This subsection (g) shall be effective for the period July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015.

7 (1) Notwithstanding the prior paragraphs of this section, and subject to subsection (g)(2)
8 below, for all present and former employees, active and retired members, and beneficiaries
9 receiving any retirement, disability or death allowance or benefit of any kind, the annual benefit
10 adjustment provided in any calendar year under this section shall be equal to (A) multiplied by (B)
11 where (A) is equal to the percentage determined by subtracting five and one-half percent (5.5%)
12 (the “subtrahend”) from the Five-Year Average Investment Return of the retirement system
13 determined as of the last day of the plan year preceding the calendar year in which the adjustment
14 is granted, said percentage not to exceed four percent (4%) and not to be less than zero percent
15 (0%), and (B) is equal to the lesser of the member’s retirement allowance or the first twenty-five
16 thousand dollars (\$25,000) of retirement allowance, such twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000)
17 amount to be indexed annually in the same percentage as determined under (g)(1)(A) above. The
18 “Five-Year Average Investment Return” shall mean the average of the investment returns of the
19 most recent five (5) plan years as determined by the retirement board. Subject to subsection (g)(2)
20 below, the benefit adjustment provided by this subsection (g)(1) shall commence upon the third
21 (3rd) anniversary of the date of retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches his or her Social
22 Security retirement age, whichever is later. In the event the retirement board adjusts the actuarially
23 assumed rate of return for the system, either upward or downward, the subtrahend shall be adjusted
24 either upward or downward in the same amount.

25 (2) Except as provided in subsection (g)(3), the benefit adjustments under this section for
26 any plan year shall be suspended in their entirety unless the Funded Ratio of the Employees’
27 Retirement System of Rhode Island, the Judicial Retirement Benefits Trust and the State Police
28 Retirement Benefits Trust, calculated by the system’s actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty
29 percent (80%) in which event the benefit adjustment will be reinstated for all members for such
30 plan year.

31 In determining whether a funding level under this subsection (g)(2) has been achieved, the
32 actuary shall calculate the funding percentage after taking into account the reinstatement of any
33 current or future benefit adjustment provided under this section.

34 (3) Notwithstanding subsection (g)(2), in each fifth plan year commencing after June 30,

1 2012, commencing with the plan year ending June 30, 2017, and subsequently at intervals of five
2 plan years, a benefit adjustment shall be calculated and made in accordance with subsection (g)(1)
3 above until the Funded Ratio of the Employees' Retirement System of Rhode Island, the Judicial
4 Retirement Benefits Trust and the State Police Retirement Benefits Trust, calculated by the
5 system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty percent (80%).

6 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the provisions of this subsection
7 (g) shall become effective July 1, 2012, and shall apply to any benefit adjustment not granted on or
8 prior to June 30, 2012.

9 (h) This subsection (h) shall become effective July 1, 2015.

10 (1)(A) As soon as administratively reasonable following the enactment into law of this
11 subsection (h)(1)(A), a one-time benefit adjustment shall be provided to members and/or
12 beneficiaries of members who retired on or before June 30, 2012, in the amount of 2% of the lesser
13 of either the member's retirement allowance or the first twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) of
14 the member's retirement allowance. This one-time benefit adjustment shall be provided without
15 regard to the retiree's age or number of years since retirement.

16 (B) Notwithstanding the prior subsections of this section, for all present and former
17 employees, active and retired members, and beneficiaries receiving any retirement, disability or
18 death allowance or benefit of any kind, the annual benefit adjustment provided in any calendar year
19 under this section for adjustments on and after January 1, 2016, and subject to subsection (h)(2)
20 below, shall be equal to (I) multiplied by (II):

21 (I) Shall equal the sum of fifty percent (50%) of (i) plus fifty percent (50%) of (ii) where:

22 (i) Is equal to the percentage determined by subtracting five and one-half percent (5.5%)
23 (the "subtrahend") from the five-year average investment return of the retirement system
24 determined as of the last day of the plan year preceding the calendar year in which the adjustment
25 is granted, said percentage not to exceed four percent (4%) and not to be less than zero percent
26 (0%). The "five-year average investment return" shall mean the average of the investment returns
27 of the most recent five (5) plan years as determined by the retirement board. In the event the
28 retirement board adjusts the actuarially assumed rate of return for the system, either upward or
29 downward, the subtrahend shall be adjusted either upward or downward in the same amount.

30 (ii) Is equal to the lesser of three percent (3%) or the percentage increase in the Consumer
31 Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as published by the U.S. Department of Labor
32 Statistics determined as of September 30 of the prior calendar year. In no event shall the sum of (i)
33 plus (ii) exceed three and one-half percent (3.5%) or be less than zero percent (0%).

34 (II) Is equal to the lesser of either the member's retirement allowance or the first twenty-

1 five thousand eight hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$25,855) of retirement allowance, such amount
2 to be indexed annually in the same percentage as determined under subsection (h)(1)(B)(I) above.

3 The benefit adjustments provided by this subsection (h)(1)(B) shall be provided to all
4 retirees entitled to receive a benefit adjustment as of June 30, 2012, under the law then in effect,
5 and for all other retirees the benefit adjustments shall commence upon the third anniversary of the
6 date of retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches his or her Social Security retirement age,
7 whichever is later.

8 (2) Except for members and/or beneficiaries of members who retired on or before June 30,
9 2012 the ~~The~~ benefit adjustments under subsection (h)(1)(B) for any plan year shall be reduced to
10 twenty-five percent (25%) of the benefit adjustment unless the funded ratio of the employees'
11 retirement system of Rhode Island, the judicial retirement benefits trust and the state police
12 retirement benefits trust, calculated by the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty
13 percent (80%) in which event the benefit adjustment will be reinstated for all members for such
14 plan year. Effective July 1, 2024, the funded ratio of the employees' retirement system of Rhode
15 Island, the judicial retirement benefits trust and the state police retirement benefits trust, calculated
16 by the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, of exceeding eighty percent (80%) for the benefit
17 adjustment to be reinstated for all members for such plan year shall be replaced with seventy-five
18 percent (75%).

19 In determining whether a funding level under this subsection (h)(2) has been achieved, the
20 actuary shall calculate the funding percentage after taking into account the reinstatement of any
21 current or future benefit adjustment provided under this section.

22 (3) Effective for members and/or beneficiaries of members who retired after June 30, 2012
23 or on or before June 30, 2015, the dollar amount in subsection (h)(1)(B)(II) of twenty-five thousand
24 eight hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$25,855) shall be replaced with thirty-one thousand and
25 twenty-six dollars (\$31,026) until the funded ratio of the employees' retirement system of Rhode
26 Island, the judicial retirement benefits trust and the state police retirement benefits trust, calculated
27 by the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty percent (80%). Effective July 1,
28 2024, the funded ratio of the employees' retirement system of Rhode Island, the judicial retirement
29 benefits trust and the state police retirement benefits trust, calculated by the system's actuary on an
30 aggregate basis, of exceeding eighty percent (80%) shall be replaced with seventy-five percent
31 (75%).

32 (i) Effective for members and/or beneficiaries of members who have retired on or before
33 July 1, 2015, a one-time stipend of five hundred dollars (\$500) shall be payable within sixty (60)
34 days following the enactment of the legislation implementing this provision, and a second one-time

1 stipend of five hundred dollars (\$500) in the same month of the following year. These stipends
2 shall be payable to all retired members or beneficiaries receiving a benefit as of the applicable
3 payment date and shall not be considered cost of living adjustments under the prior provisions of
4 this section.

5 **36-10-36. Post-retirement employment.**

6 (a) On and after July 7, 1994, no member who has retired under the provisions of title 16,
7 36, or 45 may be employed or reemployed by any state agency or department unless any and all
8 retirement benefits to which he or she may be entitled by virtue of the provisions of title 16, 36, or
9 45 are suspended for the duration of any employment or reemployment. No additional service
10 credits shall be granted for any post-retirement employment or reemployment and no deductions
11 shall be taken from an individual's salary for retirement contribution. Notice of any such post-
12 retirement employment or reemployment shall be sent monthly to the retirement board by the
13 employing agency or department and by the retired member.

14 (b) Any member who has retired under the provisions of title 16, 36, or 45 may be
15 employed or reemployed by any municipality within the state that has accepted the provisions of
16 chapter 21 of title 45 and participates in the municipal employees' retirement system for a period
17 of not more than seventy-five (75) working days or one hundred fifty (150) half days with half-day
18 pay in any one calendar year without any forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefits and
19 allowances the member is receiving, or may receive, as a retired member. Pension payments shall
20 be suspended whenever this period is exceeded. No additional contributions shall be taken, and no
21 additional service credits shall be granted, for this service. Notice of this employment or
22 reemployment shall be sent monthly to the retirement board by the employer and by the retired
23 member.

24 (c) Any member who has retired under the provisions of title 16, 36, or 45 may be employed
25 or reemployed by any municipality within the state that has not accepted the provisions of chapter
26 21 of title 45 and that does not participate in the municipal employees' retirement system.

27 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section:

28 (1) Any retired member of the system shall be permitted to serve as an elected mayor, the
29 town administrator, the city administrator, the town manager, the city manager, the chief
30 administrative officer, or the chief executive officer of any city or town, city or town council
31 member, school committee member, or unpaid member of any part-time state board or commission
32 or member of any part-time municipal board or commission, and shall continue to be eligible for,
33 and receive, the retirement allowance for service other than that as a mayor, administrator, council
34 member, school committee member, or member of any state board or commission or member of

1 any part-time municipal board or commission; provided, however, that no additional service credits
2 shall be granted for any service under this subsection;

3 (2) Any retired member, who retired from service at any state college, university, state
4 school, or who retired from service as a teacher under the provisions of title 16, or who retired from
5 service under title 36 or title 45, may be employed or reemployed, on a part-time basis, by any state
6 college, university, or state school for the purpose of providing classroom instruction, academic
7 advising of students, and/or coaching. Compensation shall be provided at a level not to exceed the
8 salary provided to other faculty members employed under a collective bargaining agreement at the
9 institution. In no event shall “part-time” mean gross pay of more than ~~eighteen thousand dollars~~
10 ~~(\$18,000)~~ twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in any one calendar year. Any retired member
11 who provides such instruction or service shall do so without forfeiture or reduction of any
12 retirement benefit or allowance; provided, however, that no additional service credits shall be
13 granted for any service under this subsection;

14 (3) Any retired member who retired from service as a teacher under the provisions of title
15 16, or as a state employee who, while an active state employee, was certified to teach driver
16 education by the department of elementary and secondary education or by the board of governors
17 for higher education, may be employed or reemployed, on a part-time basis, by the department of
18 elementary and secondary education or by the board of governors of higher education for the
19 purpose of providing classroom instruction in driver education courses in accordance with § 31-
20 10-19 and/or motorcycle driver education courses in accordance with § 31-10.1-1.1. In no event
21 shall “part-time” mean gross pay of more than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) in any one
22 calendar year. Any retired teacher who provides that instruction shall do so without forfeiture or
23 reduction of any retirement benefit or allowance the retired teacher is receiving as a retired teacher;
24 provided, however, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service under this
25 subsection;

26 (4) Any retired member who retired from service as a registered nurse may be employed
27 or reemployed, on a per-diem basis, for the purpose of providing professional nursing care and/or
28 services at a state-operated facility in Rhode Island, including employment as a faculty member of
29 a nursing program at a state-operated college or university. In no event shall “part-time” mean gross
30 pay of more than a period of seventy-five (75) working days or one hundred fifty (150) half days
31 with half pay in any one calendar year. Any retired nurse who provides such care and/or services
32 shall do so without forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefit or allowance the retired nurse
33 is receiving as a retired nurse; provided, however, that no additional service credits shall be granted
34 for any service under this subsection. Pension payments shall be suspended whenever this period

1 is exceeded. No additional contributions shall be taken and no additional service credits shall be
2 granted for this service. Notice of this employment or reemployment shall be sent monthly to the
3 retirement board by the employer and by the retired member;

4 (5) Any retired member who, at the time of passage of this section, serves as a general
5 magistrate within the family court and thereafter retires from judicial service, may be employed or
6 reemployed by the family court to perform such services as a general magistrate of the family court
7 as the chief judge of the family court shall prescribe without any forfeiture or reduction of any
8 retirement benefits and allowances that he or she is receiving or may receive. For any such services
9 or assignments performed after retirement, the general magistrate shall receive no compensation
10 whatsoever, either monetary or in kind. No additional contributions shall be taken and no additional
11 service credits shall be granted for this service;

12 (6) Any retired district court clerk/magistrate or magistrate of the district court who shall
13 subsequently be assigned to perform service in accordance with § 8-8-8.1 or § 8-8-16.2(e), may be
14 employed or reemployed by the district court to perform such services as a magistrate as the chief
15 judge of the district court shall prescribe without any forfeiture or reduction of any retirement
16 benefits and allowance that he or she is receiving or may receive. For any such services or
17 assignment performed after retirement, the district court clerk/magistrate or magistrate shall
18 receive, in addition to his or her retirement pension, the difference in pay and fringe benefits
19 between his or her retirement pension, and that of a sitting magistrate of the district court with
20 comparable state service time. No additional contributions shall be taken and no additional service
21 credits shall be granted for this service; and

22 (7) Any retired member of the system shall be permitted to serve as a municipal employee
23 without any forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefits and allowances that he or she is
24 receiving or may receive; provided, that said member shall be appointed by and serves at the
25 pleasure of the highest elected chief executive officer, as defined in § 45-9-2, in any city or town
26 subject to the provisions of chapter 9 of title 45 entitled "Budget Commissions" relating to the
27 appointment of a fiscal overseer, budget commission, receiver, and/or financial advisor. Provided
28 further, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service under this subsection.

29 SECTION 6. Chapter 36-10 of the General Laws entitled "Retirement System —
30 Contributions and Benefits" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

31 **36-10-9.8. Retirement on service allowance -- State law enforcement professionals.**

32 (a) Effective January 1, 2025, notwithstanding any special law or general law, rule or
33 regulation to the contrary, state employees employed as deputy sheriffs, capitol police officers,
34 environmental police officers, juvenile program workers, shift coordinators, firefighters, crew

1 [chiefs, assistant chiefs, fire investigators, fire safety inspectors, fire safety training officers,](#)
2 [explosives and flammable liquids technicians, and campus police officers employed by the State](#)
3 [of Rhode Island shall be entitled to the benefits provided by §§ 45-21.2-5, 45-21.2-6, 45-21.2-10,](#)
4 [32 45-21.2-11, 45-21.2-12, and 45-21.2-13.](#)

5 [\(b\) For members identified in subsection \(a\) of this section, service credits earned prior to](#)
6 [January 1, 2025, shall be determined by the laws in effect on December 31, 2024.](#)

7 SECTION 7. Section 36-10.3-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 36-10.3 entitled "Defined
8 Contribution Retirement Plan" is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 **36-10.3-1. Definitions.**

10 As used in this chapter, the following terms, unless the context requires a different
11 interpretation, shall have the following meanings:

12 (1) "Compensation" means compensation as defined in § 36-8-1(8).

13 (2) "Employee" means an employee as defined in §§ 36-8-1(9) and 45-21-2(7) and a
14 teacher as defined in § 16-16-1(12), effective July 1, 2012; provided however, effective July 1,
15 2015, "employee" shall not include any employee with twenty (20) or more years of total service
16 as of June 30, 2012, in the employees retirement system under chapters 8 through 10 of title 36 or
17 chapter 16 of title 16 (ERS), or the municipal employees retirement system under chapter 21 of
18 title 45 (MERS) [provided, however, effective January 1, 2025, "employee" shall not include deputy](#)
19 [sheriffs, capitol police officers, environmental police officers, juvenile program workers, shift](#)
20 [coordinators, firefighters, crew chiefs, assistant chiefs, fire investigators, fire safety inspectors, fire](#)
21 [safety training officers, explosives and flammable liquids technicians, and campus police officers](#)
22 [employed by the State of Rhode Island.](#)

23 (3) "Employer" means the State of Rhode Island or the local municipality which employs
24 a member of the Employees Retirement System under chapters 8 through 10 of title 36 or chapter
25 16 of title 16 (ERS) or the Municipal Employees Retirement System under chapters 21 and 21.2 of
26 title 45 (MERS).

27 (4) "Plan" means the retirement plan established by this chapter.

28 (5) A "public safety member" shall mean a member of MERS who is a municipal fire
29 fighter or a municipal policeman or policewoman as defined in § 45-21.2-2 who does not participate
30 in Social Security under the Federal Old Age, Survivors, and Disability income program.

31 (6) "Regular member" means:

32 (i) An employee who is a member of ERS other than correctional officers as defined in §
33 36-10-9.2; or

34 (ii) An employee who is a member of MERS other than a public safety member.

1 (7) The “retirement board” or “board” shall mean the retirement board of the Employees
2 Retirement System of Rhode Island as defined in chapter 8 of this title. The retirement board shall
3 be the plan administrator and plan trustee and shall administer the plan in accordance with § 36-8-
4 4.1.

5 (8) “State investment commission” or “commission” means the state investment
6 commission as defined in § 35-10-1.

7 (9) “Supplemental employer” includes any employer that provides supplemental
8 contributions to the defined contribution retirement plan as provided in § 36-10.3-3.

9 (10) “Supplemental member” is defined in § 36-10.3-3.

10 SECTION 8. Section 42-28-22 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-28 entitled "State
11 Police" is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 **42-28-22. Retirement of members.**

13 (a) Whenever any member of the state police hired prior to July 1, 2007, has served for
14 twenty (20) years, he or she may retire therefrom or he or she may be retired by the superintendent
15 with the approval of the governor, and in either event a sum equal to one-half (½) of the whole
16 salary for the position from which he or she retired determined on the date he or she receives his or
17 her first retirement payment shall be paid him or her during life.

18 (b) For purposes of this section, the term “*whole salary*” means:

19 (1) For each member who retired prior to July 1, 1966, “*whole salary*” means the base
20 salary for the position from which he or she retired as the base salary for that position was
21 determined on July 31, 1972;

22 (2) For each member who retired between July 1, 1966, and June 30, 1973, “*whole salary*”
23 means the base salary for the position from which he or she retired as the base salary, implemented
24 by the longevity increment, for that position was determined on July 31, 1972, or on the date of his
25 or her retirement, whichever is greater;

26 (3) For each member who retired or who retires after July 1, 1973, “*whole salary*” means
27 the base salary, implemented by the longevity increment, holiday pay, and clothing allowance, for
28 the position from which he or she retired or retires.

29 (c)(1) Any member who retired prior to July 1, 1977, shall receive a benefits payment
30 adjustment equal to three percent (3%) of his or her original retirement, as determined in subsection
31 (b) of this section, in addition to his or her original retirement allowance. In each succeeding year
32 thereafter during the month of January, the retirement allowance shall be increased an additional
33 three percent (3%) of the original retirement allowance, not compounded, to be continued until
34 January 1, 1991. For the purposes of the computation, credit shall be given for a full calendar year

1 regardless of the effective date of the service retirement allowance. For purposes of this subsection,
2 the benefits payment adjustment shall be computed from January 1, 1971, or the date of retirement,
3 whichever is later in time.

4 (2) Any member of the state police who retires pursuant to the provisions of this chapter
5 on or after January 1, 1977, shall on the first day of January, next following the third anniversary
6 date of the retirement receive a benefits payment adjustment, in addition to his or her retirement
7 allowance, in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of the original retirement allowance. In each
8 succeeding year thereafter during the month of January, the retirement allowance shall be increased
9 an additional three percent (3%) of the original retirement allowance, not compounded, to be
10 continued until January 1, 1991. For the purposes of the computation, credit shall be given for a
11 full calendar year regardless of the effective date of the service retirement allowance.

12 (3) Any retired member of the state police who is receiving a benefit payment adjustment
13 pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of this section shall beginning January 1, 1991, and ending
14 June 30, 2012, receive a benefits payment adjustment equal to fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500).

15 (d) The benefits payment adjustment as provided in this section shall apply to and be in
16 addition to the retirement benefits under the provisions of § 42-28-5, and to the injury and death
17 benefits under the provisions of § 42-28-21.

18 (e)(1) Any member who retires after July 1, 1972, and is eligible to retire prior to July 1,
19 2012, and who has served beyond twenty (20) years shall be allowed an additional amount equal
20 to three percent (3%) for each completed year served after twenty (20) years, but in no event shall
21 the original retirement allowance exceed sixty-five percent (65%) of his or her whole salary as
22 defined in subsection (b) hereof or sixty-five percent (65%) of his or her salary as defined in
23 subsection (b) hereof in his or her twenty-fifth (25th) year whichever is less.

24 (2) Each member who retired prior to July 1, 1975, shall be entitled to all retirement
25 benefits as set forth above or shall be paid benefits as set forth in subdivision (b)(1) with “whole
26 salary” meaning the base salary for the position from which he or she retired as the base salary for
27 the position was determined on July 1, 1975, whichever is greater.

28 (f)(1) Any member who retires, has served as a member for twenty (20) years or more, and
29 who served for a period of six (6) months or more of active duty in the armed service of the United
30 States or in the merchant marine service of the United States as defined in § 2 of chapter 1721 of
31 the Public Laws, 1946, may purchase credit for such service up to a maximum of two (2) years;
32 provided that any member who has served at least six (6) months or more in any one year shall be
33 allowed to purchase one year for such service and any member who has served a fraction of less
34 than six (6) months in his or her total service shall be allowed to purchase six (6) months' credit

1 for such service.

2 (2) The cost to purchase these credits shall be ten percent (10%) of the member's first year
3 salary as a state policeman multiplied by the number of years and/or fraction thereof of such armed
4 service up to a maximum of two (2) years. The purchase price shall be paid into the general fund.
5 For members hired on or after July 1, 1989, the purchase price shall be paid into a restricted revenue
6 account entitled "state police retirement benefits" and shall be held in trust.

7 (3) There will be no interest charge provided the member makes such purchase during his
8 or her twentieth (20th) year or within five (5) years from May 18, 1981, whichever is later, but will
9 be charged regular rate of interest as defined in § 36-8-1 as amended to date of purchase from the
10 date of his or her twentieth (20th) year of state service or five (5) years from May 18, 1981,
11 whichever is later.

12 (4) Any member who is granted a leave of absence without pay for illness, injury or any
13 other reason may receive credit therefor by making the full actuarial cost as defined in subdivision
14 36-8-1(10); provided the employee returns to state service for at least one year upon completion of
15 the leave.

16 (5) In no event shall the original retirement allowance exceed sixty-five percent (65%) of
17 his or her whole salary as defined in subsection (b) hereof or sixty-five percent (65%) of his or her
18 salary as defined in subsection (b) hereof in his or her twenty-fifth (25th) year, whichever is less.

19 (6) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no more than five (5) years of service
20 credit may be purchased by a member of the system. The five (5) year limit shall not apply to any
21 purchases made prior to January 1, 1995. A member who has purchased more than five (5) years
22 of service credits before January 1, 1995, shall be permitted to apply those purchases towards the
23 member's service retirement. However, no further purchase will be permitted. Repayment in
24 accordance with applicable law and regulation of any contribution previously withdrawn from the
25 system shall not be deemed a purchase of service credit.

26 (g) The provisions of this section shall not apply to civilian employees in the Rhode Island
27 state police; and, further, from and after April 28, 1937, chapters 8 — 10, inclusive, of title 36 shall
28 not be construed to apply to the members of the Rhode Island state police, except as provided by
29 §§ 36-8-3, 36-10-1.1, 42-28-22.1, and 42-28-22.2, and § 36-8-1(5) and (8)(a) effective July 1,
30 2012.

31 (h) Any member of the state police other than the superintendent of state police, who is
32 hired prior to July 1, 2007, and who has served for twenty-five (25) years or who has attained the
33 age of sixty-two (62) years, whichever shall first occur, shall retire therefrom.

34 (i)(1) Any member of the state police, other than the superintendent, who is hired on or

1 after July 1, 2007, and who has served for twenty-five (25) years, may retire therefrom or he or she
2 may be retired by the superintendent with the approval of the governor, and shall be entitled to a
3 retirement allowance of fifty percent (50%) of his or her "whole salary" as defined in subsection
4 (b) hereof.

5 (2) Any member of the state police who is hired on or after July 1, 2007, may serve up to
6 a maximum of thirty (30) years, and shall be allowed an additional amount equal to three percent
7 (3.0%) for each completed year served after twenty-five (25) years, but in no event shall the original
8 retirement allowance exceed sixty-five percent (65%) of his or her "whole salary" as defined in
9 subsection (b) hereof.

10 (j) Effective July 1, 2012, any other provision of this section notwithstanding:

11 (j)(1) Any member of the state police, other than the superintendent of state police, who is
12 not eligible to retire on or prior to June 30, 2012, may retire at any time subsequent to the date the
13 member's retirement allowance equals or exceeds fifty percent (50%) of average compensation as
14 defined in § 36-8-1(5)(a), provided that a member shall retire upon the first to occur of:

15 (i) The date the member's retirement allowance equals sixty-five percent (65%); or

16 (ii) The later of the attainment of age sixty-two (62) or completion of five (5) years of
17 service; provided however, any current member as of June 30, 2012, who has not accrued fifty
18 percent (50%) upon attaining the age of sixty-two (62) shall retire upon accruing fifty percent
19 (50%); and upon retirement a member shall receive a retirement allowance which shall equal:

20 (A) For members hired prior to July 1, 2007, the sum of (i), (ii) and (iii) where

21 (i) Is calculated as the member's years of total service before July 1, 2012, multiplied by
22 two and one-half percent (2.5%) of average compensation for a member's first twenty (20) total
23 years,

24 (ii) Is calculated as the member's years of total service before July 1, 2012, in excess of
25 twenty (20) years not to exceed twenty-five (25) years multiplied by three percent (3%) of average
26 compensation, and

27 (iii) Is the member's years of total service on or after July 1, 2012, multiplied by two
28 percent (2%) of average compensation as defined in § 36-8-1(5)(a).

29 (B) For members hired on or after July 1, 2007, the member's retirement allowance shall
30 be calculated as the member's years of total contributory service multiplied by two percent (2%)
31 of average compensation.

32 (C) Any member of the state police who is eligible to retire on or prior to June 30, 2012,
33 shall retire with a retirement allowance calculated in accordance with paragraph (a) and (e) above
34 except that whole salary shall be defined as final compensation where compensation for purposes

1 of this section and § 42-28-22.1 includes base salary, longevity and holiday pay.

2 (D) Notwithstanding the preceding provisions, in no event shall a member's final
3 compensation be lower than his or her final compensation determined as of June 30, 2012.

4 (2) In no event shall a member's original retirement allowance under any provisions of this
5 section exceed sixty-five percent (65%) of his or her average compensation.

6 (3) For each member who retires on or after July 1, 2012, except as provided in paragraph
7 (j)(1)(C) above, compensation and average compensation shall be defined in accordance with §
8 36-8-1(5)(a) and (8), provided that for a member whose regular work period exceeds one hundred
9 forty-seven (147) hours over a twenty-four (24) day period at any time during the four (4) year
10 period immediately prior to his/her retirement that member shall have up to four hundred (400)
11 hours of his/her pay for regularly scheduled work earned during this period shall be included as
12 "compensation" and/or "average compensation" for purposes of this section and § 42-28-22.1.

13 (4) This subsection (4) shall be effective for the period July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015.

14 (i) Notwithstanding the prior paragraphs of this section, and subject to paragraph (4)(ii)
15 below, for all present and former members, active and retired members, and beneficiaries receiving
16 any retirement, disability or death allowance or benefit of any kind, whether for or on behalf of a
17 non-contributory member or contributory member, the annual benefit adjustment provided in any
18 calendar year under this section shall be equal to (A) multiplied by (B) where (A) is equal to the
19 percentage determined by subtracting five and one-half percent (5.5%) (the "subtrahend") from the
20 Five-Year Average Investment Return of the retirement system determined as of the last day of the
21 plan year preceding the calendar year in which the adjustment is granted, said percentage not to
22 exceed four percent (4%) and not to be less than zero percent (0%), and (B) is equal to the lesser
23 of the member's retirement allowance or the first twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) of
24 retirement allowance, such twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) amount to be indexed annually
25 in the same percentage as determined under (4)(i)(A) above. The "Five-Year Average Investment
26 Return" shall mean the average of the investment returns for the most recent five (5) plan years as
27 determined by the retirement board. Subject to paragraph (4)(ii) below, the benefit adjustment
28 provided by this paragraph shall commence upon the third (3rd) anniversary of the date of
29 retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches age fifty-five (55), whichever is later. In the
30 event the retirement board adjusts the actuarially assumed rate of return for the system, either
31 upward or downward, the subtrahend shall be adjusted either upward or downward in the same
32 amount.

33 (ii) Except as provided in paragraph (4)(iii), the benefit adjustments under this section for
34 any plan year shall be suspended in their entirety unless the Funded Ratio of the Employees'

1 Retirement System of Rhode Island, the Judicial Retirement Benefits Trust and the State Police
2 Retirement Benefits Trust, calculated by the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty
3 percent (80%) in which event the benefit adjustment will be reinstated for all members for such
4 plan year.

5 In determining whether a funding level under this paragraph (4)(ii) has been achieved, the
6 actuary shall calculate the funding percentage after taking into account the reinstatement of any
7 current or future benefit adjustment provided under this section.

8 (iii) Notwithstanding paragraph (4)(ii), in each fifth plan year commencing after June 30,
9 2012, commencing with the plan year ending June 30, 2017, and subsequently at intervals of five
10 (5) plan years, a benefit adjustment shall be calculated and made in accordance with paragraph
11 (4)(i) above until the Funded Ratio of the Employees' Retirement System of Rhode Island, the
12 Judicial Retirement Benefits Trust and the State Police Retirement Benefits Trust, calculated by
13 the system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty percent (80%).

14 (iv) The provisions of this paragraph (j)(4) shall become effective July 1, 2012, and shall
15 apply to any benefit adjustment not granted on or prior to June 30, 2012.

16 (v) The cost-of-living adjustment as provided in this paragraph (j)(4) shall apply to and be
17 in addition to the retirement benefits under the provisions of § 42-28-5 and to the injury and death
18 benefits under the provisions of § 42-28-21.

19 (5) This subsection (5) shall become effective July 1, 2015.

20 (i)(A) As soon as administratively reasonable following the enactment into law of this
21 paragraph (5)(i)(A), a one-time benefit adjustment shall be provided to members and/or
22 beneficiaries of members who retired on or before June 30, 2012, in the amount of two percent
23 (2%) of the lesser of either the member's retirement allowance or the first twenty-five thousand
24 dollars (\$25,000) of the member's retirement allowance. This one-time benefit adjustment shall be
25 provided without regard to the retiree's age or number of years since retirement.

26 (B) Notwithstanding the prior subsections of this section, for all present and former
27 members, active and retired members, and beneficiaries receiving any retirement, disability or
28 death allowance or benefit of any kind, the annual benefit adjustment provided in any calendar year
29 under this section for adjustments on and after January 1, 2016, and subject to subsection (5)(ii)
30 below, shall be equal to (I) multiplied by (II):

31 (I) Shall equal the sum of fifty percent (50%) of (1) plus fifty percent (50%) of (2) where:

32 (1) Is equal to the percentage determined by subtracting five and one-half percent (5.5%)
33 (the "subtrahend") from the five-year average investment return of the retirement system
34 determined as of the last day of the plan year preceding the calendar year in which the adjustment

1 is granted, said percentage not to exceed four percent (4%) and not to be less than zero percent
2 (0%). The “five-year average investment return” shall mean the average of the investment returns
3 of the most recent five (5) plan years as determined by the retirement board. In the event the
4 retirement board adjusts the actuarially assumed rate of return for the system, either upward or
5 downward, the subtrahend shall be adjusted either upward or downward in the same amount.

6 (2) Is equal to the lesser of three percent (3%) or the percentage increase in the Consumer
7 Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as published by the U.S. Department of Labor
8 Statistics determined as of September 30 of the prior calendar year.

9 In no event shall the sum of (1) plus (2) exceed three and one-half percent (3.5%) or be
10 less than zero percent (0%).

11 (II) Is equal to the lesser of either the member’s retirement allowance or the first twenty-
12 five thousand eight hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$25,855) of retirement allowance, such amount
13 to be indexed annually in the same percentage as determined under subsection (5)(i)(B)(I) above.
14 The benefit adjustments provided by this subsection (5)(i)(B) shall be provided to all retirees
15 entitled to receive a benefit adjustment as of June 30, 2012, under the law then in effect, and for all
16 other retirees the benefit adjustments shall commence upon the third anniversary of the date of
17 retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches his or her Social Security retirement age,
18 whichever is later.

19 (ii) Except as provided in subsection (5)(iii), the benefit adjustments under subsection
20 (5)(i)(B) for any plan year shall be suspended in their entirety unless the funded ratio of the
21 employees’ retirement system of Rhode Island, the Judicial retirement benefits trust and the state
22 police retirement benefits trust, calculated by the system’s actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds
23 eighty percent (80%) in which event the benefit adjustment will be reinstated for all members for
24 such plan year. Effective July 1, 2024, the funded ratio of the employees’ retirement system of
25 Rhode Island, the judicial retirement benefits trust and the state police retirement benefits trust,
26 calculated by the system’s actuary on an aggregate basis, of exceeding eighty percent (80%) for the
27 benefit adjustment to be reinstated for all members for such plan year shall be replaced with
28 seventy-five percent (75%)

29 In determining whether a funding level under this subsection (5)(ii) has been achieved, the
30 actuary shall calculate the funding percentage after taking into account the reinstatement of any
31 current or future benefit adjustment provided under this section.

32 (iii) Notwithstanding subsection (5)(ii), in each fourth plan year commencing after June
33 30, 2012, commencing with the plan year ending June 30, 2016, and subsequently at intervals of
34 four plan years: (i) A benefit adjustment shall be calculated and made in accordance with paragraph

1 (5)(i)(B) above; and (ii) Effective for members and/or beneficiaries of members who retired on or
2 before June 30, 2015, the dollar amount in subsection (5)(i)(B)(II) of twenty-five thousand eight
3 hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$25,855) shall be replaced with thirty-one thousand and twenty-six
4 dollars (\$31,026) until the funded ratio of the employees' retirement system of Rhode Island, the
5 judicial retirement benefits trust and the state police retirement benefits trust, calculated by the
6 system's actuary on an aggregate basis, exceeds eighty percent (80%). Effective July 1, 2024, the
7 funded ratio of the employees' retirement system of Rhode Island, the judicial retirement benefits
8 trust and the state police retirement benefits trust, calculated by the system's actuary on an
9 aggregate basis, of exceeding eighty percent (80%) shall be replaced with seventy-five percent
10 (75%).

11 (iv) Effective for members and or beneficiaries of members who have retired on or before
12 July 1, 2015, a one-time stipend of five hundred dollars (\$500) shall be payable within sixty (60)
13 days following the enactment of the legislation implementing this provision, and a second one-time
14 stipend of five hundred dollars (\$500) in the same month of the following year. These stipends
15 shall be payable to all retired members or beneficiaries receiving a benefit as of the applicable
16 payment date and shall not be considered cost of living adjustments under the prior provisions of
17 this section.

18 (6) Any member with contributory service on or after July 1, 2012, who has completed at
19 least five (5) years of contributory service but who has not retired in accordance with (j)(1) above,
20 shall be eligible to retire upon the attainment of member's Social Security retirement age as defined
21 in § 36-8-1(20).

22 (7) In no event shall a member's retirement allowance be less than the member's retirement
23 allowance calculated as of June 30, 2012, based on the member's years of total service and whole
24 salary as of June 30, 2012.

25 (k) In calculating the retirement benefit for any member, the term base salary as used in
26 subdivision (b)(3) or average compensation as used in paragraph (j) shall not be affected by a
27 deferral of salary plan or a reduced salary plan implemented to avoid shutdowns or layoffs or to
28 effect cost savings. Basic salary shall remain for retirement calculation that which it would have
29 been but for the salary deferral or salary reduction due to a plan implemented to avoid shutdowns
30 or layoffs or to effect cost savings.

31 SECTION 9. Sections 45-21-2 and 45-21-52 of the General Laws in Chapter 45-21 entitled
32 "Retirement of Municipal Employees" are hereby amended to read as follows:

33 **45-21-2. Definitions.**

34 The following words and phrases as used in this chapter have the following meanings

1 unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context:

2 (1) "Accumulated contributions" means the sum of all amounts deducted from the
3 compensation of a member and credited to his or her individual account in the members'
4 contribution reserve account.

5 (2) "Active member" means any employee of a participating municipality as defined in this
6 section for whom the retirement system is currently receiving regular contributions pursuant to §§
7 45-21-41, 45-21-41.1 or 45-21.2-14.

8 (3) "Actuarial reserve" means the present value of all payments to be made on account of
9 any annuity, retirement allowance, or benefit, computed upon the basis of mortality tables adopted
10 by the retirement board with regular interest.

11 (4) "Beneficiary" means any person in receipt of a retirement allowance, annuity, or other
12 benefit as provided by this chapter.

13 (5) For purposes of this chapter, "domestic partner" shall be defined as a person who, prior
14 to the decedent's death, was in an exclusive, intimate and committed relationship with the decedent,
15 and who certifies by affidavit that their relationship met the following qualifications:

16 (i) Both partners were at least eighteen (18) years of age and were mentally competent to
17 contract;

18 (ii) Neither partner was married to anyone else;

19 (iii) Partners were not related by blood to a degree which would prohibit marriage in the
20 state of Rhode Island;

21 (iv) Partners resided together and had resided together for at least one year at the time of
22 death; and

23 (v) Partners were financially interdependent as evidenced by at least two (2) of the
24 following:

25 (A) Domestic partnership agreement or relationship contract;

26 (B) Joint mortgage or joint ownership of primary residence;

27 (C) Two (2) of: (I) Joint ownership of motor vehicle; (II) Joint checking account; (III) Joint
28 credit account; (IV) Joint lease; and/or

29 (D) The domestic partner had been designated as a beneficiary for the decedent's will,
30 retirement contract or life insurance.

31 (6) "Effective date of participation" means the date on which the provisions of this chapter
32 have become applicable to a municipality accepting the provisions of the chapter in the manner
33 stated in § 45-21-4.

34 (7) "Employee" means any regular and permanent employee or officer of any municipality,

1 whose business time at a minimum of twenty (20) hours a week is devoted to the service of the
2 municipality, including elective officials and officials and employees of city and town housing
3 authorities. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, the term “employee,” for the purposes of this
4 chapter, does not include any person whose duties are of a casual or seasonal nature. The retirement
5 board shall decide who are employees within the meaning of this chapter, but in no case shall it
6 deem as an employee any individual who annually devotes less than twenty (20) business hours per
7 week to the service of the municipality and who receives less than the equivalent of minimum wage
8 compensation on an hourly basis for his or her services, except as provided in § 45-21-14.1. Casual
9 employees mean those persons hired for an occasional period or a period of emergency to perform
10 special jobs or functions not necessarily related to the work of regular employees. Any
11 commissioner of a municipal housing authority, or any member of a part-time state board
12 commission, committee or other authority is not deemed to be an employee within the meaning of
13 this chapter.

14 (8)(a) “Final compensation” for members who are eligible to retire on or prior to June 30,
15 2012, means the average annual compensation, pay, or salary of a member for services rendered
16 during the period of three (3) consecutive years within the total service of the member when the
17 average was highest, and as the term average annual compensation is further defined in § 36-8-
18 1(5)(a). For members eligible to retire on or after July 1, 2012, “final compensation” means the
19 average of the highest five (5) consecutive years of compensation within the total service when the
20 final compensation was the highest. For members eligible to and who retire on or after July 1, 2024,
21 “final compensation” means the average of the highest three (3) consecutive years of compensation
22 within the total service when the final compensation was the highest.

23 (b) For members who become eligible to retire on or after July 1, 2012, if more than one
24 half (½) of the member’s total years of service consist of years of service during which the member
25 devoted less than thirty (30) business hours per week to the service of the municipality, but the
26 member’s average compensation consists of three (3) or more years during which the member
27 devoted more than thirty (30) business hours per week to the service of a municipality, such
28 member’s average compensation shall mean the average of the highest ten (10) consecutive years
29 of compensation within the total service when the average compensation was the highest; provided
30 however, effective July 1, 2015, if such member’s average compensation as defined in subsection
31 (a) above is equal to or less than thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000), such amount to be indexed
32 annually in accordance with § 45-21-52(d)(1)(B), such member’s average compensation shall mean
33 the greater of: (i) The average of the highest ten (10) consecutive years of compensation within the
34 total service when the average compensation was the highest; or (ii) The member’s average

1 compensation as defined in subsection (a) above. To protect a member's accrued benefit on June
2 30, 2012, under this subsection (8)(b), in no event shall a member's average compensation be lower
3 than his or her average compensation determined as of June 30, 2012.

4 Notwithstanding the preceding provisions, in no event shall a member's final compensation
5 be lower than his or her final compensation determined as of June 30, 2012.

6 (9) "Fiscal year" means the period beginning on July 1 in any year and ending on June 30
7 of the next succeeding year.

8 (10) "Full actuarial costs" or "full actuarial value" mean the lump sum payable by a
9 member claiming service credit for certain employment for which payment is required, which is
10 determined according to the age of the member and his or her annual rate of compensation at the
11 time he or she applies for service credit, and which is expressed as a rate percent of the annual rate
12 of compensation to be multiplied by the number of years for which he or she claims the service
13 credit, as prescribed in a schedule adopted by the retirement board, from time to time, on the basis
14 of computation by the actuary. Except as provided in §§ 16-16-7.1, 36-5-3, 36-9-31, 36-10-10.4,
15 and 45-21-53: (i) All service credit purchases requested after June 16, 2009, and prior to July 1,
16 2012, shall be at full actuarial value; and (ii) All service credit purchases requested after June 30,
17 2012, shall be at full actuarial value which shall be determined using the system's assumed
18 investment rate of return minus one percent (1%).

19 (11) "Governing body" means any and all bodies empowered to appropriate monies for,
20 and administer the operation of, the units as defined in subdivision (1) of this section.

21 (12) "Member" means any person included in the membership of the retirement system as
22 provided in § 45-21-8.

23 (13) "Municipality" means any town or city in the state of Rhode Island, any city or town
24 housing authority, fire, water, sewer district, regional school district, public building authority as
25 established by chapter 14 of title 37, or any other municipal financed agency to which the retirement
26 board has approved admission in the retirement system.

27 (14) "Participating municipality" means any municipality which has accepted this chapter,
28 as provided in § 45-21-4.

29 (15) "Prior service" means service as a member rendered before the effective date of
30 participation as defined in this section, certified on his or her prior service certificate, and allowable
31 as provided in § 45-21-15.

32 (16) "Regular interest" means interest at the assumed investment rate of return,
33 compounded annually, as may be prescribed from time to time by the retirement board.

34 (17) "Retirement allowance" or "annuity" means the amounts paid to any member of the

1 municipal employees' retirement system of the state of Rhode Island, or a survivor of the member,
2 as provided in this chapter. All retirement allowances or annuities shall be paid in equal monthly
3 installments for life, unless otherwise specifically provided.

4 (18) "Retirement board" or "board" means the state retirement board created by chapter 8
5 of title 36.

6 (19) "Retirement system" means the "municipal employees' retirement system of the state
7 of Rhode Island" as defined in § 45-21-32.

8 (20) "Service" means service as an employee of a municipality of the state of Rhode Island
9 as defined in subdivision (7).

10 (21) "Total service" means prior service as defined in subdivision (15) plus service
11 rendered as a member on or after the effective date of participation.

12 (22) Any term not specifically defined in this chapter and specifically defined in chapters
13 8 through 10 of title 36 shall have the same definition as set forth in chapters 8 through 10 of title
14 36.

15 **45-21-52. Automatic increase in service retirement allowance.**

16 (a) The local legislative bodies of the cities and towns may extend to their respective
17 employees automatic adjustment increases in their service retirement allowances, by a resolution
18 accepting any of the plans described in this section:

19 (1) **Plan A.** All employees and beneficiaries of those employees receiving a service
20 retirement or disability retirement allowance under the provisions of this chapter on December 31
21 of the year their city or town accepts this section, receive a cost of living adjustment equal to one
22 and one-half percent (1.5%) per year of the original retirement allowance, not compounded, for
23 each calendar year the retirement allowance has been in effect. This cost of living adjustment is
24 added to the amount of the retirement allowance as of January 1 following acceptance of this
25 provision, and an additional one and one-half percent (1.5%) is added to the original retirement
26 allowance in each succeeding year during the month of January, and provided, further, that this
27 additional cost of living increase is three percent (3%) for the year beginning January 1 of the year
28 the plan is accepted and each succeeding year.

29 (2) **Plan B.** All employees and beneficiaries of those employees receiving a retirement
30 allowance under the provisions of this chapter on December 31 of the year their municipality
31 accepts this section, receive a cost of living adjustment equal to three percent (3%) of their original
32 retirement allowance. This adjustment is added to the amount of the retirement allowance as of
33 January 1 following acceptance of this provision, and an additional three percent (3%) of the
34 original retirement allowance, not compounded, is payable in each succeeding year in the month

1 of January.

2 (3) **Plan C.** All employees and beneficiaries of those employees who retire on or after
3 January 1 of the year following acceptance of this section, on the first day of January next following
4 the date of the retirement, receive a cost of living adjustment in an amount equal to three percent
5 (3%) of the original retirement allowance.

6 (b) In each succeeding year in the month of January, the retirement allowance is increased
7 an additional three percent (3%) of the original retirement allowance, not compounded.

8 (c) This subsection (c) shall be effective for the period July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015.

9 (1) Notwithstanding any other subsections of this section, and subject to subsection (c)(2)
10 below, for all present and former employees, active and retired members, and beneficiaries
11 receiving any retirement, disability or death allowance or benefit of any kind by reason of adoption
12 of this section by their employer, the annual benefit adjustment provided in any calendar year under
13 this section shall be equal to (A) multiplied by (B) where (A) is equal to the percentage determined
14 by subtracting five and one-half percent (5.5%) (the “subtrahend”) from the Five-Year Average
15 Investment Return of the retirement system determined as of the last day of the plan year preceding
16 the calendar year in which the adjustment is granted, said percentage not to exceed four percent
17 (4%) and not to be less than zero percent (0%), and (B) is equal to the lesser of the member’s
18 retirement allowance or the first twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) of retirement allowance,
19 such twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) amount to be indexed annually in the same percentage
20 as determined under (c)(1)(A) above. The “Five-Year Average Investment Return” shall mean the
21 average of the investment returns of the most recent five (5) plan years as determined by the
22 retirement board. Subject to subsection (c)(2) below, the benefit adjustment provided by this
23 subsection (c)(1) shall commence upon the third (3rd) anniversary of the date of retirement or the
24 date on which the retiree reaches his or her Social Security retirement age, whichever is later; or
25 for municipal police and fire retiring under the provisions of chapter 21.2 of this title, the benefit
26 adjustment provided by this subsection (c)(1) shall commence on the later of the third (3rd)
27 anniversary of the date of retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches age fifty-five (55). In
28 the event the retirement board adjusts the actuarially assumed rate of return for the system, either
29 upward or downward, the subtrahend shall be adjusted either upward or downward in the same
30 amount.

31 (2) Except as provided in subsection (c)(3) the benefit adjustments provided under this
32 section for any plan year shall be reduced to twenty-five percent (25%) of the benefit adjustment
33 for each municipal plan within the municipal employees retirement system unless the municipal
34 plan is determined to be funded at a Funded Ratio equal to or greater than eighty percent (80%) as

1 of the end of the immediately preceding plan year in accordance with the retirement system's
2 actuarial valuation report as prepared by the system's actuary, in which event the benefit adjustment
3 will be reinstated for all members for such plan year.

4 In determining whether a funding level under this subsection (c)(2) has been achieved, the
5 actuary shall calculate the funding percentage after taking into account the reinstatement of any
6 current or future benefit adjustment provided under this section.

7 (3) Notwithstanding subsection (c)(2), for each municipal plan that has a Funded Ratio of
8 less than eighty percent (80%) as of June 30, 2012, in each fifth plan year commencing after June
9 30, 2012, commencing with the plan year ending June 30, 2017, and subsequently at intervals of
10 five (5) plan years, a benefit adjustment shall be calculated and made in accordance with subsection
11 (c)(1) above until the municipal plan's Funded Ratio exceeds eighty percent (80%).

12 (d) This subsection (d) shall become effective July 1, 2015.

13 (1)(A) As soon as administratively reasonable following the enactment into law of this
14 subsection (d)(1)(A), a one-time benefit adjustment shall be provided to members and/or
15 beneficiaries of members who retired on or before June 30, 2012, in the amount of two percent
16 (2%) of the lesser of either the employee's retirement allowance or the first twenty-five thousand
17 dollars (\$25,000) of the member's retirement allowance. This one-time benefit adjustment shall be
18 provided without regard to the retiree's age or number of years since retirement.

19 (B) Notwithstanding the prior subsections of this section, for all present and former
20 employees, active and retired employees, and beneficiaries receiving any retirement, disability or
21 death allowance or benefit of any kind by reason of adoption of this section by their employer, the
22 annual benefit adjustment provided in any calendar year under this section for adjustments on and
23 after January 1, 2016, and subject to subsection (d)(2) below, shall be equal to (I) multiplied by
24 (II):

25 (I) shall equal the sum of fifty percent (50%) of (i) plus fifty percent (50%) of (ii) where:

26 (i) is equal to the percentage determined by subtracting five and one-half percent (5.5%)
27 (the "subtrahend") from the five-year average investment return of the retirement system
28 determined as of the last day of the plan year preceding the calendar year in which the adjustment
29 is granted, said percentage not to exceed four percent (4%) and not to be less than zero percent
30 (0%). The "five-year average investment return" shall mean the average of the investment returns
31 of the most recent five (5) plan years as determined by the retirement board. In the event the
32 retirement board adjusts the actuarially assumed rate of return for the system, either upward or
33 downward, the subtrahend shall be adjusted either upward or downward in the same amount.

34 (ii) is equal to the lesser of three percent (3%) or the percentage increase in the Consumer

1 Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as published by the U.S. Department of Labor
2 Statistics determined as of September 30 of the prior calendar year.

3 In no event shall the sum of (i) plus (ii) exceed three and one-half percent (3.5%) or be less
4 than zero percent (0%).

5 (II) is equal to the lesser of either the member's retirement allowance or the first twenty-
6 five thousand eight hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$25,855) of retirement allowance, such amount
7 to be indexed annually in the same percentage as determined under (d)(1)(B)(I) above.

8 The benefit adjustments provided by this subsection (d)(1)(B) shall be provided to all
9 retirees entitled to receive a benefit adjustment as of June 30, 2012, under the law then in effect,
10 and for all other retirees the benefit adjustments shall commence upon the third anniversary of the
11 date of retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches his or her Social Security retirement age,
12 whichever is later; or for municipal police and fire retiring under the provisions of § 45-21.2-
13 5(b)(1)(A), the benefit adjustment provided by this subsection (d)(1)(B) shall commence on the
14 later of the third anniversary of the date of retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches age
15 fifty-five (55); or for municipal police and fire retiring under the provisions of § 45-21.2-5(b)(1)(B),
16 the benefit adjustment provided by this subsection (d)(1)(B) shall commence on the later of the
17 third anniversary of the date of retirement or the date on which the retiree reaches age fifty (50).

18 (2) Except for municipal employees and /or beneficiaries of municipal employees who
19 retired on or before June 30, 2012, the ~~The~~ benefit adjustments under subsection (d)(1)(B) for any
20 plan year shall be reduced to twenty-five percent (25%) of the benefit adjustment for each
21 municipal plan within the municipal employees retirement system unless the municipal plan is
22 determined to be funded at a funded ratio equal to or greater than eighty percent (80%) as of the
23 end of the immediately preceding plan year in accordance with the retirement system's actuarial
24 valuation report as prepared by the system's actuary, in which event the benefit adjustment will be
25 reinstated for all members for such plan year. Effective July 1, 2024, the funded ratio for each
26 municipal plan within the municipal employees' retirement system, calculated by the system's
27 actuary, of equal to or greater than eighty percent (80%) for the benefit adjustment to be reinstated
28 for all members for such plan year shall be replaced with seventy-five percent (75%).

29 In determining whether a funding level under this subsection (d)(2) has been achieved, the
30 actuary shall calculate the funding percentage after taking into account the reinstatement of any
31 current or future benefit adjustment provided under this section.

32 (3) Effective for members and/or beneficiaries of members who retired after June 30, 2012,
33 or on or before June 30, 2015, the dollar amount in (d)(1)(B)(II) of twenty-five thousand eight
34 hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$25,855) shall be replaced with thirty-one thousand and twenty-six

1 dollars (\$31,026) until the municipal plan’s funded ratio exceeds eighty percent (80%). Effective
2 July 1, 2024, the funded ratio for each municipal plan within the municipal employees’ retirement
3 system, calculated by the system’s actuary, of exceeding eighty percent (80%) for the benefit
4 adjustment to be reinstated for all members for such plan year shall be replaced with seventy-five
5 percent (75%).

6 (e) Upon acceptance of any of the plans in this section, each employee shall on January 1
7 next succeeding the acceptance, contribute by means of salary deductions, pursuant to § 45-21-41,
8 one percent (1%) of the employee’s compensation concurrently with and in addition to
9 contributions otherwise being made to the retirement system.

10 (f) The city or town shall make any additional contributions to the system, pursuant to the
11 terms of § 45-21-42, for the payment of any benefits provided by this section.

12 (g) The East Greenwich town council shall be allowed to accept Plan C of subsection (a)(3)
13 of this section for all employees of the town of East Greenwich who either, pursuant to contract
14 negotiations, bargain for Plan C, or who are non-union employees who are provided with Plan C
15 and who shall all collectively be referred to as the “Municipal-COLA Group” and shall be separate
16 from all other employees of the town and school department, union or non-union, who are in the
17 same pension group but have not been granted Plan C benefits. Upon acceptance by the town
18 council, benefits in accordance with this section shall be available to all such employees who retire
19 on or after January 1, 2003.

20 (h) Effective for members and/or beneficiaries of members who have retired on or before
21 July 1, 2015, and without regard to whether the retired member or beneficiary is receiving a benefit
22 adjustment under this section, a one-time stipend of five hundred dollars (\$500) shall be payable
23 within sixty (60) days following the enactment of the legislation implementing this provision, and
24 a second one-time stipend of five hundred dollars (\$500) in the same month of the following year.
25 These stipends shall not be considered cost of living adjustments under the prior provisions of this
26 section.

27 SECTION 10. Section 45-21.2-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 45-21.2 entitled "Optional
28 Retirement for Members of Police Force and Firefighters" is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 **45-21.2-2. Definitions.**

30 As used in this chapter, the words defined in § 45-21-2 have the same meanings stated in
31 that section except that “employee” means any regular and permanent police official or officer and
32 any regular and permanent fire fighter. The retirement board shall determine who are employees
33 within the meaning of this chapter; and “final compensation” means for members who retire on or
34 prior to June 30, 2012, the average annual compensation, pay or salary of a member for services

1 rendered during the period of three (3) consecutive years within the total service of the member
2 when that average was highest. Effective on and after July 1, 2012, “final compensation” means
3 the average annual compensation of a member for services rendered during the period of the highest
4 five (5) consecutive years within the total service of the member, and compensation shall be defined
5 in accordance with § 36-8-1(8). For members eligible to and who retire on or after July 1, 2024,
6 “final compensation” means the average of the highest three (3) consecutive years of compensation
7 within the total service when the final compensation was the highest. Notwithstanding the prior
8 sentence, in no event shall a member’s final compensation be less than the member’s final
9 compensation on or before June 30, 2012.

10 SECTION 11. This article shall take effect upon passage.

ARTICLE 13

RELATING TO MAKING REVISED APPROPRIATIONS IN SUPPORT OF FY 2024

SECTION 1. Subject to the conditions, limitations, and restrictions hereinafter contained in this act, the following general revenue amounts are hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated to be expended during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. The amounts identified for federal funds and restricted receipts shall be made available pursuant to § 35-4-22 and chapter 41 of title 42. For the purposes and functions hereinafter mentioned, the state controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw the state controller's orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of such sums or such portions thereof as may be required from time to time upon receipt by the state controller of properly authenticated vouchers.

	FY 2024	FY 2024	FY 2024
	Enacted	Change	FINAL
Administration			
<i>Central Management</i>			
General Revenues	3,419,152	1,969,052	5,388,204
<u>Provided that \$2,000,000 shall be allocated to support a state workforce compensation and classification study, of which all unexpended or unencumbered balances, at the end of the fiscal year, shall be reappropriated to the ensuing fiscal year and made immediately available for the same purposes.</u>			
<i>Federal Funds</i>			
Federal Funds	54,029,495	(48,729,495)	5,300,000
<i>Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund</i>			
Public Health Response Warehouse Support	1,400,000	1,619,007	3,019,007
Ongoing COVID-19 Response	41,787,709	(41,787,709)	0
Municipal Public Safety Infrastructure	11,000,000	0	11,000,000
Total – Central Management	111,636,356	(86,929,145)	24,707,211
<i>Legal Services</i>			
General Revenues	2,440,410	(30,835)	2,409,575
<i>Accounts and Control</i>			
General Revenues	5,315,642	75,785	5,391,427

1	Federal Funds			
2	Federal Funds – Capital Projects Fund			
3	CPF Administration	4,828,079	(4,828,079)	0
4	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
5	Pandemic Recovery Office	6,918,788	(6,918,788)	0
6	Restricted Receipts – OPEB Board Administration	197,320	(43,478)	153,842
7	Restricted Receipts – Grants Management			
8	Administration	2,507,384	6,495	2,513,879
9	Total – Accounts and Control	19,767,213	(11,708,065)	8,059,148
10	<i>Office of Management and Budget</i>			
11	General Revenues	9,431,527	(149,040)	9,282,487
12	Federal Funds			
13	Federal Funds	101,250	0	101,250
14	Federal Funds – Capital Projects Fund			
15	CPF Administration	0	4,836,613	4,836,613
16	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
17	Pandemic Recovery Office	0	4,132,051	4,132,051
18	Restricted Receipts	300,000	0	300,000
19	Other Funds	1,220,255	(619,461)	600,794
20	Total – Office of Management and Budget	11,053,032	8,200,163	19,253,195
21	<i>Purchasing</i>			
22	General Revenues	3,868,405	(162,745)	3,705,660
23	Restricted Receipts	446,294	363,029	809,323
24	Other Funds	612,914	(42,928)	569,986
25	Total – Purchasing	4,927,613	157,356	5,084,969
26	<i>Human Resources</i>			
27	General Revenues	937,996	(7,257)	930,739
28	<i>Personnel Appeal Board</i>			
29	General Revenues	100,881	(513)	100,368
30	<i>Information Technology</i>			
31	General Revenues	14,221,340	(250,000)	13,971,340
32	Provided that of this general revenue amount, \$13,000,000 shall be transferred to the large			
33	systems initiatives fund by July 14, 2023.			
34	Restricted Receipts	6,333,491	8,030,563	14,364,054

1	Total – Information Technology	20,554,831	7,780,563	28,335,394
2	<i>Library and Information Services</i>			
3	General Revenues	1,903,636	5,879	1,909,515
4	Federal Funds	1,565,679	(26,137)	1,539,542
5	Restricted Receipts	6,990	0	6,990
6	Total – Library and Information Services	3,476,305	(20,258)	3,456,047
7	<i>Planning</i>			
8	General Revenues	1,138,335	(148,172)	990,163
9	Federal Funds	3,050	0	3,050
10	Restricted Receipts	0	50,000	50,000
11	Other Funds			
12	Air Quality Modeling	24,000	0	24,000
13	Federal Highway – PL Systems Planning	3,321,572	200,087	3,521,659
14	State Transportation Planning Match	385,317	51,578	436,895
15	FTA – Metro Planning Grant	1,733,742	(306,528)	1,427,214
16	Total-Planning	6,606,016	(153,035)	6,452,981
17	<i>General</i>			
18	General Revenues			
19	Miscellaneous Grants/Payments	130,000	0	130,000
20	Provided that this amount be allocated to City Year for the Whole School Whole Child			
21	Program, which provides individualized support to at-risk students.			
22	Torts Court Awards	675,000	825,000	1,500,000
23	Wrongful Conviction Awards	250,000	(49,500)	200,500
24	Resource Sharing and State Library Aid	11,475,314	0	11,475,314
25	Library Construction Aid	1,909,317	0	1,909,317
26	Defeasance of Existing Debt	35,000,000	0	35,000,000
27	Federal Funds – Capital Projects Fund			
28	Community Learning Center Municipal and Higher Ed Matching			
29	Grant Program	58,360,065	23,360,065	81,720,130
30	Restricted Receipts	700,000	0	700,000
31	Other Funds			
32	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
33	Security Measures State Buildings	500,000	71,247	571,247
34	Energy Efficiency Improvements	1,000,000	1,311,571	2,311,571

1	Cranston Street Armory	2,250,000	(2,000,000)	250,000
2	State House Renovations	6,389,000	90,874	6,479,874
3	Zambarano Buildings and Campus	7,245,000	5,975,000	13,220,000
4	Replacement of Fueling Tanks	430,000	684,201	1,114,201
5	Environmental Compliance	200,000	602,286	802,286
6	Big River Management Area	200,000	423,210	623,210
7	Shepard Building Upgrades	1,500,000	2,200,000	3,700,000
8	RI Convention Center Authority	10,237,500	0	10,237,500
9	Accessibility – Facility Renovations	1,180,000	(191,357)	988,643
10	DoIT Enterprise Operations Center	4,140,000	(3,506,784)	633,216
11	BHDDH MH & Community Facilities –			
12	Asset Protection	950,000	103,972	1,053,972
13	BHDDH DD & Community Homes – Fire Code	325,000	290,828	615,828
14	BHDDH DD Regional Facilities –			
15	Asset Protection	1,800,000	1,046,156	2,846,156
16	BHDDH Substance Abuse Asset Protection	600,000	265,141	865,141
17	BHDDH Group Homes	1,350,000	359,571	1,709,571
18	Statewide Facility Master Plan	2,000,000	(1,365,000)	635,000
19	Cannon Building	3,725,000	(3,525,000)	200,000
20	Old State House	100,000	357,646	457,646
21	State Office Building	100,000	142,404	242,404
22	State Office Reorganization & Relocation	1,450,000	612,510	2,062,510
23	William Powers Building	4,750,000	850,000	5,600,000
24	Pastore Center Non-Hospital Buildings			
25	Asset Protection	10,330,000	3,305,869	13,635,869
26	Washington County Government Center	650,000	0	650,000
27	Chapin Health Laboratory	425,000	350,000	775,000
28	560 Jefferson Blvd Asset Protection	1,750,000	0	1,750,000
29	Arrigan Center	125,000	0	125,000
30	Civic Center	6,212,500	0	6,212,500
31	Pastore Center Buildings Demolition	1,000,000	0	1,000,000
32	Veterans Auditorium	100,000	0	100,000
33	Pastore Center Hospital Buildings Asset Protection	500,000	500,000	1,000,000
34	Pastore Campus Infrastructure	25,000,000	(2,835,471)	22,164,529

1	Pastore Center Power Plant Rehabilitation	450,000	90,183	540,183
2	Community Facilities Asset Protection	70,000	182,300	252,300
3	Zambarano LTAC Hospital	6,569,677	(5,069,677)	1,500,000
4	Medical Examiners – New Facility	5,168,529	150,000	5,318,529
5	Group Home Replacement & Rehabilitation	5,000,000	0	5,000,000
6	State Land Use Planning Study	250,000	0	250,000
7	Total – General	224,521,902	25,607,245	250,129,147
8	<i>Debt Service Payments</i>			
9	General Revenues	182,821,772	(6,858,597)	175,963,175
10	Out of the general revenue appropriations for debt service, the general treasurer is			
11	authorized to make payments for the I-195 redevelopment district commission loan up to the			
12	maximum debt service due in accordance with the loan agreement.			
13	Other Funds			
14	Transportation Debt Service	35,226,154	0	35,226,154
15	Investment Receipts – Bond Funds	100,000	0	100,000
16	Total – Debt Service Payments	218,147,926	(6,858,597)	211,289,329
17	<i>Energy Resources</i>			
18	Federal Funds			
19	Federal Funds	1,628,101	13,481,592	15,109,693
20	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
21	Electric Heat Pump Grant Program	20,000,000	5,000,000	25,000,000
22	Restricted Receipts	21,905,399	2,904,583	24,809,982
23	Other Funds	4,000,000	(737,316)	3,262,684
24	Total – Energy Resources	47,533,500	20,648,859	68,182,359
25	<i>Rhode Island Health Benefits Exchange</i>			
26	General Revenues	4,744,746	(1,334,035)	3,410,711
27	Federal Funds			
28	Federal Funds	9,733,677	0	9,733,677
29	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
30	Auto-Enrollment Program	1,325,358	(48,768)	1,276,590
31	Restricted Receipts	16,089,640	(382,643)	15,706,997
32	Total – Rhode Island Health Benefits Exchange	31,893,421	(1,765,446)	30,127,975
33	<i>Division of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion</i>			
34	General Revenues	1,898,258	(222,708)	1,675,550

1	Other Funds	109,062	(4,066)	104,996
2	Total – Division of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion	2,007,320	(226,774)	1,780,546
3	<i>Capital Asset Management and Maintenance</i>			
4	General Revenues	12,161,961	(2,767,591)	9,394,370
5	Grand Total – Administration	717,766,683	(48,073,330)	669,693,353
6	Business Regulation			
7	<i>Central Management</i>			
8	General Revenues	4,609,968	(413,547)	4,196,421
9	<i>Banking Regulation</i>			
10	General Revenues	1,801,125	64,030	1,865,155
11	Restricted Receipts	63,000	0	63,000
12	Total – Banking Regulation	1,864,125	64,030	1,928,155
13	<i>Securities Regulation</i>			
14	General Revenues	865,851	851	866,702
15	Restricted Receipts	15,000	(15,000)	0
16	Total – Securities Regulation	880,851	(14,149)	866,702
17	<i>Insurance Regulation</i>			
18	General Revenues	4,669,856	(343,908)	4,325,948
19	Restricted Receipts	1,883,195	(13,951)	1,869,244
20	Total – Insurance Regulation	6,553,051	(357,859)	6,195,192
21	<i>Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner</i>			
22	General Revenues	2,933,710	(177,147)	2,756,563
23	Federal Funds	322,958	588,776	911,734
24	Restricted Receipts	522,210	(23,518)	498,692
25	Total – Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner	3,778,878	388,111	4,166,989
26	<i>Board of Accountancy</i>			
27	General Revenues	5,490	0	5,490
28	<i>Commercial Licensing and Gaming and Athletics Licensing</i>			
29	General Revenues	1,194,966	(221,817)	973,149
30	Restricted Receipts	888,870	104,902	993,772
31	Total – Commercial Licensing and Gaming and			
32	Athletics Licensing	2,083,836	(116,915)	1,966,921
33	<i>Building, Design and Fire Professionals</i>			
34	General Revenues	8,290,502	541,157	8,831,659

1	Federal Funds	318,545	127,318	445,863
2	Restricted Receipts	2,033,537	(269,720)	1,763,817
3	Other Funds			
4	Quonset Development Corporation	71,915	(6,934)	64,981
5	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
6	Fire Academy Expansion	5,715,000	(5,115,000)	600,000
7	Total – Building, Design and Fire Professionals	16,429,499	(4,723,179)	11,706,320
8	<i>Office of Cannabis Regulation</i>			
9	Restricted Receipts	6,117,205	(381,772)	5,735,433
10	Grand Total – Business Regulation	42,322,903	(5,555,280)	36,767,623
11	Executive Office of Commerce			
12	<i>Central Management</i>			
13	General Revenues	2,249,368	(101,354)	2,148,014
14	<i>Quasi-Public Appropriations</i>			
15	General Revenues			
16	Rhode Island Commerce Corporation	8,290,488	0	8,290,488
17	Airport Impact Aid	1,010,036	0	1,010,036
18	Sixty percent (60%) of the first \$1,000,000 appropriated for airport impact aid shall be			
19	distributed to each airport serving more than 1,000,000 passengers based upon its percentage of the			
20	total passengers served by all airports serving more than 1,000,000 passengers. Forty percent (40%)			
21	of the first \$1,000,000 shall be distributed based on the share of landings during calendar year 2023			
22	at North Central Airport, Newport-Middletown Airport, Block Island Airport, Quonset Airport,			
23	T.F. Green International Airport and Westerly Airport, respectively. The Rhode Island commerce			
24	corporation shall make an impact payment to the towns or cities in which the airport is located			
25	based on this calculation. Each community upon which any part of the above airports is located			
26	shall receive at least \$25,000.			
27	STAC Research Alliance	900,000	0	900,000
28	Innovative Matching Grants/Internships	1,000,000	0	1,000,000
29	I-195 Redevelopment District Commission	1,245,050	0	1,245,050
30	Polaris Manufacturing Grant	450,000	0	450,000
31	East Providence Waterfront Commission	50,000	0	50,000
32	Urban Ventures	140,000	0	140,000
33	Chafee Center at Bryant	476,200	0	476,200
34	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			

1	Port of Davisville	59,000,000	0	59,000,000
2	Other Funds			
3	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
4	I-195 Redevelopment District Commission	805,000	158,819	963,819
5	Total – Quasi-Public Appropriations	73,366,774	158,819	73,525,593
6	<i>Economic Development Initiatives Fund</i>			
7	General Revenues			
8	Innovation Initiative	2,000,000	0	2,000,000
9	Rebuild RI Tax Credit Fund	26,360,000	0	26,360,000
10	Small Business Promotion	1,000,000	0	1,000,000
11	Small Business Assistance	2,000,000	0	2,000,000
12	I-195 Redevelopment Fund	2,000,000	0	2,000,000
13	First Wave Closing Fund	10,000,000	0	10,000,000
14	Federal Funds			
15	Federal Funds	20,000,000	0	20,000,000
16	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
17	Destination Marketing	1,500,000	600,368	2,100,368
18	Total – Economic Development Initiatives Fund	64,860,000	600,368	65,460,368
19	<i>Commerce Programs</i>			
20	General Revenues			
21	Wavemaker Fellowship	4,000,000	0	4,000,000
22	Air Service Development Fund	2,250,000	0	2,250,000
23	Main Streets Revitalization	1,000,000	0	1,000,000
24	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
25	Minority Business Accelerator	4,000,000	999,940	4,999,940
26	Bioscience Investments	45,000,000	0	45,000,000
27	South Quay Marine Terminal	35,000,000	(35,000,000)	0
28	Small Business Assistance	327,999	1,559,853	1,887,852
29	Federal Funds – Capital Projects Fund			
30	Broadband	9,573,500	15,383,000	24,956,500
31	Total – Commerce Programs	101,151,499	(17,057,207)	84,094,292
32	Grand Total – Executive Office of Commerce	241,627,641	(16,399,374)	225,228,267
33	Housing			
34	<i>Central Management</i>			

1	General Revenues	32,997,895	(1,503,389)	31,494,506
2	Federal Funds			
3	Federal Funds	15,493,898	(209,072)	15,284,826
4	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
5	Predevelopment and Capacity Building	500,000	389,731	889,731
6	Development of Affordable Housing	55,000,000	30,259,175	85,259,175
7	Homelessness Assistance Program	13,000,000	2,942,397	15,942,397
8	Site Acquisition	10,000,000	0	10,000,000
9	Down Payment Assistance	20,000,000	0	20,000,000
10	Workforce Housing	8,000,000	12,000,000	20,000,000
11	Affordable Housing Predevelopment Program	7,500,000	0	7,500,000
12	Home Repair and Community Revitalization	9,500,000	15,000,000	24,500,000
13	Homelessness Infrastructure	30,000,000	11,285,088	41,285,088
14	Proactive Housing Development	1,400,000	0	1,400,000
15	Targeted Housing Development	31,000,000	(5,000,000)	26,000,000
16	Housing Related Infrastructure	4,300,000	(1,300,000)	3,000,000
17	Preservation of Affordable Units	500,000	0	500,000
18	Municipal Planning	2,300,000	0	2,300,000
19	Municipal Homelessness Support Initiative	2,500,000	(300,000)	2,200,000
20	Statewide Housing Plan	0	2,000,000	2,000,000
21	Restricted Receipts	7,664,150	0	7,664,150
22	Grand Total – Housing	251,655,943	65,563,930	317,219,873
23	Labor and Training			
24	<i>Central Management</i>			
25	General Revenues	1,465,751	356	1,466,107
26	Restricted Receipts	375,872	(72,289)	303,583
27	Total – Central Management	1,841,623	(71,933)	1,769,690
28	<i>Workforce Development Services</i>			
29	General Revenues	1,107,295	328,512	1,435,807
30	Provided that \$200,000 of this amount is used to support Year Up.			
31	Federal Funds	26,734,994	6,994,565	33,729,559
32	Other Funds	0	44,531	44,531
33	Total – Workforce Development Services	27,842,289	7,367,608	35,209,897
34	<i>Workforce Regulation and Safety</i>			

1	General Revenues	4,828,609	9,255	4,837,864
2	<i>Income Support</i>			
3	General Revenues	3,691,640	105,809	3,797,449
4	Federal Funds	27,968,384	(7,324,000)	20,644,384
5	Restricted Receipts	2,422,361	142,723	2,565,084
6	Other Funds			
7	Temporary Disability Insurance Fund	262,177,859	(166,238)	262,011,621
8	Employment Security Fund	142,775,000	69,225,000	212,000,000
9	Total – Income Support	439,035,244	61,983,294	501,018,538
10	<i>Injured Workers Services</i>			
11	Restricted Receipts	10,320,752	(245,063)	10,075,689
12	<i>Labor Relations Board</i>			
13	General Revenues	553,932	1,657	555,589
14	<i>Governor’s Workforce Board</i>			
15	General Revenues	6,050,000	4,048,066	10,098,066
16	Provided that \$600,000 of these funds shall be used for enhanced training for direct care			
17	and support services staff to improve resident quality of care and address the changing health care			
18	needs of nursing facility residents due to higher acuity and increased cognitive impairments			
19	pursuant to § 23-17.5-36.			
20	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
21	Enhanced Real Jobs	20,000,000	394,442	20,394,442
22	Restricted Receipts	17,161,583	1,182,570	18,344,153
23	Total – Governor’s Workforce Board	43,211,583	5,625,078	48,836,661
24	Grand Total – Labor and Training	527,634,032	74,669,896	602,303,928
25	Department of Revenue			
26	<i>Director of Revenue</i>			
27	General Revenues	2,348,848	144,579	2,493,427
28	<i>Office of Revenue Analysis</i>			
29	General Revenues	983,531	27,466	1,010,997
30	<i>Lottery Division</i>			
31	Other Funds			
32	Other Funds	390,909,764	31,793,979	422,703,743
33	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
34	Lottery Building Enhancements	850,000	(690,000)	160,000

1	Total – Lottery Division	391,759,764	31,103,979	422,863,743
2	<i>Municipal Finance</i>			
3	General Revenues	1,759,431	(135,254)	1,624,177
4	<i>Taxation</i>			
5	General Revenues	34,604,969	(735,451)	33,869,518
6	Restricted Receipts	5,067,295	(252,978)	4,814,317
7	Other Funds			
8	Motor Fuel Tax Evasion	175,000	0	175,000
9	Total – Taxation	39,847,264	(988,429)	38,858,835
10	<i>Registry of Motor Vehicles</i>			
11	General Revenues	31,812,522	5,419,495	37,232,017
12	<u>Provided that all unexpended or unencumbered balances as of June 30, 2024 relating to</u>			
13	<u>both the license plate reissuance and implementation of a mobile DMV are hereby reappropriated</u>			
14	<u>to the following fiscal year.</u>			
15	Federal Funds	825,339	(30,382)	794,957
16	Restricted Receipts	3,494,403	165,237	3,659,640
17	Total – Registry of Motor Vehicles	36,132,264	5,554,350	41,686,614
18	<i>State Aid</i>			
19	General Revenues			
20	Distressed Communities Relief Fund	12,384,458	0	12,384,458
21	Payment in Lieu of Tax Exempt Properties	49,201,412	0	49,201,412
22	Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Payments	234,712,307	0	234,712,307
23	Property Revaluation Program	906,329	0	906,329
24	Tangible Tax Exemption Program	28,000,000	(28,000,000)	0
25	Provided that all unexpended or unencumbered balances as of June 30, 2024, appropriated			
26	for tangible tax exemption reimbursements pursuant to Rhode Island General Law, Chapter 44-5.3			
27	are hereby reappropriated to the following fiscal year.			
28	Restricted Receipts	995,120	0	995,120
29	Total – State Aid	326,199,626	(28,000,000)	298,199,626
30	<i>Collections</i>			
31	General Revenues	1,002,552	(70,604)	931,948
32	Grand Total – Revenue	800,033,280	7,636,087	807,669,367
33	Legislature			
34	General Revenues	50,998,683	6,473,334	57,472,017

1	Restricted Receipts	2,090,093	315,154	2,405,247
2	Grand Total – Legislature	53,088,776	6,788,488	59,877,264
3	Lieutenant Governor			
4	General Revenues	1,411,331	3,060	1,414,391
5	Secretary of State			
6	<i>Administration</i>			
7	General Revenues	4,639,961	253,374	4,893,335
8	Provided that \$100,000 be allocated to support the Rhode Island Council for the			
9	Humanities for grant making to civic and cultural organizations, and \$50,000 to support Rhode			
10	Island’s participation in the We the People Civics Challenge.			
11	<i>Corporations</i>			
12	General Revenues	2,815,916	3,733	2,819,649
13	<i>State Archives</i>			
14	General Revenues	198,351	130,654	329,005
15	Restricted Receipts	558,028	(173,753)	384,275
16	Total – State Archives	756,379	(43,099)	713,280
17	<i>Elections and Civics</i>			
18	General Revenues	2,676,107	(1,139,694)	1,536,413
19	Federal Funds	2,001,207	0	2,001,207
20	Total – Elections and Civics	4,677,314	(1,139,694)	3,537,620
21	<i>State Library</i>			
22	General Revenues	879,042	(236,318)	642,724
23	Provided that \$125,000 be allocated to support the Rhode Island Historical Society and			
24	\$18,000 be allocated to support the Newport Historical Society, pursuant to §§ 29-2-1 and 29-2-2,			
25	and \$25,000 be allocated to support the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society.			
26	<i>Office of Public Information</i>			
27	General Revenues	630,466	50,652	681,118
28	Restricted Receipts	25,000	0	25,000
29	Total – Office of Public Information	655,466	50,652	706,118
30	Grand Total – Secretary of State	14,424,078	(1,111,352)	13,312,726
31	General Treasurer			
32	<i>Treasury</i>			
33	General Revenues	3,096,255	9,638	3,105,893
34	Federal Funds	343,876	(8,450)	335,426

1	Other Funds			
2	Temporary Disability Insurance Fund	262,277	(13,050)	249,227
3	Tuition Savings Program – Administration	432,979	(87,257)	345,722
4	Total -Treasury	4,135,387	(99,119)	4,036,268
5	<i>State Retirement System</i>			
6	Restricted Receipts			
7	Admin Expenses – State Retirement System	13,111,836	(439,596)	12,672,240
8	Retirement – Treasury Investment Operations	1,979,142	125,014	2,104,156
9	Defined Contribution – Administration	328,028	(46,032)	281,996
10	Total – State Retirement System	15,419,006	(360,614)	15,058,392
11	<i>Unclaimed Property</i>			
12	Restricted Receipts	2,604,026	154,736	2,758,762
13	<i>Crime Victim Compensation</i>			
14	General Revenues	899,553	(25,428)	874,125
15	Federal Funds	422,493	6,000	428,493
16	Restricted Receipts	555,000	(175,000)	380,000
17	Total – Crime Victim Compensation	1,877,046	(194,428)	1,682,618
18	Grand Total – General Treasurer	24,035,465	(499,425)	23,536,040
19	Board of Elections			
20	General Revenues	3,981,728	1,032,952	5,014,680
21	Rhode Island Ethics Commission			
22	General Revenues	2,137,059	25,595	2,162,654
23	Office of Governor			
24	General Revenues			
25	General Revenues	8,256,547	(119,304)	8,137,243
26	Contingency Fund	150,000	0	150,000
27	Grand Total – Office of Governor	8,406,547	(119,304)	8,287,243
28	Commission for Human Rights			
29	General Revenues	2,009,246	62,456	2,071,702
30	Federal Funds	359,101	58,848	417,949
31	Grand Total – Commission for Human Rights	2,368,347	121,304	2,489,651
32	Public Utilities Commission			
33	Federal Funds	593,775	108,612	702,387
34	Restricted Receipts	13,667,525	(383,167)	13,284,358

1	Grand Total – Public Utilities Commission	14,261,300	(274,555)	13,986,745
2	Office of Health and Human Services			
3	<i>Central Management</i>			
4	General Revenues	47,288,469	(742,898)	46,545,571
5	Provided that \$220,000 <u>\$222,000</u> shall be for the children’s cabinet, established under			
6	chapter 7.5 of title 42, to assist with the planning for an early childhood governance structure of			
7	and for the transition of established early childhood programs to such an office.			
8	Federal Funds	172,720,592	(8,656,981)	164,063,611
9	Provided that \$250,000 shall be for the Executive Office to develop an Olmstead Plan.			
10	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
11	Butler Hospital Short Term Stay Unit	0	7,399,820	7,399,820
12	Pediatric Recovery	0	3,698,010	3,698,010
13	Early Intervention Recovery	0	1,450,000	1,450,000
14	Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics	0	25,095,405	25,095,405
15	Restricted Receipts	33,522,192	5,125,961	38,648,153
16	Total – Central Management	253,531,253	33,369,317	286,900,570
17	<i>Medical Assistance</i>			
18	General Revenues			
19	Managed Care	452,752,540	(7,015,203)	445,737,337
20	Hospitals	121,333,847	4,648,010	125,981,857
21	Of the general revenue funding, \$2.5 million shall be provided for graduate medical			
22	education programs of which \$1.0 million is for hospitals designated as a Level I Trauma Center,			
23	\$1.0 million is for hospitals providing neonatal intensive care unit level of care, and \$0.5 million is			
24	for the residential training program at Landmark Hospital.			
25	Nursing Facilities	152,569,575	(4,464,825)	148,104,750
26	Home and Community Based Services	59,029,500	10,664,250	69,693,750
27	Other Services	161,342,668	(24,619,384)	136,723,284
28	Pharmacy	96,525,250	(4,209,955)	92,315,295
29	Rhody Health	223,304,955	(14,937,955)	208,367,000
30	Federal Funds			
31	Managed Care	617,201,624	(22,438,961)	594,762,663
32	Hospitals	240,332,049	424,967	240,757,016
33	Nursing Facilities	192,220,425	(5,625,175)	186,595,250
34	Home and Community Based Services	74,370,500	13,435,750	87,806,250

1	Other Services	840,530,263	(130,868,548)	709,661,715
2	Pharmacy	474,750	(990,045)	(515,295)
3	Rhody Health	278,696,684	(18,663,684)	260,033,000
4	Other Programs	32,247,569	665,514	32,913,083
5	Restricted Receipts	18,550,306	(3,884,581)	14,665,725
6	Total – Medical Assistance	3,561,482,505	(207,879,825)	3,353,602,680
7	Grand Total – Office of Health and			
8	Human Services	3,815,013,758	(174,510,508)	3,640,503,250
9	Children, Youth and Families			
10	<i>Central Management</i>			
11	General Revenues	14,968,321	(968,719)	13,999,602
12	The director of the department of children, youth and families shall provide to the speaker			
13	of the house and president of the senate at least every sixty (60) days beginning September 1, 2021,			
14	a report on its progress implementing the accreditation plan filed in accordance with § 42-72-5.3			
15	and any projected changes needed to effectuate that plan. The report shall, at minimum, provide			
16	data regarding recruitment and retention efforts including attaining and maintaining a diverse			
17	workforce, documentation of newly filled and vacated positions, and progress towards reducing			
18	worker caseloads.			
19	Federal Funds	26,232,025	1,435,949	27,667,974
20	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
21	Provider Workforce Stabilization	7,920,766	357,545	8,278,311
22	Provided that these funds be used for workforce stabilization supplemental wage payments			
23	and sign-on bonuses to eligible direct care and support care staff only until a contracted service			
24	provider’s new contract takes effect at which time payments cease.			
25	Foster Home Lead Abatement & Fire Safety	375,000	(375,000)	0
26	Total – Central Management	49,496,112	449,775	49,945,887
27	<i>Children's Behavioral Health Services</i>			
28	General Revenues	8,714,168	(1,183,526)	7,530,642
29	<u>Notwithstanding the provision of § 35-3-15 of the general laws, all unexpended or</u>			
30	<u>unencumbered balances as of June 30, 2024 are hereby reappropriated to fiscal year 2025.</u>			
31	Federal Funds	8,767,860	(131,974)	8,635,886
32	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
33	Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility	0	9,574,553	9,574,553
34	Total – Children's Behavioral Health Services	17,482,028	8,259,053	25,741,081

1	<i>Youth Development Services</i>			
2	General Revenues	23,178,477	(759,210)	22,419,267
3	Federal Funds	193,194	71,305	264,499
4	Restricted Receipts	141,260	(139,760)	1,500
5	Other Funds			
6	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
7	Training School Asset Protection	250,000	0	250,000
8	Residential Treatment Facility	15,000,000	0	15,000,000
9	Total – Youth Development Services	38,762,931	(827,665)	37,935,266
10	<i>Child Welfare</i>			
11	General Revenues	170,201,780	(5,215,597)	164,986,183
12	<u>Notwithstanding the provision of § 35-3-15 of the general laws, all unexpended or</u>			
13	<u>unencumbered balances as of June 30, 2024 are hereby reappropriated to fiscal year 2025.</u>			
14	Federal Funds	88,869,694	(7,259,654)	81,610,040
15	Restricted Receipts	1,349,863	(685,553)	664,310
16	Total – Child Welfare	260,421,337	(13,160,804)	247,260,533
17	<i>Higher Education Incentive Grants</i>			
18	General Revenues	200,000	0	200,000
19	Provided that these funds and any unexpended or unencumbered previous years' funding			
20	are to be used exclusively to fund awards to eligible youth.			
21	The director of the department of children, youth and families shall provide to the governor,			
22	speaker of the house and president of the senate a report on higher education participation for			
23	department affiliated youth. The report due on December 1 and July 1 of each year shall, at			
24	minimum, include data by institution on the past 180 days regarding amounts awarded; each			
25	awardee's unmet need; the number of youth eligible; applications, and awards made by the			
26	department; and the number of students who dropped out. It shall also include participation			
27	information on trade school and workforce development programs.			
28	Grand Total – Children, Youth and Families	366,362,408	(5,279,641)	361,082,767

29 **Health**

30 *Central Management*

31	General Revenues	3,845,945	(420,290)	3,425,655
32	Federal Funds	7,898,826	795,801	8,694,627
33	Restricted Receipts	16,723,583	(1,185,654)	15,537,929

34 Provided that the disbursement of any indirect cost recoveries on federal grants budgeted

1 in this line item that are derived from grants authorized under The Coronavirus Preparedness and
 2 Response Supplemental Appropriations Act (P.L. 116-123); The Families First Coronavirus
 3 Response Act (P.L. 116-127); The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (P.L. 116-
 4 136); The Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (P.L. 116-139); the
 5 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260); and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
 6 (P.L. 117-2), are hereby subject to the review and prior approval of the Director of Management
 7 and Budget. No obligation or expenditure of these funds shall take place without such approval.

8	Total – Central Management	28,468,354	(810,143)	27,658,211
9	<i>Community Health and Equity</i>			
10	General Revenues	1,577,479	(777,034)	800,445
11	Federal Funds	79,024,850	11,131,939	90,156,789
12	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
13	Public Health Clinics	0	3,720,118	3,720,118
14	Restricted Receipts	43,524,137	18,151,954	61,676,091
15	Total – Community Health and Equity	124,126,466	32,226,977	156,353,443
16	<i>Environmental Health</i>			
17	General Revenues	6,042,901	(271,224)	5,771,677
18	Federal Funds	11,275,046	1,499,817	12,774,863
19	Restricted Receipts	895,252	51,565	946,817
20	Total – Environmental Health	18,213,199	1,280,158	19,493,357
21	<i>Health Laboratories and Medical Examiner</i>			
22	General Revenues	12,757,344	374,242	13,131,586
23	Federal Funds	2,669,840	(146,756)	2,523,084
24	Other Funds			
25	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
26	Health Laboratories & Medical Examiner			
27	Equipment	400,000	(391,011)	8,989
28	New Health Laboratory Building	0	1,000,000	1,000,000
29	Total – Health Laboratories and			
30	Medical Examiner	15,827,184	836,475	16,663,659
31	<i>Customer Services</i>			
32	General Revenues	8,216,978	79,587	8,296,565
33	Federal Funds	7,514,546	73,800	7,588,346
34	Restricted Receipts	4,425,552	3,256,622	7,682,174

1	Total – Customer Services	20,157,076	3,410,009	23,567,085
2	<i>Policy, Information and Communications</i>			
3	General Revenues	982,376	2,931	985,307
4	Federal Funds	3,438,259	1,138,988	4,577,247
5	Restricted Receipts	882,254	1,655,642	2,537,896
6	Total – Policy, Information and Communications	5,302,889	2,797,561	8,100,450
7	<i>Preparedness, Response, Infectious Disease & Emergency Services</i>			
8	General Revenues	2,232,149	(84,984)	2,147,165
9	Federal Funds	19,777,182	2,245,993	22,023,175
10	Total – Preparedness, Response, Infectious			
11	Disease & Emergency Services	22,009,331	2,161,009	24,170,340
12	<i>COVID-19</i>			
13	Federal Funds			
14	Federal Funds	58,581,958	19,742,104	78,324,062
15	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
16	COVID-19 Operational Support	34,909,578	(2,712,495)	32,197,083
17	Total – COVID-19	93,491,536	17,029,609	110,521,145
18	Grand Total – Health	327,596,035	58,931,655	386,527,690

19 **Human Services**

20 *Central Management*

21	General Revenues	5,954,150	121,835	6,075,985
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22 Of this amount, \$400,000 is to support the domestic violence prevention fund to provide
23 direct services through the Coalition Against Domestic Violence; \$25,000 for the Center for
24 Southeast Asians; \$450,000 to support Project Reach activities provided by the RI Alliance of Boys
25 and Girls Clubs; \$267,000 is for outreach and supportive services through Day One; \$550,000 is
26 for food collection and distribution through the Rhode Island Community Food Bank; \$500,000
27 for services provided to the homeless at Crossroads Rhode Island; \$600,000 for the Community
28 Action Fund; \$250,000 is for the Institute for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence’s Reduction
29 Strategy, \$75,000 is to support services provided to the immigrant and refugee population through
30 Higher Ground International; and \$50,000 is for services provided to refugees through the Refugee
31 Dream Center.

32 The director of the department of human services shall provide to the speaker of the house,
33 president of the senate, and chairs of the house and senate finance committees at least every sixty
34 (60) days beginning August 1, 2022, a report on its progress in recruiting and retaining customer

1 serving staff. The report shall include: documentation of newly filled and vacated positions,
 2 including lateral transfers, position titles, civil service information, including numbers of eligible
 3 and available candidates, plans for future testing and numbers of eligible and available candidates
 4 resulting from such testing, impacts on caseload backlogs and call center wait times, as well as
 5 other pertinent information as determined by the director.

6 Federal Funds 8,060,913 60,827 8,121,740

7 Of this amount, \$3.0 million is to sustain Early Head Start and Head Start programs.

8 Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund

9 Rhode Island Community Food Bank 3,000,000 0 3,000,000

10 Restricted Receipts 300,000 1,111,957 1,411,957

11 Total – Central Management 17,315,063 1,294,619 18,609,682

12 *Child Support Enforcement*

13 General Revenues 4,541,800 (203,729) 4,338,071

14 Federal Funds 10,035,378 (596,192) 9,439,186

15 Restricted Receipts 3,613,859 210,000 3,823,859

16 Total – Child Support Enforcement 18,191,037 (589,921) 17,601,116

17 *Individual and Family Support*

18 General Revenues 47,213,539 (1,572,547) 45,640,992

19 Federal Funds

20 Federal Funds 121,621,808 14,535,086 136,156,894

21 Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund

22 Child Care Support 16,717,000 2,809,420 19,526,420

23 Restricted Receipts 185,000 44,901 229,901

24 Other Funds

25 Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds

26 Blind Vending Facilities 165,000 102,456 267,456

27 Total – Individual and Family Support 185,902,347 15,919,316 201,821,663

28 *Office of Veterans Services*

29 General Revenues 34,617,133 (3,115,406) 31,501,727

30 Of this amount, \$200,000 is to provide support services through veterans’ organizations,
 31 \$50,000 is to support Operation Stand Down, and \$100,000 is to support the Veterans Services
 32 Officers (VSO) program through the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

33 [Provided that all unexpended or unencumbered balances as of June 30, 2024 relating to the](#)
 34 [digitization project is hereby reappropriated to the following fiscal year.](#)

1	Federal Funds	12,222,903	952,493	13,175,396
2	Restricted Receipts	1,765,801	144,199	1,910,000
3	Other Funds			
4	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
5	Veterans Home Asset Protection	500,000	0	500,000
6	Veterans Memorial Cemetery Asset Protection	750,000	0	750,000
7	Total – Office of Veterans Services	49,855,837	(2,018,714)	47,837,123
8	<i>Health Care Eligibility</i>			
9	General Revenues	10,354,082	1,425,961	11,780,043
10	Federal Funds	17,291,822	2,417,205	19,709,027
11	Total – Health Care Eligibility	27,645,904	3,843,166	31,489,070
12	<i>Supplemental Security Income Program</i>			
13	General Revenues	17,095,200	(341,560)	16,753,640
14	<i>Rhode Island Works</i>			
15	General Revenues	10,186,745	0	10,186,745
16	Federal Funds	87,955,655	(10,921,947)	77,033,708
17	Total – Rhode Island Works	98,142,400	(10,921,947)	87,220,453
18	<i>Other Programs</i>			
19	General Revenues			
20	General Revenues	1,935,456	(169,564)	1,765,892
21	Of this appropriation, \$90,000 shall be used for hardship contingency payments.			
22	Retail SNAP Incentives Pilot Program	10,000,000	909,749	10,909,749
23	Federal Funds	369,208,211	(8,470,497)	360,737,714
24	Restricted Receipts	8,000	0	8,000
25	Total – Other Programs	381,151,667	(7,730,312)	373,421,355
26	<i>Office of Healthy Aging</i>			
27	General Revenues	13,654,589	(1,602,181)	12,052,408
28	Of this amount, \$325,000 is to provide elder services, including respite, through the			
29	Diocese of Providence, \$40,000 is for ombudsman services provided by the Alliance for Long Term			
30	Care in accordance with chapter 66.7 of title 42, \$85,000 is for security for housing for the elderly			
31	in accordance with § 42-66.1-3, and \$1,200,000 is for Senior Services Support and \$680,000 is for			
32	elderly nutrition, of which \$630,000 is for Meals on Wheels.			
33	Federal Funds	20,834,138	(1,755,140)	19,078,998
34	Restricted Receipts	61,000	(10,800)	50,200

1	Other Funds			
2	Intermodal Surface Transportation Fund	4,147,184	159,651	4,306,835
3	Total – Office of Healthy Aging	38,696,911	(3,208,470)	35,488,441
4	Grand Total – Human Services	833,996,366	(3,753,823)	830,242,543
5	Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals			
6	<i>Central Management</i>			
7	General Revenues	2,445,310	907,109	3,352,419
8	Federal Funds	734,228	517,693	1,251,921
9	Total – Central Management	3,179,538	1,424,802	4,604,340
10	<i>Hospital and Community System Support</i>			
11	General Revenues	1,260,208	(262,403)	997,805
12	Federal Funds	65,739	321,856	387,595
13	Restricted Receipts	448,659	(81,111)	367,548
14	Total – Hospital and Community System Support	1,774,606	(21,658)	1,752,948
15	<i>Services for the Developmentally Disabled</i>			
16	General Revenues	207,551,352	3,261,597	210,812,949
17	Provided that of this general revenue funding, \$33,194,667 an amount certified by the			
18	department shall be expended on certain community-based department of behavioral healthcare,			
19	developmental disabilities and hospitals (BHDDH) developmental disability private provider and			
20	self-directed consumer direct care service worker raises and associated payroll costs as authorized			
21	by BHDDH and to finance the new services rates implemented by BHDDH pursuant to the Consent			
22	Decree Action Plan Addendum . Any increase for direct support staff and residential or other			
23	community-based setting must first receive the approval of BHDDH.			
24	Federal Funds	260,062,877	(8,328,105)	251,734,772
25	Provided that of this federal funding, \$41,821,645 an amount certified by the department			
26	shall be expended on certain community-based department of behavioral healthcare, developmental			
27	disabilities and hospitals (BHDDH) developmental disability private provider and self-directed			
28	consumer direct care service worker raises and associated payroll costs as authorized by BHDDH			
29	and to finance the new services rates implemented by BHDDH pursuant to the Consent Decree			
30	Action Plan Addendum . Any increase for direct support staff and residential or other community-			
31	based setting must first receive the approval of BHDDH.			
32	Restricted Receipts	1,395,777	(53,530)	1,342,247
33	Other Funds			
34	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			

1	DD Residential Support	100,000	0	100,000
2	Total – Services for the Developmentally Disabled	469,110,006	(5,120,038)	463,989,968
3	<i>Behavioral Healthcare Services</i>			
4	General Revenues	4,345,293	(103,365)	4,241,928
5	Federal Funds			
6	Federal Funds	34,025,449	6,404,369	40,429,818
7	Provided that \$250,000 from Social Services Block Grant funds is awarded to The			
8	Providence Center to coordinate with Oasis Wellness and Recovery Center for its support and			
9	services program offered to individuals with behavioral health issues.			
10	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
11	Crisis Intervention Trainings	1,650,000	550,000	2,200,000
12	9-8-8 Hotline	1,600,000	1,636,417	3,236,417
13	Restricted Receipts	7,334,361	4,886,788	12,221,149
14	Provided that \$500,000 from the opioid stewardship fund is distributed equally to the seven			
15	regional substance abuse prevention task forces to fund priorities determined by each task force.			
16	Total – Behavioral Healthcare Services	48,955,103	13,374,209	62,329,312
17	<i>Hospital and Community Rehabilitative Services</i>			
18	General Revenues	60,067,815	(2,914,326)	57,153,489
19	Federal Funds	51,095,254	2,420,222	53,515,476
20	Restricted Receipts	3,150,000	(2,180,000)	970,000
21	Other Funds			
22	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
23	Hospital Equipment	300,000	169,544	469,544
24	Total – Hospital and Community			
25	Rehabilitative Services	114,613,069	(2,504,560)	112,108,509
26	<i>State of RI Psychiatric Hospital</i>			
27	General Revenues	35,216,359	(1,449,752)	33,766,607
28	Grand Total – Behavioral Healthcare,			
29	Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals	672,848,681	5,703,003	678,551,684
30	Office of the Child Advocate			
31	General Revenues	1,649,914	(23,983)	1,625,931
32	Federal Funds	0	12,000	12,000
33	Grand Total – Office of the Child Advocate	1,649,914	(11,983)	1,637,931
34	Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing			

1	General Revenues	764,208	2,289	766,497
2	Restricted Receipts	104,467	22,258	126,725
3	Grand Total – Comm. On Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing	868,675	24,547	893,222
4	Governor’s Commission on Disabilities			
5	General Revenues			
6	General Revenues	776,252	45,901	822,153
7	Livable Home Modification Grant Program	766,699	560,018	1,326,717
8	Provided that this will be used for home modification and accessibility enhancements to			
9	construct, retrofit, and/or renovate residences to allow individuals to remain in community settings.			
10	This will be in consultation with the executive office of health and human services. All unexpended			
11	or unencumbered balances, at the end of the fiscal year, shall be reappropriated to the ensuing fiscal			
12	year and made immediately available for the same purpose.			
13	Federal Funds	378,638	(701)	377,937
14	Restricted Receipts	62,131	(17,475)	44,656
15	Grand Total – Governor’s Commission on			
16	Disabilities	1,983,720	587,743	2,571,463
17	Office of the Mental Health Advocate			
18	General Revenues	976,078	(54,961)	921,117
19	Elementary and Secondary Education			
20	<i>Administration of the Comprehensive Education Strategy</i>			
21	General Revenues	28,924,723	(420,329)	28,504,394
22	Provided that \$90,000 be allocated to support the hospital school at Hasbro Children’s			
23	Hospital pursuant to § 16-7-20 and that \$395,000 be allocated to support child opportunity zones			
24	through agreements with the department of elementary and secondary education to strengthen			
25	education, health and social services for students and their families as a strategy to accelerate			
26	student achievement and further provided that \$450,000 and 3.0 full-time equivalent positions be			
27	allocated to support a special education function to facilitate individualized education program			
28	(IEP) and 504 services.			
29	Federal Funds			
30	Federal Funds	282,135,648	20,414,075	302,549,723
31	Provided that \$684,000 from the department’s administrative share of Individuals with			
32	Disabilities Education Act funds be allocated to the Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities to			
33	support the Rhode Island Vision Education and Services Program and that \$270,000 of the			
34	Department’s allocation of education stabilization discretionary funds be used to support the RI			

1	Auditory Oral Program.			
2	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
3	Adult Education Providers	3,000,000	1,872,178	4,872,178
4	Out of School Time Education Providers	4,000,000	0	4,000,000
5	Restricted Receipts			
6	Restricted Receipts	2,381,954	(234,709)	2,147,245
7	HRIC Adult Education Grants	3,500,000	0	3,500,000
8	Total – Admin. of the Comprehensive			
9	Ed. Strategy	323,942,325	21,631,215	345,573,540
10	<i>Davies Career and Technical School</i>			
11	General Revenues	15,721,293	1,025,911	16,747,204
12	Federal Funds	2,069,097	761,334	2,830,431
13	Restricted Receipts	4,448,690	415,442	4,864,132
14	Other Funds			
15	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
16	Davies School HVAC	1,200,000	(1,000,000)	200,000
17	Davies School Asset Protection	500,000	0	500,000
18	Davies School Healthcare Classrooms	6,886,250	(6,886,250)	0
19	Davies School Wing Renovation	2,500,000	(2,000,000)	500,000
20	Total – Davies Career and Technical School	33,325,330	(7,683,563)	25,641,767
21	<i>RI School for the Deaf</i>			
22	General Revenues	8,505,617	(55,376)	8,450,241
23	Federal Funds	312,070	112,007	424,077
24	Restricted Receipts	619,262	(50,593)	568,669
25	Other Funds			
26	School for the Deaf Transformation Grants	59,000	0	59,000
27	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
28	School for the Deaf Asset Protection	331,000	117,524	448,524
29	Total – RI School for the Deaf	9,826,949	123,562	9,950,511
30	<i>Metropolitan Career and Technical School</i>			
31	General Revenues	10,610,928	0	10,610,928
32	Federal Funds	2,707,864	603,686	3,311,550
33	Other Funds			
34	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			

1	MET School Asset Protection	2,000,000	634,940	2,634,940
2	Total – Metropolitan Career and Technical School	15,318,792	1,238,626	16,557,418
3	<i>Education Aid</i>			
4	General Revenues	1,146,299,565	(248,234)	
5		1,146,051,331		
6	Provided that the criteria for the allocation of early childhood funds shall prioritize pre-			
7	kindergarten seats and classrooms for four-year-olds whose family income is at or below one			
8	hundred eighty-five percent (185%) of federal poverty guidelines and who reside in communities			
9	with higher concentrations of low-performing schools.			
10	Federal Funds	159,747,998	40,355,857	200,103,855
11	Restricted Receipts	36,395,639	3,122,229	39,517,868
12	Other Funds			
13	Permanent School Fund	300,000	0	300,000
14	Total – Education Aid	1,342,743,202	43,229,852	1,385,973,054
15	Central Falls School District			
16	General Revenues	49,413,751	0	49,413,751
17	Federal Funds	10,869,398	10,009,853	20,879,251
18	Total – Central Falls School District	60,283,149	10,009,853	70,293,002
19	<i>School Construction Aid</i>			
20	General Revenues			
21	School Housing Aid	104,162,946	(2,672,970)	101,489,976
22	School Building Authority Capital Fund	0	2,672,970	2,672,970
23	Total – School Construction Aid	104,162,946	0	104,162,946
24	<i>Teachers' Retirement</i>			
25	General Revenues	132,744,129	0	132,744,129
26	Grand Total – Elementary and Secondary			
27	Education	2,022,346,822	68,549,545	
28		2,090,896,367		
29	Public Higher Education			
30	<i>Office of Postsecondary Commissioner</i>			
31	General Revenues	30,102,355	(3,642,895)	26,459,460
32	Provided that \$355,000 shall be allocated to the Rhode Island College Crusade pursuant to			
33	§ 16-70-5, and \$75,000 shall be allocated to Best Buddies Rhode Island to support its programs for			
34	children with developmental and intellectual disabilities. It is also provided that \$8,568,644			

1 \$6,955,499 shall be allocated to the Rhode Island Promise Scholarship program; \$151,410 shall be
 2 used to support Rhode Island’s membership in the New England Board of Higher Education;
 3 ~~\$4,000,000~~ \$2,367,000 shall be allocated to the Rhode Island Hope Scholarship program; and
 4 \$200,000 shall be allocated to the Rhode Island School for Progressive Education to support access
 5 to higher education opportunities for teachers of color.

6 Federal Funds

7	Federal Funds	4,156,833	2,946	4,159,779
8	Guaranty Agency Administration	400,000	(24,664)	375,336
9	Guaranty Agency Operating Fund –			
10	Scholarships & Grants	3,900,000	0	3,900,000
11	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
12	RI Reconnect	8,000,000	0	8,000,000
13	Cybersecurity Center	2,000,000	0	2,000,000
14	Fresh Start Scholarship	5,000,000	0	5,000,000
15	Restricted Receipts	5,904,272	44,696	5,948,968
16	Other Funds			
17	Tuition Savings Program – Dual Enrollment	2,300,000	0	2,300,000
18	Tuition Savings Program – Scholarships and Grants	895,000	0	895,000
19	Nursing Education Center – Operating	2,894,863	108,746	3,003,609
20	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
21	Higher Education Centers	0	40,000	40,000
22	Total – Office of Postsecondary Commissioner	65,553,323	(3,471,171)	62,082,152

23 *University of Rhode Island*

24 General Revenues

25	General Revenues	105,389,557	5,804,083	111,193,640
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26 Provided that in order to leverage federal funding and support economic development,
 27 \$700,000 shall be allocated to the Small Business Development Center, \$100,000 shall be allocated
 28 to the Institute for Labor Studies & Research and that \$50,000 shall be allocated to Special
 29 Olympics Rhode Island to support its mission of providing athletic opportunities for individuals
 30 with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

31	Debt Service	31,813,173	119,366	31,932,539
32	RI State Forensics Laboratory	1,618,744	0	1,618,744
33	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
34	PFAS Water Treatment Plant	20,000,000	(20,000,000)	0

1	Other Funds			
2	University and College Funds	745,170,430	14,719,144	759,889,574
3	Debt – Dining Services	992,421	3,500	995,921
4	Debt – Education and General	7,633,681	(2,071,629)	5,562,052
5	Debt – Health Services	119,986	115,782	235,768
6	Debt – Housing Loan Funds	12,979,112	(5,000)	12,974,112
7	Debt – Memorial Union	425,523	(98,748)	326,775
8	Debt – Ryan Center	2,378,224	0	2,378,224
9	Debt – Parking Authority	819,763	2,000	821,763
10	URI Restricted Debt Service – Energy Conservation	507,250	0	507,250
11	URI Debt Service – Energy Conservation	1,885,825	0	1,885,825
12	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
13	Asset Protection	13,494,395	(142,900)	13,351,495
14	Mechanical, Electric, and Plumbing Improvements	4,400,000	(3,346,770)	1,053,230
15	Fire Protection Academic Buildings	3,081,532	861,034	3,942,566
16	Bay Campus	6,000,000	0	6,000,000
17	Athletics Complex	26,270,000	(20,844,785)	5,425,215
18	Provided that total Rhode Island Capital Plan funds provide no more than 80.0 percent of			
19	the total project.			
20	Stormwater Management	256,338	0	256,338
21	Fine Arts Center Renovation	8,000,000	0	8,000,000
22	PFAS Water Treatment Plant	0	512,500	512,500
23	Total – University of Rhode Island	993,235,954	(24,372,423)	968,863,531
24	Notwithstanding the provisions of § 35-3-15, all unexpended or unencumbered balances as			
25	of June 30, 2024, relating to the University of Rhode Island are hereby reappropriated to fiscal year			
26	2025.			
27	<i>Rhode Island College</i>			
28	General Revenues			
29	General Revenues	66,013,913	1,616,349	67,630,262
30	Debt Service	8,732,729	113,233	8,845,962
31	Rhode Island Vision Education and Services			
32	Program	1,800,000	0	1,800,000
33	Other Funds			
34	University and College Funds	106,541,381	(5,144,625)	101,396,756

1	Debt – Education and General	1,579,049	(701,978)	877,071
2	Debt – Housing	369,079	(1,621)	367,458
3	Debt – Student Center and Dining	155,000	(1,241)	153,759
4	Debt – Student Union	208,800	(1,925)	206,875
5	Debt – G.O. Debt Service	1,643,056	0	1,643,056
6	Debt – Energy Conservation	717,975	0	717,975
7	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
8	Asset Protection	5,432,000	5,468,634	10,900,634
9	Infrastructure Modernization	5,275,000	5,117,097	10,392,097
10	Master Plan Phase III	10,000,000	0	10,000,000
11	Total – Rhode Island College	208,467,982	6,463,923	214,931,905

12 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 35-3-15, all unexpended or unencumbered balances as
13 of June 30, 2024, relating to Rhode Island College are hereby reappropriated to fiscal year 2025.

14 *Community College of Rhode Island*

15 General Revenues

16	General Revenues	58,529,873	1,547,809	60,077,682
17	Debt Service	807,992	145,052	953,044
18	Restricted Receipts	828,372	(33,556)	794,816

19 Other Funds

20	University and College Funds	98,389,036	2,447,137	100,836,173
21	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
22	Asset Protection	2,653,124	1,812,218	4,465,342
23	Knight Campus Renewal	1,390,000	0	1,390,000
24	Data, Cabling, and Power Infrastructure	3,300,000	(2,800,000)	500,000
25	Flanagan Campus Renovations	4,500,000	(3,700,000)	800,000
26	CCRI Renovation and Modernization Phase I	12,000,000	(9,663,721)	2,336,279
27	Total – Community College of RI	182,398,397	(10,245,061)	172,153,336

28 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 35-3-15, all unexpended or unencumbered balances as
29 of June 30, 2024, relating to the Community College of Rhode Island are hereby reappropriated to
30 fiscal year 2025.

31	Grand Total – Public Higher Education	1,449,655,656	(31,624,732)	1,418,030,924
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32 **RI State Council on the Arts**

33 General Revenues

34	Operating Support	1,102,758	10,480	1,113,238
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1	Grants	1,190,000	0	1,190,000
2	Provided that \$400,000 be provided to support the operational costs of WaterFire			
3	Providence art installations.			
4	Federal Funds	987,000	(849)	986,151
5	Restricted Receipts	5,000	(2,039)	2,961
6	Other Funds			
7	Art for Public Facilities	585,000	0	585,000
8	Grand Total – RI State Council on the Arts	3,869,758	7,592	3,877,350
9	RI Atomic Energy Commission			
10	General Revenues	1,158,737	15,028	1,173,765
11	Restricted Receipts	25,036	0	25,036
12	Other Funds			
13	URI Sponsored Research	344,971	(6,945)	338,026
14	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
15	Asset Protection	50,000	0	50,000
16	Grand Total – RI Atomic Energy Commission	1,578,744	8,083	1,586,827
17	RI Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission			
18	General Revenues	1,905,557	(520,545)	1,385,012
19	Provided that \$30,000 support the operational costs of the Fort Adams Trust’s restoration			
20	activities and that \$25,000 shall be allocated to Rhode Island Slave History Medallions.			
21	Federal Funds	1,143,147	80,587	1,223,734
22	Restricted Receipts	422,800	0	422,800
23	Other Funds			
24	RIDOT Project Review	110,327	33,506	143,833
25	Grand Total – RI Historical Preservation and			
26	Heritage Comm.	3,581,831	(406,452)	3,175,379
27	Attorney General			
28	<i>Criminal</i>			
29	General Revenues	21,038,345	492,850	21,531,195
30	Federal Funds	2,909,219	205,718	3,114,937
31	Restricted Receipts	1,290,066	100,777	1,390,843
32	Total – Criminal	25,237,630	799,345	26,036,975
33	<i>Civil</i>			
34	General Revenues	7,010,429	(43,209)	6,967,220

1	Restricted Receipts	2,718,995	(143,725)	2,575,270
2	Total – Civil	9,729,424	(186,934)	9,542,490
3	<i>Bureau of Criminal Identification</i>			
4	General Revenues	2,145,184	23,723	2,168,907
5	Federal Funds	0	98,254	98,254
6	Restricted Receipts	1,296,624	722,996	2,019,620
7	Total – Bureau of Criminal Identification	3,441,808	844,973	4,286,781
8	<i>General</i>			
9	General Revenues	4,668,933	45,217	4,714,150
10	Other Funds			
11	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
12	Building Renovations and Repairs	150,000	1,890,000	2,040,000
13	Total – General	4,818,933	1,935,217	6,754,150
14	Grand Total – Attorney General	43,227,795	3,392,601	46,620,396
15	Corrections			
16	<i>Central Management</i>			
17	General Revenues	23,382,719	(303,083)	23,079,636
18	<i>Parole Board</i>			
19	General Revenues	1,382,965	147,839	1,530,804
20	<i>Custody and Security</i>			
21	General Revenues	160,215,200	(14,797,382)	145,417,818
22	Federal Funds	1,413,868	1,240,527	2,654,395
23	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
24	DOC – Personnel and Operating Support	0	20,000,000	20,000,000
25	Other Funds			
26	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
27	Intake Service Center HVAC	0	6,880,852	6,880,852
28	Total – Custody and Security	161,629,068	13,323,997	174,953,065
29	<i>Institutional Support</i>			
30	General Revenues	29,751,849	4,326,417	34,078,266
31	Other Funds			
32	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
33	Asset Protection	4,100,000	2,573,741	6,673,741
34	Correctional Facilities – Renovations	0	250,000	250,000

1	Total – Institutional Support	33,851,849	7,150,158	41,002,007
2	<i>Institutional Based Rehab/Population Management</i>			
3	General Revenues	14,344,016	407,327	14,751,343
4	Provided that \$1,050,000 be allocated to Crossroads Rhode Island for sex offender			
5	discharge planning.			
6	The director of the department of corrections shall provide to the speaker of the house and			
7	president of the senate at least every ninety (90) days beginning September 1, 2022, a report on			
8	efforts to modernize the correctional industries program. The report shall, at minimum, provide			
9	data on the past ninety (90) days regarding program participation; changes made in programming			
10	to more closely align with industry needs; new or terminated partnerships with employers,			
11	nonprofits, and advocacy groups; current program expenses and revenues; and the employment			
12	status of all persons on the day of discharge from department care who participated in the			
13	correctional industries program.			
14	Federal Funds	630,449	8,965	639,414
15	Restricted Receipts	64,600	(19,800)	44,800
16	Total – Institutional Based Rehab/Population Mgt.	15,039,065	396,492	15,435,557
17	<i>Healthcare Services</i>			
18	General Revenues	30,735,600	4,610,678	35,346,278
19	Restricted Receipts	1,331,585	645,002	1,976,587
20	Total – Healthcare Services	32,067,185	5,255,680	37,322,865
21	<i>Community Corrections</i>			
22	General Revenues	21,198,507	658,627	21,857,134
23	Federal Funds	175,542	(51,613)	123,929
24	Restricted Receipts	36,924	(26,436)	10,488
25	Total – Community Corrections	21,410,973	580,578	21,991,551
26	Grand Total – Corrections	288,763,824	26,551,661	315,315,485

27 **Judiciary**

28 *Supreme Court*

29 General Revenues

30	General Revenues	34,670,879	829,920	35,500,799
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31 Provided however, that no more than \$1,453,387 in combined total shall be offset to the
32 public defender’s office, the attorney general’s office, the department of corrections, the department
33 of children, youth and families, and the department of public safety for square-footage occupancy
34 costs in public courthouses and further provided that \$230,000 be allocated to the Rhode Island

1 Coalition Against Domestic Violence for the domestic abuse court advocacy project pursuant to §
 2 12-29-7 and that \$90,000 be allocated to Rhode Island Legal Services, Inc. to provide housing and
 3 eviction defense to indigent individuals.

4	Defense of Indigents	5,075,432	1,000,000	6,075,432
5	Federal Funds	213,725	(64,555)	149,170
6	Restricted Receipts	4,179,552	(18,443)	4,161,109
7	Other Funds			
8	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
9	Garrahy Courtroom Restoration	750,000	3,985	753,985
10	Judicial Complexes – HVAC	1,000,000	149,590	1,149,590
11	Judicial Complexes Asset Protection	2,250,000	247,547	2,497,547
12	Judicial Complexes Fan Coil Unit Replacements	500,000	0	500,000
13	Garrahy Courthouse Restoration	1,125,000	0	1,125,000
14	Total – Supreme Court	49,764,588	2,148,044	51,912,632
15	<i>Judicial Tenure and Discipline</i>			
16	General Revenues	174,733	388	175,121
17	<i>Superior Court</i>			
18	General Revenues	27,552,736	23,237	27,575,973
19	Federal Funds	70,028	(70,028)	0
20	Restricted Receipts	665,000	0	665,000
21	Total – Superior Court	28,287,764	(46,791)	28,240,973
22	<i>Family Court</i>			
23	General Revenues	26,408,476	118,015	26,526,491
24	Federal Funds	3,866,908	(167,981)	3,698,927
25	Total – Family Court	30,275,384	(49,966)	30,225,418
26	<i>District Court</i>			
27	General Revenues	16,319,444	(83,416)	16,236,028
28	Federal Funds	821,532	(32,315)	789,217
29	Restricted Receipts	60,000	0	60,000
30	Total – District Court	17,200,976	(115,731)	17,085,245
31	<i>Traffic Tribunal</i>			
32	General Revenues	11,185,670	(504,613)	10,681,057
33	<i>Workers' Compensation Court</i>			
34	Restricted Receipts	10,008,315	(121,753)	9,886,562

1	Grand Total – Judiciary	146,897,430	1,309,578	148,207,008
2	Military Staff			
3	General Revenues	3,650,802	(76,183)	3,574,619
4	Federal Funds	64,747,657	(23,717,269)	41,030,388
5	Restricted Receipts			
6	RI Military Family Relief Fund	55,000	0	55,000
7	Other Funds			
8	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
9	Aviation Readiness Center	138,272	0	138,272
10	AMC Roof Replacement	0	1,013	1,013
11	Asset Protection	1,753,294	216,878	1,970,172
12	Quonset Airport Runway Reconstruction	1,774,119	(769,128)	1,004,991
13	Quonset Air National Guard HQ Facility	3,000,000	(3,000,000)	0
14	Sun Valley Armory	788,161	(80,700)	707,461
15	Grand Total – Military Staff	75,907,305	(27,425,389)	48,481,916
16	Public Safety			
17	<i>Central Management</i>			
18	General Revenues	14,866,598	(11,035,502)	3,831,096
19	Provided that \$13,500,000 <u>\$2,531,946</u> shall be allocated as the state contribution for the			
20	statewide body-worn camera program, subject to all program and reporting rules, regulations,			
21	policies, and guidelines prescribed in the Rhode Island General Laws. Notwithstanding the			
22	provisions of § 35-3-15, all unexpended or unencumbered balances as of June 30, 2024, from this			
23	appropriation are hereby reappropriated to fiscal year 2025.			
24	Federal Funds			
25	Federal Funds	11,284,115	12,935,340	24,219,455
26	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
27	Support for Survivors of Domestic Violence	7,000,000	(6,500,000)	500,000
28	Restricted Receipts	191,311	111,932	303,243
29	Total – Central Management	33,342,024	(4,488,230)	28,853,794
30	<i>E-911 Emergency Telephone System</i>			
31	Restricted Receipts	9,269,543	(1,395,902)	7,873,641
32	<i>Security Services</i>			
33	General Revenues	30,293,311	(2,489,567)	27,803,744
34	<i>Municipal Police Training Academy</i>			

1	General Revenues	290,366	2,310	292,676
2	Federal Funds	399,095	141,591	540,686
3	Total – Municipal Police Training Academy	689,461	143,901	833,362
4	<i>State Police</i>			
5	General Revenues	91,562,926	105,502	91,668,428
6	Federal Funds	5,474,011	2,809,661	8,283,672
7	Restricted Receipts	889,670	196,330	1,086,000
8	Other Funds			
9	Airport Corporation Assistance	150,069	259	150,328
10	Road Construction Reimbursement	3,354,650	0	3,354,650
11	Weight and Measurement Reimbursement	510,198	(181,863)	328,335
12	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
13	DPS Asset Protection	2,053,000	(779,400)	1,273,600
14	Southern Barracks	10,465,719	(8,965,719)	1,500,000
15	Training Academy Upgrades	1,400,000	(347,539)	1,052,461
16	Statewide Communications System Network	249,754	(4,706)	245,048
17	Headquarters Roof Replacement	0	107,338	107,338
18	Total – State Police	116,109,997	(7,060,137)	109,049,860
19	Grand Total – Public Safety	189,704,336	(15,289,935)	174,414,401
20	Office of Public Defender			
21	General Revenues	15,694,120	(653,926)	15,040,194
22	Federal Funds	100,665	4,370	105,035
23	Grand Total – Office of Public Defender	15,794,785	(649,556)	15,145,229
24	Emergency Management Agency			
25	General Revenues	6,632,962	205,621	6,838,583
26	Federal Funds	38,504,601	(7,968,411)	30,536,190
27	Restricted Receipts	406,774	1,798	408,572
28	Other Funds			
29	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
30	RI Statewide Communications Network Tower	500,000	0	500,000
31	RI Statewide Communications Infrastructure	1,190,000	762,273	1,952,273
32	RI Statewide Communications 700 MHZ Project	2,776,375	0	2,776,375
33	RI Statewide Communications Warehouse	250,000	0	250,000
34	Emergency Management Building	0	250,000	250,000

1	Grand Total – Emergency Management Agency	50,260,712	(6,748,719)	43,511,993
2	Environmental Management			
3	<i>Office of the Director</i>			
4	General Revenues	9,227,652	12,151	9,239,803
5	Of this general revenue amount, \$100,000 is appropriated to the Conservation Districts and			
6	\$100,000 is appropriated to the Wildlife Rehabilitators Association of Rhode Island for a			
7	veterinarian at the Wildlife Clinic of Rhode Island.			
8	Federal Funds	40,100	0	40,100
9	Restricted Receipts	4,463,201	712,115	5,175,316
10	Total – Office of the Director	13,730,953	724,266	14,455,219
11	<i>Natural Resources</i>			
12	General Revenues	33,553,651	(932,345)	32,621,306
13	Provided that of this general revenue amount, \$150,000 is to be used for marine mammal			
14	response activities in conjunction with matching federal funds.			
15	Federal Funds	20,162,255	5,139,433	25,301,688
16	Restricted Receipts	5,573,096	581,940	6,155,036
17	Other Funds			
18	DOT Recreational Projects	762,000	0	762,000
19	Blackstone Bike Path Design	1,000,000	0	1,000,000
20	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
21	Blackstone Valley Park Improvements	0	146,814	146,814
22	Dam Repair	311,500	(168,893)	142,607
23	Fort Adams Rehabilitation	300,000	0	300,000
24	Port of Galilee	10,823,702	(1,800,000)	9,023,702
25	Newport Pier Upgrades	1,000,000	(500,000)	500,000
26	Recreation Facilities Asset Protection	750,000	0	750,000
27	Recreational Facilities Improvement	4,145,000	0	4,145,000
28	Natural Resources Office and Visitor's Center	250,000	0	250,000
29	Fish & Wildlife Maintenance Facilities	200,000	0	200,000
30	Marine Infrastructure/Pier Development	650,000	(300,000)	350,000
31	Total – Natural Resources	79,481,204	2,166,949	81,648,153
32	<i>Environmental Protection</i>			
33	General Revenues	15,897,257	167,291	16,064,548
34	Federal Funds	10,885,928	2,085,436	12,971,364

1	Restricted Receipts	7,770,181	1,964,769	9,734,950
2	Other Funds			
3	Transportation MOU	44,552	(4,106)	40,446
4	Total – Environmental Protection	34,597,918	4,213,390	38,811,308
5	Grand Total – Environmental Management	127,810,075	7,104,605	134,914,680
6	Coastal Resources Management Council			
7	General Revenues	3,396,395	87,327	3,483,722
8	Federal Funds	2,264,374	869,012	3,133,386
9	Restricted Receipts	250,000	0	250,000
10	Other Funds			
11	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
12	Pawcatuck Resiliency Elevation Study	0	50,000	50,000
13	Little Narragansett Bay Study	0	50,000	50,000
14	Grand Total – Coastal Resources Mgmt. Council	5,910,769	1,056,339	6,967,108
15	Transportation			
16	<i>Central Management</i>			
17	Federal Funds	15,010,567	(2,113,921)	12,896,646
18	Other Funds			
19	Gasoline Tax	8,696,240	(51,773)	8,644,467
20	Total – Central Management	23,706,807	(2,165,694)	21,541,113
21	<i>Management and Budget</i>			
22	Other Funds			
23	Gasoline Tax	4,210,497	1,459,663	5,670,160
24	<i>Infrastructure Engineering</i>			
25	Federal Funds			
26	Federal Funds	424,349,096	(9,140,877)	415,208,219
27	Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Funds			
28	RIPTA R-Line Service Pilot	750,000	0	750,000
29	Municipal Roads Grant Program	20,000,000	0	20,000,000
30	RI Turnpike and Bridge Authority –			
31	Safety Barriers Study	750,000	865,192	1,615,192
32	Restricted Receipts	6,210,256	(93,796)	6,116,460
33	Other Funds			
34	Gasoline Tax	81,370,442	(9,837,726)	71,532,716

1 The Rhode Island public transit authority is authorized and directed to establish a
2 paratransit voucher program. The program shall operate as a one-year pilot program to study the
3 feasibility of expanding paratransit services to underserved communities and providing those
4 utilizing the program with prepaid voucher(s) to cover the expense of paratransit services to be
5 provided by the authority. The program shall begin no later than January 1, 2024. On or before June
6 1, 2025, the authority shall submit a report to the speaker of the house and the president of the
7 senate, detailing the outcome of the pilot program. Of this amount, \$500,000 is appropriated for
8 the authority for the pilot program.

9	Toll Revenue	1,500,000	3,650,000	5,150,000
10	Land Sale Revenue	9,523,299	(4,147,685)	5,375,614
11	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
12	Highway Improvement Program	133,406,300	30,000,000	163,406,300
13	Bike Path Asset Protection	400,000	41,897	441,897
14	RIPTA – Land and Buildings	10,372,818	117,869	10,490,687
15	RIPTA – URI Mobility Hub	250,000	600,000	850,000
16	RIPTA – Pawtucket/Central Falls			
17	Bus Hub Passenger Facility	1,500,000	(279,757)	1,220,243
18	RIPTA Providence High-Capacity Transit Corridor Study	0	225,000	225,000
19	RIPTA Warwick Bus Hub	0	27,097	27,097
20	Total – Infrastructure Engineering	690,382,211	12,027,214	702,409,425

21 *Infrastructure Maintenance*

22	Federal Funds	0	4,269,297	4,269,297
23	Other Funds			
24	Gasoline Tax	29,321,651	19,073,255	48,394,906

25 The department of transportation will establish a municipal roadway database, which will
26 include information concerning the name, condition, length, roadway infrastructure, and pedestrian
27 features of each municipal roadway, updated annually by municipalities. The database will serve
28 as a comprehensive and transparent list of municipal roadway conditions.

29	Rhode Island Highway Maintenance Account	107,492,944	92,509,003	200,001,947
30	Rhode Island Capital Plan Funds			
31	Maintenance Capital Equipment Replacement	1,800,000	2,823,429	4,623,429
32	Maintenance Facilities Improvements	500,000	303,768	803,768
33	Welcome Center	200,000	171,814	371,814
34	Salt Storage Facilities	1,080,000	(584,616)	495,384

1	Train Station Asset Protection	395,000	532,647	927,647
2	Total – Infrastructure Maintenance	140,789,595	119,098,597	259,888,192
3	Grand Total – Transportation	859,089,110	130,419,780	989,508,890
4	Statewide Totals			
5	General Revenues	5,425,140,429	(90,217,767)	
6		5,334,922,662		
7	Federal Funds	5,643,023,203	(34,697,492)	
8		5,608,325,711		
9	Restricted Receipts	392,134,921	43,529,703	435,664,624
10	Other Funds	2,550,551,147	203,085,281	2,753,636,428
11	Statewide Grand Total	14,010,849,700	121,699,725	14,132,549,425

12 SECTION 2. Each line appearing in section 1 of this article shall constitute an
13 appropriation.

14 SECTION 3. The general assembly authorizes the state controller to establish the internal
15 service accounts shown below, and no other, to finance and account for the operations of state
16 agencies that provide services to other agencies, institutions, and other governmental units on a
17 cost reimbursed basis. The purpose of these accounts is to ensure that certain activities are managed
18 in a businesslike manner; promote efficient use of services by making agencies pay the full costs
19 associated with providing the services; and allocate the costs of central administrative services
20 across all fund types, so that federal and other non-general fund programs share in the costs of
21 general government support. The controller is authorized to reimburse these accounts for the cost
22 of work or services performed for any other department or agency subject to the following
23 expenditure limitations:

24	Account	Expenditure Limit		
		FY 2024	FY 2024	FY 2024
25		Enacted	Change	FINAL
26				
27	State Assessed Fringe Benefit Internal Service Fund	37,390,672	(8,920)	37,381,752
28	Administration Central Utilities Internal Service Fund	39,364,206	(6,614,326)	32,749,880
29	State Central Mail Internal Service Fund	8,076,555	(16,280)	8,060,275
30	State Telecommunications Internal Service Fund	3,659,422	779	3,660,201
31	State Automotive Fleet Internal Service Fund	13,069,648	9,073,024	22,142,672
32	Surplus Property Internal Service Fund	44,789	-	44,789
33	Health Insurance Internal Service Fund	272,732,438	2,463	272,734,901
34	Other Post-Employment Benefits Fund	63,858,483	(4,475)	63,854,008

1	Capitol Police Internal Service Fund	1,411,825	(18,323)	1,393,502
2	Corrections Central Distribution Center Internal Service			
3	Fund	7,534,562	203,404	7,737,966
4	Correctional Industries Internal Service Fund	8,339,394	(91,872)	8,247,522
5	Secretary of State Record Center Internal Service Fund	1,175,426	(7,920)	1,167,506
6	Human Resources Internal Service Fund	17,117,623	736,198	17,853,821
7	DCAMM Facilities Internal Service Fund	61,150,543	(7,806,570)	53,343,973
8	Information Technology Internal Service Fund	56,136,183	(25,987)	56,110,196

9 SECTION 4. Departments and agencies listed below may not exceed the number of full-
10 time equivalent (FTE) positions shown below in any pay period. Full-time equivalent positions do
11 not include limited period positions or, seasonal or intermittent positions whose scheduled period
12 of employment does not exceed twenty-six consecutive weeks or whose scheduled hours do not
13 exceed nine hundred and twenty-five (925) hours, excluding overtime, in a one-year period. Nor
14 do they include individuals engaged in training, the completion of which is a prerequisite of
15 employment. Provided, however, that the governor or designee, speaker of the house of
16 representatives or designee, and the president of the senate or designee may authorize an adjustment
17 to any limitation. Prior to the authorization, the state budget officer shall make a detailed written
18 recommendation to the governor, the speaker of the house, and the president of the senate. A copy
19 of the recommendation and authorization to adjust shall be transmitted to the chairman of the house
20 finance committee, senate finance committee, the house fiscal advisor, and the senate fiscal advisor.

21 State employees whose funding is from non-state general revenue funds that are time
22 limited shall receive limited term appointment with the term limited to the availability of non-state
23 general revenue funding source.

24 **FY 2024 FTE POSITION AUTHORIZATION**

25	Departments and Agencies	Full-Time Equivalent
26	Administration	674.7 <u>674.6</u>
27	Provided that no more than 419.1 of the total authorization would be limited to positions	
28	that support internal service fund programs.	
29	Business Regulation	181.0
30	Executive Office of Commerce	5.0
31	Housing	38.0
32	Labor and Training	461.7
33	Revenue	575.5 <u>587.5</u>
34	Legislature	298.5

1	Office of the Lieutenant Governor	8.0
2	Office of the Secretary of State	61.0
3	Office of the General Treasurer	91.0
4	Board of Elections	13.0
5	Rhode Island Ethics Commission	12.0
6	Office of the Governor	45.0
7	Commission for Human Rights	15.0
8	Public Utilities Commission	54.0
9	Office of Health and Human Services	218.0
10	Children, Youth and Families	705.5
11	Health	574.4 <u>575.6</u>
12	Human Services	770.0
13	Office of Veterans Services	267.0
14	Office of Healthy Aging	33.0
15	Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities	
16	and Hospitals	1,202.4 <u>1,204.4</u>
17	Office of the Child Advocate	10.0
18	Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	4.0
19	Governor's Commission on Disabilities	5.0
20	Office of the Mental Health Advocate	6.0
21	Elementary and Secondary Education	150.1
22	School for the Deaf	61.0
23	Davies Career and Technical School	123.0
24	Office of Postsecondary Commissioner	45.0

25 Provided that 1.0 of the total authorization would be available only for positions that are
26 supported by third-party funds, 11.0 would be available only for positions at the state's higher
27 education centers located in Woonsocket and Westerly, 10.0 would be available only for positions
28 at the Nursing Education Center, and 7.0 would be available for the longitudinal data systems
29 program.

30	University of Rhode Island	2,551.0
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31 Provided that 353.8 of the total authorization would be available only for positions that are
32 supported by third-party funds.

33	Rhode Island College	949.2
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34 Provided that 76.0 of the total authorization would be available only for positions that are

1 supported by third-party funds.

2 Community College of Rhode Island 849.1

3 Provided that 89.0 of the total authorization would be available only for positions that are
4 supported by third-party funds.

5 Rhode Island State Council on the Arts 10.0

6 RI Atomic Energy Commission 8.6

7 Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission 15.6

8 Office of the Attorney General 264.1

9 Corrections ~~1,460.0~~ 1,461.0

10 Judicial 743.3

11 Military Staff 93.0

12 Emergency Management Agency 37.0

13 Public Safety ~~632.2~~ 632.0

14 Office of the Public Defender 104.0

15 Environmental Management 425.0

16 Coastal Resources Management Council 32.0

17 Transportation 755.0

18 **TOTAL** ~~15,636.9~~ 15,652.8

19 No agency or department may employ contracted employee services where contract
20 employees would work under state employee supervisors without determination of need by the
21 director of administration acting upon positive recommendations by the budget officer and the
22 personnel administrator and fifteen (15) days after a public hearing.

23 Nor may any agency or department contract for services replacing work done by state
24 employees at that time without determination of need by the director of administration acting upon
25 the positive recommendations of the state budget officer and the personnel administrator and thirty
26 (30) days after a public hearing.

27 SECTION 5. The appropriations from federal funds contained in Section 1 shall not be
28 construed to mean any federal funds or assistance appropriated, authorized, allocated or
29 apportioned to the State of Rhode Island from the state fiscal recovery fund and capital projects
30 fund enacted pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2 for fiscal year 2024
31 except for those instances specifically designated. ~~Projected out-year expenditures for State Fiscal
32 Recovery Fund and Capital Projects Fund projects have been consolidated into appropriations for
33 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 to ensure the timely obligation of these funds to comply with
34 rules promulgated by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.~~

1 The state fiscal recovery fund and capital projects fund appropriations herein shall be made
2 in support of the following projects:

3 **Federal Funds – State Fiscal Recovery Fund**

4 **Department of Administration (DOA)**

5 DOA – Electric Heat Pump Grant Program. These funds shall support a grant program
6 within the office of energy resources to assist homeowners and small-to-mid-size business owners
7 with the purchase and installation of high-efficiency electric heat pumps, with an emphasis on
8 families in environmental justice communities, minority-owned businesses, and community
9 organizations who otherwise cannot afford this technology. The office of energy resources shall
10 report to the speaker of the house and senate president no later than April 1 of each year the results
11 of this program, including but not limited to, the number of grants issued; amount of each grant and
12 the average grant amount; and the expected cumulative carbon emissions reductions associated
13 with heat pumps that received a grant.

14 ~~DOA – Ongoing COVID-19 Response. These funds shall be allocated to continue COVID-~~
15 ~~19 mitigation activities and to address the public health impacts of the pandemic in Rhode Island,~~
16 ~~to be administered by the director of administration, in consultation with the director of health and~~
17 ~~the secretary of health and human services.~~

18 DOA – Pandemic Recovery Office. These funds shall be allocated to finance the pandemic
19 recovery office established within the department of administration.

20 DOA – Public Health Response Warehouse Support. These funds shall be allocated to the
21 proper storage of PPE and other necessary COVID-19 response related supplies.

22 DOA – Auto-Enrollment Program. These funds shall support a program for automatically
23 enrolling qualified individuals transitioned off Medicaid coverage at the end of the COVID-19
24 public health emergency into qualified health plans to avoid gaps in coverage, administered by
25 HealthSource RI.

26 DOA – Municipal Public Safety Infrastructure. These funds shall be used to provide
27 matching support to cities and towns to make significant public safety facilities infrastructure
28 improvements including new construction. Funding priority shall be based on project readiness and
29 limited to those for which the total costs exceed \$1.0 million. Matching funds to any municipality
30 will be limited to \$5.0 million for projects that serve a regional purpose and \$1.0 million for others.

31 **Department of Labor and Training (DLT)**

32 DLT – Enhanced Real Jobs. These funds shall support the real jobs Rhode Island program
33 in the development of job partnerships, connecting industry employers adversely impacted by the
34 pandemic to individuals enrolled in workforce training programs.

1 **Executive Office of Commerce (EOC)**

2 EOC – Destination Marketing. These funds shall be used for destination tourism marketing
3 in support of airline routes to Rhode Island T.F. Green International Airport. The commerce
4 corporation is required to supply equivalent matching funds out of its portion of the state hotel tax.

5 EOC – Minority Business Accelerator. These funds shall support a program to invest
6 additional resources to enhance the growth of minority business enterprises as defined in chapter
7 14.1 of title 37. The initiative will support a range of assistance and programming, including
8 financial and technical assistance, entrepreneurship training, space for programming and co-
9 working, and assistance accessing low-interest loans. Commerce shall work with minority small
10 business associations, including the Rhode Island Black Business Association (RIBBA), to advance
11 this program.

12 ~~EOC – South Quay Marine Terminal. These funds shall support the development of an
13 integrated and centralized hub of intermodal shipping designed to support the offshore wind
14 industry along memorial parkway in the East Providence waterfront special development district.
15 Funds may be used for design and development of the waterfront portion of the terminal into a
16 marine industrial facility. These funds shall only be allocated and spent if sufficient matching funds
17 for completion of the project are committed by February 1, 2024.~~

18 EOC – Bioscience Investments. These funds shall support a program to invest in the
19 biosciences industry in Rhode Island in conjunction with the ~~creation of the~~ Rhode Island life
20 science hub [as established in chapter 99 of title 23](#). This program will include, but is not limited to,
21 the development of one or more wet lab incubator spaces in collaboration with industry partners;
22 the creation of a fund that will support wrap-around services to aid in the commercialization of
23 technology and business development, growth of the biosciences talent pipeline, and support for
24 staff to implement the bioscience investments initiative.

25 EOC – Small Business Assistance. These funds shall be allocated to a program of financial
26 and technical assistance to small businesses and COVID-impacted industries as follows: twelve
27 million five hundred thousand dollars (\$12,500,000) shall be provided as direct payments to
28 businesses for lost revenue; ~~eighteen~~ [seventeen](#) million [three hundred thousand](#) dollars
29 ~~(\$18,000,000)~~ [\(\\$17,300,000\)](#) shall support technical assistance for long-term business capacity
30 building, public health upgrades, energy efficiency improvements, and outdoor programming; and
31 one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) shall be allocated to support administration
32 of these programs. To be eligible to receive funds or support under this program a business must
33 have less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in annual gross revenues and demonstrate a
34 negative impact from the COVID-19 pandemic as determined by the Rhode Island commerce

1 corporation. Under this program, total support in the form of direct payments, or technical
2 assistance grants shall not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per eligible business through
3 either program. Total support in the form of direct payments, technical assistance, and grants for
4 public health upgrades, energy efficiency and outdoor programming shall not exceed thirty
5 thousand dollars (\$30,000) in the aggregate. Provided further that at least twenty percent (20%) of
6 all funds must be reserved for awards to assist minority business enterprises as defined in chapter
7 14.1 of title 37. Of the aggregate funding described above, two million six hundred thousand
8 dollars (\$2,600,000) of funds that are unexpended as of July 1, 2024, shall be allocated to a program
9 to assist small businesses impacted by the closure and reconstruction of the northern span of the
10 Washington Bridge. Of those funds, one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000) shall
11 be allocated to the city of East Providence, eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000) shall be
12 allocated to the city of Providence, and six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) shall be allocated
13 to the executive office of commerce. Funds shall be used to provide direct grants or any such other
14 forms of assistance as deemed appropriate, and shall not be subject to the criteria, limitations, and
15 reservation requirements described above.

16 **Department of Housing**

17 Housing – Development of Affordable Housing. These funds shall expand a program at
18 the Rhode Island housing and mortgage finance corporation to provide additional investments in
19 (1) the development of affordable housing units in conjunction with general obligation bond funds
20 and other sources of available financing according to guidelines approved by the coordinating
21 committee of the housing resources commission or (2) site acquisition and predevelopment
22 expenses for affordable housing. Of this amount, ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) shall be
23 available to Rhode Island housing and mortgage finance corporation to establish a pilot program,
24 ~~which may include the establishment of a revolving fund,~~ that shall direct funds to support low
25 income public housing through project-based rental assistance vouchers and financing for pre-
26 development, improvement, and housing production costs. Within eighteen (18) months, any
27 money available for the pilot that is not yet allocated to viable projects, or which has been awarded
28 to public housing authorities which are unable to demonstrate substantial completion of all work
29 within eighteen (18) months of receipt of any such funds, shall be returned to this program and no
30 longer be included in the pilot. Determination of viability and substantial completion under the
31 pilot shall be at the sole discretion of the secretary of housing.

32 Housing – Targeted Housing Development. These funds shall create a program at the
33 department of housing to develop housing in targeted areas and/or priority projects. Of this overall
34 program, ~~twenty-seven~~ twenty-two million dollars ~~(\$27,000,000)~~ (\$22,000,000) shall be allocated

1 into a priority project fund that advances the following categories: permanent supportive housing,
2 housing dedicated to vulnerable populations, individuals transitioning out of state care, and
3 extremely low-income Rhode Islanders. Of this overall program, four million dollars (\$4,000,000)
4 shall be allocated to support the development of transit-oriented housing as approved by the
5 secretary of housing.

6 Housing – Site Acquisition. These funds shall be allocated to the Rhode Island housing and
7 mortgage finance corporation toward the acquisition of properties for redevelopment as affordable
8 and supportive housing to finance projects that include requirements for deed restrictions not less
9 than thirty (30) years, and a non-recourse structure.

10 Housing – Down Payment Assistance. Administered by the Rhode Island housing and
11 mortgage finance corporation, these funds shall be allocated to a program to provide up to twenty
12 thousand dollars (\$20,000) in down payment assistance to eligible first-time home buyers to
13 promote homeownership.

14 Housing – Workforce Housing. These funds shall be allocated to the Rhode Island housing
15 and mortgage finance corporation to support a program to increase the housing supply for families
16 earning up to 120 percent of area median income.

17 Housing – Affordable Housing Predevelopment Program. These funds shall be allocated
18 to the Rhode Island housing mortgage finance corporation to support predevelopment work, for
19 proposed affordable housing developments to build a pipeline of new projects and build the
20 capacity of affordable housing developers in the state to expand affordable housing production.

21 Housing – Home Repair and Community Revitalization. These funds shall expand the
22 acquisition and revitalization program administered by the Rhode Island housing and mortgage
23 finance corporation to finance the acquisition and redevelopment of blighted properties to increase
24 the number of commercial and community spaces in disproportionately impacted communities and
25 or to increase the development of affordable housing. Residential development will serve
26 households earning no more than 80 percent of area median income. Commercial and community
27 spaces must serve or meet the needs of residents of a census tract where at least 51 percent of the
28 residents are low-and moderate-income persons. Of this amount, four million five hundred
29 thousand dollars (\$4,500,000) will support critical home repairs within the same communities.

30 Housing – Preservation of Affordable Housing Units. These funds shall support a program
31 to preserve affordable housing units at risk of foreclosure or blight.

32 Housing – Predevelopment and Capacity Building. These funds shall support a program to
33 increase contract staffing capacity to administer proposed affordable housing projects. These funds
34 will support research and data analysis, stakeholder engagement, and the expansion of services for

1 people experiencing homelessness.

2 Housing – Municipal Planning. Of these funds, one million three hundred thousand dollars
3 (\$1,300,000) shall support a housing development-focused municipal fellows program within the
4 department of housing and one million dollars (\$1,000,000) shall support grants for municipalities,
5 including to study and implement zoning changes that up-zone or otherwise enable additional
6 housing development in proximity to transit.

7 Housing – Homelessness Assistance Program. These funds shall support a program to
8 expand housing navigation, behavioral health, and stabilization services to address pandemic-
9 related homelessness. The program will support ~~both operating subsidies for extremely low-income~~
10 ~~housing units and~~ services for people transitioning from homelessness to housing, including
11 individuals transitioning out of the adult correctional institutions.

12 Housing – Homelessness Infrastructure. These funds shall be used to support a program to
13 respond to and prevent homelessness, including but not limited to, acquisition or construction of
14 temporary or permanent shelter and other housing solutions and stabilization programs.

15 Housing – Municipal Homelessness Support Initiative. These funds shall be used to support
16 a program to award grants to ~~municipalities~~ cities and towns for public safety expenses and other
17 municipal services that support individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

18 Housing – Proactive Housing Development. These funds shall be used to support the
19 creation, staffing, and initial activities of a proactive development subsidiary of the Rhode Island
20 housing and mortgage finance corporation, established pursuant to § 42-55-5.1.

21 Housing – Housing Related Infrastructure. These funds shall be allocated to the Rhode
22 Island infrastructure bank as established in chapter 12.2 of title 46 to support physical infrastructure
23 that is necessary to produce additional housing. All expenditures made with these funds must be
24 for the pre-development and development of site-related infrastructure for housing that meets
25 affordable housing pricing and/or income criteria and other criteria established by the department
26 of housing.

27 Housing – Statewide Housing Plan. These funds shall be allocated to the development of a
28 statewide comprehensive housing plan to assess current and future housing needs, consider barriers
29 to home ownership and affordability, and identify services needed for increased investments toward
30 disproportionately impacted individuals and communities. These funds shall be used to support
31 municipal planning efforts to identify and cultivate viable sites and housing projects.

32 **Quonset Development Corporation (QDC)**

33 QDC – Port of Davisville. These funds shall be allocated to expand a program developing
34 port infrastructure and services at the Port of Davisville in Quonset in accordance with the

1 corporation's master plan.

2 **Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS)**

3 EOHHS - Pediatric Recovery. These funds shall support a program to provide relief to
4 pediatric providers in response to the decline in visitation and enrollment caused by the public
5 health emergency and incentivize providers to increase developmental and psychosocial behavioral
6 screenings.

7 EOHHS - Early Intervention Recovery. These funds shall support a program to provide
8 relief to early intervention providers in response to a decline in enrollment for early intervention,
9 family home visiting and screening programs. This program will also provide performance bonuses
10 for providers who hit certain targets, such as recovering referral numbers and achieving reduced
11 staff turnover.

12 EOHHS - Certified Community Behavioral Clinics. These funds shall be allocated to a
13 program to support certified community behavioral health clinics to bolster behavioral health
14 supports, medical screening and monitoring, and social services to particularly vulnerable
15 populations in response to a rise in mental health needs during the public health emergency.

16 EOHHS – Butler Hospital Short Term Stay Unit. These funds shall be allocated to support
17 construction of a 25-bed short stay unit at Butler Hospital to provide behavioral healthcare services,
18 crisis intervention and other related services.

19 **Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF)**

20 DCYF – Provider Workforce Stabilization. These funds shall be allocated to support
21 workforce stabilization supplemental wage payments and sign-on bonuses to eligible direct-care
22 and supporting- care staff of contracted service providers.

23 ~~DCYF – Foster Home Lead Abatement & Fire Safety. These funds shall be allocated to~~
24 ~~provide financial assistance to foster families for lead remediation and fire suppression upgrades.~~

25 DCYF - Psychiatric Treatment Facility. These funds shall be allocated to expand existing
26 provider psychiatric residential treatment facility capacity to provide intensive residential treatment
27 options for adolescent girls and young women who face severe and complex behavioral health
28 challenges.

29 **Department of Health (DOH)**

30 DOH – COVID-19 Operational Support. These funds shall be allocated to continue
31 COVID-19 mitigation activities at the department of health and to address the public health impacts
32 of the pandemic in Rhode Island.

33 DOH - Public Health Clinics. Of these funds, \$1,720,118 shall be allocated to the RI Free
34 Clinic to improve statewide access and quality of primary care for uninsured adults; to increase

1 access to dental care for uninsured adults integrated into medical care at the clinic; and, to build
2 infrastructure for telehealth and electronic medical records, Additionally, \$2.0 million shall be
3 allocated to Rhode Island Public Health Foundation/DBA Open Door Health to support the
4 purchase of existing land and facilities in order to expand services for people who are
5 disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds may be used to support the
6 purchase of land, the costs of acquiring a building or constructing a facility, as well as related costs.
7 The terms and conditions of the allocation shall require Rhode Island Public Health
8 Foundation/DBA Open Door Health to execute a purchase and sale agreement by June 30, 2024,
9 for any part of the allocation that is used for the purchase of land. For any part of the allocation that
10 is used for the acquisition or construction of a facility a contract for such purpose must be executed
11 by June 30, 2024. Any part of the allocation that is not used for the execution of a purchase and
12 sale agreement or under contract for the acquisition or construction of a facility shall be returned
13 to the state by July 31, 2024. Any part of the allocation that is unexpended by December 31, 2026,
14 regardless of the purpose for which it was obligated, shall be returned to the state no later than
15 January 31, 2027.

16 **Department of Human Services (DHS)**

17 DHS – Child Care Support. To address the adverse impact the pandemic has had on the
18 child care sector, the funds allocated to this program will provide retention bonuses for direct-care
19 staff at child care centers and licensed family providers in response to pandemic-related staffing
20 shortages and start up and technical assistance grants for family child care providers. Retention
21 bonuses shall be paid monthly or as often as administratively feasible, but not less than quarterly.
22 The director of the department of human services and the director of the department of children,
23 youth and families may waive any fees otherwise assessed upon child care provider applicants who
24 have been awarded the family child care provider incentive grant. The allocation to this program
25 will also support quality improvements, the creation of a workforce registry, and additional funds
26 for educational opportunities for direct care staff.

27 DHS – Rhode Island Community Food Bank. These funds shall be allocated to provide
28 financial assistance for food collection and distribution through the Rhode Island Community Food
29 Bank to assist households in need, including those that received enhanced nutrition benefits during
30 the public health emergency.

31 **Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals**
32 **(BHDDH)**

33 BHDDH – Crisis Intervention Trainings. To respond to the increased volume of mental-
34 health related calls reported by police departments, these funds shall be allocated to the crisis

1 intervention training program to provide training every three years for law enforcement as well as
2 continuing education opportunities.

3 BHDDH – 9-8-8 Hotline. These funds shall be allocated for the creation of a 9-8-8 hotline
4 to maintain compliance with the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020 and the Federal
5 Communications Commission-adopted rules to assure that all citizens receive a consistent level of
6 9-8-8 and crisis behavioral health services.

7 **Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (ELSEC)**

8 RIDE – Adult Education Providers. These funds shall be directly distributed through the
9 Office of Adult Education to nonprofit adult education providers to expand access to educational
10 programs and literary services.

11 RIDE – Out of School Time Education Providers. These funds shall be directly distributed
12 through the office of student, community and academic supports to expand access to educational
13 programs.

14 **Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner**

15 OPC – RI Reconnect. These funds shall support a program to improve postsecondary
16 degree and credential attainment among working-age Rhode Islanders. The program will assist
17 students in addressing barriers to education completion, particularly among communities of color
18 and lower socio-economic strata. A portion of these funds will be used to address barriers to the
19 attainment of teacher certification as a second language education teacher, grades PK-12, and as an
20 all grades special education teacher.

21 OPC – RIC Cybersecurity Center. These funds shall support the establishment of the
22 institute for cybersecurity and emerging technologies at Rhode Island College, which will provide
23 certificate, baccalaureate, and master’s level courses with focuses on research and developing
24 highly skilled cybersecurity professionals. Funding shall be appropriated through the office of
25 postsecondary commissioner.

26 OPC – Fresh Start Scholarship. These funds shall support a program to provide
27 scholarships to adult students with some college credits, but no degree, with a focus on students
28 who dropped-out of the community college of Rhode Island. This program will target students who
29 are not meeting satisfactory academic progress requirements, which makes them ineligible for
30 federal financial assistance.

31 **University of Rhode Island**

32 ~~URI PFAS Water Treatment Plant. These funds shall support the implementation of a~~
33 ~~permanent water filtration solution to reduce PFAS concentrations in the University of Rhode~~
34 ~~Island’s water supply.~~

1 Department of Corrections (DOC)

2 DOC – Personnel and Operating Support. These funds shall support the department of
3 corrections with the increase in personnel and operating expenses that have continued as a result of
4 the COVID-19 pandemic.

5 **Department of Public Safety (DPS)**

6 DPS – Support for Survivors of Domestic Violence. These funds shall be allocated to invest
7 in the nonprofit community to provide additional housing, clinical, and mental health services to
8 victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. This includes increased investments for therapy
9 and counseling, housing assistance, job training, relocation aid, and case management.

10 **Department of Transportation (DOT)**

11 DOT – Municipal Roads Grant Program. These funds shall support a program to distribute
12 grants with a required local match for the replacement, rehabilitation, preservation, and
13 maintenance of existing roads, sidewalks, and bridges. Provided that \$5.0 million of these funds
14 shall be distributed equally to each city and town and \$15.0 million shall be distributed
15 proportionally to cities and towns based on non-federal land miles of roads in each community.
16 Provided further that each municipality is required to provide a 67 percent match. Any funding that
17 is not obligated to municipal projects by June 30, 2024, may be used by RIDOT for statewide
18 paving projects.

19 DOT – RIPTA R-Line Free Service Pilot. These funds shall be allocated to the Rhode
20 Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) to provide free fare bus route service along the “R-Line”
21 for a twelve month (12) period beginning September 1, 2022. RIPTA will track ridership data and
22 submit a report to the speaker of the house, the president of the senate, and the governor no later
23 than March 1, 2024.

24 DOT – Turnpike and Bridge Authority – Safety Barriers Study. These funds shall be used
25 by the Turnpike and Bridge Authority to conduct a study to identify and evaluate the options to
26 prevent and address the risk of suicide on bridges under its purview.

27 **Federal Funds – Capital Projects Fund**

28 **Department of Administration (DOA)**

29 DOA – CPF Administration. These funds shall be allocated to the department of
30 administration to oversee the implementation of the capital projects fund award from the American
31 Rescue Plan Act.

32 DOA – ~~Municipal and Higher Ed Matching~~ Community Learning Center Municipal Grant
33 Program. These funds shall be allocated to a matching fund program for cities and towns that
34 renovate or build a community ~~wellness~~ learning center that meets the work, education, and health

1 monitoring requirements identified by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

2 **Executive Office of Commerce (EOC)**

3 EOC – Broadband. These funds shall be allocated to the executive office of commerce to
4 invest in broadband projects to provide high-speed, reliable internet to all Rhode Islanders. The
5 secretary of commerce, in partnership with the director of business regulation, will run a series of
6 requests for proposals for broadband infrastructure projects, providing funds to municipalities,
7 public housing authorities, business cooperatives and local internet service providers for projects
8 targeted at those unserved and underserved by the current infrastructure ~~as defined by national~~
9 ~~telecommunications and information administration standards~~ using the evidentiary bases
10 authorized by the United States department of the treasury for the capital projects fund. This
11 investment shall be used to augment or provide a match for federal funds for broadband investment
12 made available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. These funds shall be used in
13 accordance with the statewide broadband strategic plan and may not be obligated nor expended
14 prior to its submission in accordance with the requirements of the Rhode Island broadband
15 development program set forth in chapter 162 of title 42.

16 SECTION 6. The pandemic recovery office shall monitor the progress and performance of
17 all programs financed by the state fiscal recovery fund and the capital projects fund. On or before
18 October 31, 2023, and quarterly thereafter until and including October 31, 2026, the office shall
19 provide a report to the speaker of the house and senate president, with copies to the chairpersons
20 of the house and senate finance committees, identifying programs that are at risk of significant
21 underspending or noncompliance with federal or state requirements. The report, at a minimum must
22 include an assessment of how programs that are at risk can be remedied. In the event that any state
23 fiscal recovery fund program would put the state at risk of forfeiture of federal funds, the governor
24 may propose to reallocate funding from the at-risk program to the unemployment insurance trust
25 fund. This proposal will be referred to the General Assembly within the first ten (10) days of
26 November to go into effect thirty (30) days hence, unless rejected by formal action of the house
27 and senate acting concurrently within that time.

28 SECTION 7. Notwithstanding any general laws to the contrary, the department of
29 environmental management shall transfer to the state controller the sum of two million dollars
30 (\$2,000,000) from the underground storage tank trust fund restricted receipt account by June 30,
31 2024.

32 SECTION 8. Notwithstanding any general laws to the contrary, the Rhode Island
33 infrastructure bank shall transfer to the state controller by June 30, 2024, the sum of five million
34 five hundred thousand dollars (\$5,500,000) from funds previously transferred to the Rhode Island

1 [infrastructure bank for the municipal infrastructure matching grant pool.](#)

2 [SECTION 9. Notwithstanding any general laws to the contrary, the state controller shall](#)
3 [transfer \\$10,000,000 to the housing resources and homelessness restricted receipt account by June](#)
4 [30, 2024.](#)

5 SECTION 10. This article shall take effect upon passage.

1

ARTICLE 14

2

RELATING TO EFFECTIVE DATE

3

SECTION 1. This act shall take effect as of July 1, 2024, except as otherwise provided

4

herein.

5

SECTION 2. This article shall take effect upon passage.